CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Learning a foreign language is related to learning one or more language skills, namely listening, reading, speaking, and writing. There is one basic element that should be mastered in learning the four skills, that is grammar. According to Manser (1991:182), grammar is rules for forming words and making sentences. So, grammar is one of the important language components in learning English. By studying grammar, the students are expected to use language correctly. Mastering grammar would be useful on the basis for good writing, speaking, and reading skills. It means that mastering English grammar is a necessary in developing English skills. Hornby (1986:51) states that the learners who wish to speak and write in English are rightly concerned with grammatical correctness. Swan (1980:456) states that grammar is the rules that make words change and show different meanings and how they are combined into sentences.

One of the topic of grammar that must be learn by students is about passive voice. Passive voice is the verb form, where the subject receives the action. Thomson and Martinet (1975:176) states that the passive of an active tense is formed by putting the verb to be into the same tense as the active verb and adding the past participle of the active verb. The sentence in active voice can be transformed to the passive voice in which subject in the active becomes the object in passive voice.

Passive voice is not something new in English or any other languages. Unfortunately it is not well understood by some students, especially students who...
learn English. Based on writer’s experience, when the students learned English grammar, they find it difficult to work on passive voice because they only focus on the common pattern which is some kinds of sentences the pattern doesn’t work. The pattern only works to simple sentence. Transferring the simple sentences to passive once is easy to do. Unfortunately, there are some kinds of sentences that cannot be transferred using the pattern.

Based on the experience of writer who has taught at the school as a substitute teacher for six months, student can identify how the passive voice is when the teacher gives them the sentences one by one. But, if the teacher asks the student to find the passive voice in the paragraph, they will be difficult.

The writer conducted at Madrasah Tsanawiyah Negeri Besitang for the third year students. The writer percentage from each cycle has shown that student developed their abilities and they record in data collection. Multiple choice is used here. In data, she will collect observation, questionare test, and field notes. There are three steps in data collection techniques, they are preparing, collection data and reporting.

1.2. Problem of The Study

From the background of the study above, the problem of this thesis are:

1. How are the students of Madrasah Tsanawiyah Negeri Besitang mastering grammatical?

2. How about the correlation between grammatical mastery and learning passive voice sentences?
1.3. Objective of The Study

The objectives of study concern with the problem of the study. The objectives of study are:

1. To find out the students of Madrasah Tsanawiyah Negeri Besitang mastering grammatical
2. To find out the correlation between grammatical mastery and learning passive voice

1.4. Scope of the Study

The study focuses on grammatical mastery in learning passive voice for the third year students of Madrasah Tsanawiyah Negeri Besitang.

1.4.1 Grammatical Mastery

This grammatical mastery covers a lot of aspects, such as about the arrangement of words, tenses, phrases, clauses, sentences, etc. Putting all those aspects into research seems to be impossible because they are very complex and complicated. Because, they have limited time.

The writer choose the tenses as representative points of grammatical mastery for some reasons. First, they are observable among those students. Second, the writer has sufficient ability in handling them. Third, the students have studied them at school. Moreover, in tenses mastery, there are other components of the structure included such as: conjunction, nominal or verbal sentences, yes or no question, or WH questions. Further in changing active voice into passive voice has covered other
aspect of structure such as: the use of be, the system of pronouns, and also the agreement between subject and predicate.

To make more practical, tense that are involved in this research are those that have been taught by their teachers at school, either in active or passive voice form.

Those tenses are:

- The Simple Present Tense
- The Future Tense
- The Present Continuous Tense
- The Simple Past Tense

1.4.2 Passive Voice

Passive voice is a voice that indicates the subjects as the patient or receipt of the action denoted by the verb. To create this, the passive voice is used if the thing receiving the action is put as the subject of the sentences. This research focuses on investigation on grammatical mastery in learning passive voice.

1.5 **Significance of The Study**

The result of this study is expected to be useful for teacher and students. For English teacher, they are expected to know how far the students comprehend about Grammatical Mastery in Passive Voice. I will find the methods and techniques to minimize difficulties for the students about Grammatical Mastery in Learning Passive Voice.
In this study, the writer is writing for the benefits of the others in learning English and its importance. It would be helpful for the reader to gain knowledge about variety of teaching methods, especially for teaching grammar so that the students can understand more quickly. And this result is also expected to be as a basic suggestion and basic information to do further study.

Theoretically, the writer gets information from this research that can be very useful to enlarge the knowledge, especially in the existence of grammar in learning passive voice. And then to provide some information and solutions to the reader to teach grammar so the students will understand more quickly.

Practically, the result of this research to analyze about the students’ ability in grammar for learning passive voice and to know about the correlation between grammatical and passive voice.