

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Grammar takes the important role in learning language. Learning English is not just talking about mastering a lot of vocabularies. Grammar is a must. The combination of these aspects will result a well-organized learning English. Communication in English oral or written requires to master the form of good sentences itself. Grammar names the types of words and word groups that make up sentences not only in English but in any language. To be able to talk about how sentences are built, about the types of words and word groups that make up sentences that is knowing about grammar. And knowing about grammar offers a window into the human mind and into our amazingly complex mental capacity. [National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) 2002]

Learning grammar is more than just knowing the pattern from the ordinary grammar book but it is also knowing how to present and display the materials. It means that in displaying the material the book should be presented in a simple material in order to be understandable by the learners and interesting appearance to draw the learners' interest. On the one hand, a simple grammar book with basic materials and having a good packaging in presenting the material is better than a complete book with a complicated explanation and obscure to apprehend.

Mostly, people believe in that all the things related to grammar are complicated, everything of English grammar book is boring, but actually, it is not exactly true. Risnawati (1989) reported that Indonesian faced difficulties in writing composition because of the differences of grammar of sentences between English and Indonesian language. No matter how complicated the materials of English grammar, however; we can still modify the way how to present the materials itself so that the materials which are complicated will be easy to understand. Therefore, the book having good material is not enough, but also having good and simple explanation is a must.

There are many materials in a grammar book, starting from the basic materials such as the definition of *noun*, *verb*, *adjective* or we called it as *part of speech* up to the complicated one such as *adverbial clause*, *reduced clause* etc. For basic learners, tenses become the most popular material to learn since it is a main foundation in structuring and building good sentences. Tenses and grammar are the things that cannot be separated. Tenses are part of basic grammar discussion. For the people learning English is required to learn tenses, because tenses are foundation and key of being capable in mastering English. Learning English means that we have to learn grammar also. Tenses are part of grammar that should be learnt to guide people in making good sentences in order to create a good language. Tenses are one of the important things in learning language. We need to learn other aspect like writing and vocabularies as well but those aspects will be unless without our knowledge about tenses. Mastering tenses can help us to make correct sentences and by making correct sentences we can practice our English well in order to improve our skill. Tenses tell us not only about the form of verb but also the meaning. Thomson (1980) said that there are four forms of verb should be mastered in English Tense: the form of present tense, the form of past tense, the form present participle and the form of past participle. There are 16 kinds of tenses in English grammar and in tenses, we will learn how to a plicate the pattern into a good sentence.

Therefore, by considering the whole problems above we decided to design a tenses pocket book that hopefully will help them to learn English grammar especially in learning tenses. Achieving the needs in order to make this book correct, effective and understandable for learners. So the examples of sentence are proper with the context, situation, and condition of Indonesian culture. Besides, this book will has another additional value due to arranged systematically. Hopefully, this book will be extremely useful as tutorial in learning English particularly in learning tenses.

Moreover, this book is arranged and designed to help the learners who are still in beginner level to learn English. By using this book, they will learn how to arrange and build the sentence correctly and effectively related to some

foundation components of English grammar. All materials in this book are connected with all kinds of developing sentence from the based form in English grammar. Here, we are conducting the final project in form of tenses book entitled “Designing a Tenses Pocket Book for basic learners”.

1.2 The Objective

The objective of our Final Project is to design an English tenses pocket book that can be used as references in learning tenses for basic learners.

1.2 Significances

The significances of this Final Project will be explained below:

1. For basic learners

English Tenses Pocket Book is useful For basic learners in understanding and practicing correct English sentences either in their school or in their daily life more enjoyable and easier. Moreover, English tenses pocket book is useful also as an interesting media in learning tenses and help them to learn it more enjoyable and easier.

1. For the writers of Final Project

By writing and conducting this Skill Application Project, hopefully the writers could apply the skill and knowledge that have been received from Structure 1 until Structure 4, Instructional design and media class, and computer class in English Department.

2. For English Department

This result of this skill application project will be a collection for English Department. So that, it can be made as an example or even a reference for the students of this English Department who want to learn about tenses or even to conduct the project in designing English tenses book for another level as well.