

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background Of Study

Language is a human communication system, which is expressed through a structured arrangement of sounds or written expressions to form larger units, such as morphemes, words, and sentences, which are translated from English: "the system of human communication by means of a structured arrangement of sounds." (or written representation) to form larger units, eg, morphemes, words, sentences" (Richards, Platt & Weber, 1985: 153).

Human culture will not be possible without language because language is the main factor that determines the formation of culture. There are so many functions of language to culture, such as a means of cultural development, a means of fostering culture, a path of cultural development, and a means of cultural inventory. Therefore, language cannot be separated from human cultural life because language and culture have a causal relationship or reciprocal relationship. Language is one of the results of human culture, while human culture is also influenced by language. More important than that, human culture cannot occur without language because language is the factor that allows the formation of culture (Rina Devianty 2017:226)

Language is one of the most dynamic elements of culture, almost changing regional boundaries very dynamically. Its dynamism can survive, and become extinct. It all depends on the speaker. If speakers of one language are able to distinguish and balance the functions of language, the language will survive. On the other hand, language will become extinct if its function as a cultural element is no longer used. This slightly threatens the linguistic condition in Indonesia, which is known for its hundreds of languages and dialects.

The Republic of Indonesia has long been known for its diversity. This diversity is so diverse that it is known as cultural diversity. Culture is very broad

because it includes elements of religion or belief, community organization systems, knowledge systems (education), languages, arts, livelihood systems, and systems of technology and equipment. (Arifin, Rijal 2019:3).

Regional language is the first language acquired in the family environment. The regional language is a language of liaison and introduction between speakers of regional languages and also as a supporter of the culture of the local community. As for the Regional language used is the Mandailing language, the Mandailing language is a language found in the southern part of North Sumatra, West Sumatra and northern Riau. This Mandailing language is the language used by the Siligawan-Guo community in their daily communication.

However, it is undeniable that the diversity of local cultures and languages is the uniqueness of the Indonesian people and is a wealth that must be preserved. With this diversity will characterize Indonesia as a country that will be rich in culture. The different languages in each region signify the identity and characteristics of each region. People who migrate to the capital city of Jakarta may prefer to communicate using local languages with people from the same area, one of which is because it will increase the intimacy between them. It is not uncommon for people to learn a little and only be able to speak regional languages that they do not master so that a more intimate atmosphere occurs.

SMP Negeri 04 GunungTuleh, West Pasaman Regency is one of the Junior High Schools located on Jalan Siligawan Gadang– Guo, Kecamatan Gunung Tuleh, Kabupaten West Pasaman, West Sumatra. Where the community still uses the regional language as their daily communication tool so that the students at this high school in the special learning process when in the process of learning English they are also more dominant in using local languages so that when learning English they have difficulty reading, speaking, and writing sentences or words in English.

In this case, there are several researchers who discuss the influence of using the mother tongue or regional language as the first language in the process of learning English, both positive and negative influences. As for the positive effect, according to Alshehri which says that most teachers use their first language

to explain vocabulary, clarify the meaning of sentences that are difficult to understand, and build good relationships with students, they also believe that their first language will improve foreign language learning.

Zakaria also argues that in learning English as a foreign language teachers have difficulty facilitating student learning unless there is interference or the use of the first language. Ghorbani argues that students can improve their understanding and ability to speak English effectively when using the first language. The use of the first language is also believed to be able to help students acquire the knowledge needed and to provide solutions to their misunderstandings in learning English.

The acquisition of a first language or regional language can be good comparison as a starting point to explain the acquisition second language. In addition, in first language acquisition, children generally through several stages of language acquisition so that the acquisition of a second language also requires time for the internalization process (Maharani & Astuti, 2018:33).

(Cristina & Voicu, 2017:47) identified several drawbacks of using a first language in learning English. First, excessive use of the first language results in bad habits for teachers and students in the learning process, interaction in the classroom using the first language will be felt comfortable by students so that they do not want to get used to speaking in English. Second, the first language will make students confused and misunderstood when they use English, this is because there is a mismatch in the choice of words from the first language to English, and vice versa. Third, when the teacher uses the first language in learning English, it will lead to incorrect sentence patterns.

In this case, the English subject teacher experienced obstacles in carrying out learning activities due to the lack of motivation from the students themselves and also their low knowledge of English, and also they often used Mandailing language as a regional language or their first language in the medium learning process.

From the description above, the writer is interested in studying further about the influence of the use of regional languages used by students in the English learning process with the title: **The Effect Of Using Regional Languages In The Process Of Learning English At SMPN 04 GunungTuleh, West Pasaman Regency, West Sumatra.**

1.2. Identification Of Study

Based on the background of study above:

1. Students' lack of interest and motivation in learning English
2. The sustainable use of regional languages in the English learning process

1.3. Limitation Of Study

Research is more focused and the discussion is not too broad, the authors limit the problem to the influence of the use of regional languages in the English learning process carried out by students of SMPN 04 Gunung Tuleh District, West Pasaman Regency, West Sumatera. Because the object of this research is that in the process of learning English, students are more dominant in using regional languages which ultimately affect the way they pronounce English sentences in the sense that they are difficult to pronounce sentences and also write words or sentences in English and lead to the influence of grades. English language vulnerable students are lower.

1.4. The Research problems

1. How do students use the local language at SMPN O4, GunungTuleh, WestPasaman Regency in the process of learning English?
2. How does the use of regional languages affect the English learning process.?

1.5. The Objective Of The Study

The objectives of this research are as follows:

1. This study aims to determine the use of local languages by students at SMPN 04 GunungTuleh District, West Pasaman, North Sumatra in the process of learning English.
2. This study aims to determine the effect of using regional languages on the students' English learning process at SMPN 04 GunungTuleh District, West Regency.

1.6. The Significance Of The Study

The Significance of this research are as follows

1. For researchers, it can add insight and experience and can apply the knowledge gained during lectures and be able to provide useful information and become a reference to help future researchers if they want to do research in the same field of study.
2. For academics, it can be used to provide input such as information about the influence of using local languages in the English learning process for the next researcher.
3. For teachers, this research can increase teachers' insight in creating and implementing more creative teaching media and focused strategies to increase students' motivation in learning English.