

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 The Background of the Study

Language is an arbitrary system of vowels, written symbols, and sign symbols that allows members of a group to communicate effectively with one another. According to Bahasa et al. (2018:81) that “No language skills can be obtained through activities memorize. Language skills something can taught through or explanation only”. According to Daulay (2018:11) in her book explained that “Language is described as a set of symbols that are shared socially and a set of rules that regulate how these symbols are combined.” Humans can communicate with others through language to express ideas, facilitate thought processes, and remember information. English is one of the languages that plays an essential part in the world.

The international language is English. Many countries utilize English as a means of communication with people all around the world. The English language is essential for obtaining information in a variety of formats. That is to say, English is frequently used in books, articles, and news as a means of disseminating knowledge around the world.

According to Krstanovic & Marinac (2019:27) “The most popular foreign language to study is English. It's crucial to say it without thinking about grammar standards or whether we have an American or British accent.” According to Sharifian (2008:4) “English is the national language of a huge number of countries around the world.” We aim to communicate across cultures within and across national borders using international languages. According to Daulay et al. (2021:341) that “Language teaching activities are activities that help students learn languages more successfully and efficiently.” The national language has a vital communication role, but it also has a symbolic function that may or may not be meaningful to second language users unless they are learning the second language

to project a specific identity. The capacity to communicate in a foreign language has become increasingly crucial in today's world. Especially when it comes to finding a solid career. English is one of the foreign and international languages that the general public must communicate in order to work after graduation from college. Many people all over the world use and study English, which is employed in science, technology, commerce, and politics. Indonesia must be denied the opportunity to accelerate unravelling of the English language mystery so that our country does not fall behind other countries in terms of science and technology development.

English is an international language with a significant presence in Indonesia, as evidenced by its inclusion as one of the core courses taught in primary and secondary schools. Grammar is strongly tied to four language abilities, namely reading, speaking, listening, and writing, and should be taken into account when studying foreign languages, particularly English. The students there have a strong grasp of the English language. The rules or instructions for speaking English properly and accurately are known as grammar.

Learning is one of the most important things for humans. He in the verse of the Qur'an explains a lot about the virtues of people learning and seeking useful knowledge. As in Surah Al-Alaq verses 1-5:

اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ (1) (خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ) (2) (اقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ  
الْأَكْرَمُ) (3) (الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ) (4) (عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ) (5)

Mention:

“Read by (mentioning) the name of your Lord Who created. He has created man from a clot of blood. Read, and your Lord is the Most Gracious, who teaches (humans) by means of the qalam. He taught man what he did not know”.

The interpretation of the verse is that surah Al Alaq verses 1-5 contains the importance of science for humans. This verse calls on all humans to seek knowledge as much as possible. In accordance with the Islamic proverb, a Muslim

is required to seek knowledge from the cradle to the grave. That means, as long as they are alive, there is no reason for Muslims and Muslim women to be lazy to seek knowledge.

In Hadith HR Muslim, 2699, said that:

وَمَنْ سَلَكَ طَرِيقًا يَلْتَمِسُ فِيهِ عِلْمًا سَهَّلَ اللَّهُ لَهُ بِهِ طَرِيقًا إِلَى الْجَنَّةِ

Mention:

“Whoever takes a path in search of knowledge, Allah will make easy for him the path to heaven”.

The interpretation of the hadith is that Allah will raise the degree of those who are knowledgeable, while humans are alive, it is obligatory for him to seek knowledge, whether it be the knowledge of this world or the knowledge of the hereafter. And Allah will always protect those who are knowledgeable.

Learning English as a second language necessitates a strong grasp of grammar. This means that grammar is one of the most crucial abilities for students studying English as a foreign or second language. According Navaz & Sama (2018:653) “Grammar is an important component of language.” According to Ekaningsih (2017:434) “Writing skills in English are required. To construct good, meaningful sentences, you'll need to know how to use grammar.” The students will think more logically and clearly if they write in proper grammar, which will help them communicate without misunderstanding. In relation to Wikipedia (2017), “Grammar is the way to go in English, which means it's encoded in the word order.” This refers to the organization of individual words, phrases, clauses, and sentences as well as the overall structure of the text. Grammar is the integration of structurally meaningful words into a good sentence, as defined by the two definitions above. Sentences will be bland if they lack grammar, similar to eating bland food.

Grammar is a set of rules that govern the construction of sentences in a language. According to Daulay & Octa (2021:46) explained that “Grammar is the science that governs the formulaic organization of sentences and words in English.”

Grammar, according to the preceding definition is a method of structuring language sentences. The learner will be able to utilize correct terms for all English skills after mastering grammar.

Grammar is a large topic that is broken down into several sections. Tenses, sentence structure, subject-verb agreement, and other topics are discussed. Subject-verb agreement refers to the compatibility of the verb and the subject individually (first, second, or third), as well as a number in relation to the time of speaking, whereas sentence structure refers to how words, phrases, and clauses are organized in a sentence. Tenses are the set forms taken by verbs to indicate time and sometimes also the continuation or completion of actions in relation to the utterance of time, whereas sentence structure is the arrangement of words, phrases, and clauses in a sentence, and sentence structure is the arrangement of words, phrases, and clauses in a sentence, and sentence structure is the arrangement of words, phrases, and clauses in a sentence, and sentence structure is (singular or plural). According to Wulandari (2019:41) that “English grammar is a set of rules that govern the construction of phrases and sentences in the language.” It's not easy to learn and understand grammar, especially when it comes to active and passive voice. Every English learner should be aware of the difference between active and passive voices.

One of the grammars created from the active voice is the passive voice. (Manurung, et al. 2020:135). According to Scholastica (2018:51) “The passive voice is a grammatical form in which the head noun serves as the sentence's subject, and the phrase or verb is impacted or followed by the verb's action.” Perhaps 90% of the passive voice in spoken and written English is of the type replacing indefinite or reflexive pronouns in other languages, therefore the passive voice is an important material that everyone should know and master because passive voice is commonly seen in both spoken and written English. The subject accepts the action verb in a passive statement. Passive voices proficiency is beneficial for students while writing persuasive texts, which are typically generated in news reports and

academic essays since the verb/action/process is more crucial to emphasize than the subject in news reports and academic essays. (Manurung, et al. 2020:135). For example: (1) My brother eats fried chicken (Active), (2) Fried chicken is eaten by my brother (Passive).

The researcher finds that the active sentence tells what the subject performs in a sentence, but the passive sentence's subject receives an action, based on the statements of the experts above. When reading a passage of text, the passive voice is frequently employed when the responsibility of the person who carried out the action does not need to be mentioned.

According to a conversation with an eighth-grade teacher at MTs Budi Agung, the students were given the task of a text which consisted of active sentences and students had to change the sentences in the text into passive voice. In using active and passive sentences, the students make grammatical errors. For example, the students are often unsure when to use the present tense in a sentence. When writing active and passive sentences, students make mistakes in placing singular and plural forms. Due to their lack of understanding, they often write without using the word "being" in nonverbal or vocal phrases.

When learners study English, their native language and the target language might have an impact on one another. At school, most students speak Indonesian. When learning English, they unconsciously employ Indonesian linguistic patterns rather than the English formula. If students learn language in these methods, they are putting themselves in a difficult situation. While it comes to writing, students are still perplexed and make mistakes when constructing active and passive voices. Some learners have trouble distinguishing between active and passive voice terms. As a result, learners struggle with employing active and passive voices effectively and make errors when writing in text or change active voices into passive voices.

Based on the concerns outlined previously, the researcher believes that the majority of MTs Budi Agung ninth-grade students continue to make numerous errors in transforming active sentences to passive voice. As a result, the researcher

is interested in conducting a study titled "**THE STUDENT'S ERRORS IN TRANSFORMING ACTIVE VOICES INTO PASSIVE VOICES**" to determine the errors made by students, how the errors were made by the students and to find out the reasons students make errors.

## **2.1 The Identification of the Problems**

Based on the background that has been stated above, there are two factors that influence student errors, namely internal factors and external factors. These are some internal factors, they are:

1. Motivation

According to Mulyasa (2003:112) that "Motivation is a pusher or puller that causes behavior towards a certain goal." The students will be serious because they have high motivation.

2. Talent

According to Munandar (1992:17) that "Talent is an innate ability as a potential that still needs to be developed and trained so that it can be realized." A gifted person is able to give high achievements on abilities and potential.

3. Interest

According to Matondang (2018:25) that "Interest is a component internal within the individual who very influential on his/her actions." An individual will feel want even need to do something or explore something if there is an interest in him/herself.

These are some external factors, they are:

1. Family Factor

The family is the first teacher and the closest person to the children. Families determine the success or failure of children's future. How to

educate children is one of the most important things in influencing interest in learning in children.

## 2. School Factor

School factors can affect student learning difficulties, for example there are unqualified teachers and teachers who lack mastery of the material and preparation before teaching. The teacher's teaching method is also very influential on students, the use of teaching methods that are less attractive and less creative can affect student learning difficulties.

## 3. Environmental Factor

Environmental factor is the biggest problem that can affect student learning difficulties. One of them is the lack of student support in using English in the home and community environment. One of the reasons why children's lack of interest in learning English is due to the presence of online games on their mobile phones so that students spend more time playing games with friends than studying. If this happens continuously, students will be lazy to learn and make a lot of errors when answering questions given by the teacher.

From several explanations of internal and external factors that affect student interest in learning and cause students to make many errors when learning English. So, the researcher decided to discuss the errors made by the student.

### **3.1 The Limitation of the Problem**

The problem limitations in this study were taken so that the writing could be more detailed and on target. The writer limits the problem to be discussed is the students' errors in transforming active voices into passive voices in ninth grade of MTs Budi Agung Medan.

### **4.1 The Problems of the Study**

The researcher would like to state the problem as follows, based on the problem's background:

1. What errors does the student make in transforming active voices into passive voices in ninth grade of MTs Budi Agung?
2. How are the errors made by the student when transforming active voices into passive voices in ninth grade of MTs Budi Agung?
3. Why can the student make errors in transforming active voices into passive voices in ninth grade of MTs Budi Agung?

### **5.1 The Objectives of The Study**

The research's objectives are as follows, based on above-mentioned problem statements:

1. To investigate the student's errors in transforming active voices into passive voice in ninth grade of MTs Budi Agung.
2. To find out errors are made by the student in transforming active voices into passive voices in ninth grade of MTs Budi Agung.
3. To find out the reasons why the student makes errors in transforming active voices into passive voices in ninth grade of MTs Budi Agung.

### **6.1 The Significance of the Study**

The writer hopes that the findings of this study would be beneficial to a wide range of people, particularly researchers, students, and teachers.

For English teachers: Provide teachers with information to help them develop more focused, integrated, effective, and efficient active and passive sentence teaching programs.

For students: Improve the students' ability to fully comprehend and appropriately apply the passive form, as well as your mastery of simple present tense, past tense, and future verbs when transforming them into passive sentences.



For future researchers: It can be the additional references for the further researcher who wants to know more about the students' errors in transforming active voices into passive voice.



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