CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

One of the languages which taught at school is English language. English language is known as an international language which has a very important role in the world. It is mainly studied and used as a tool of communication. With English, we can communicate with many people in all over the world either in widening the friendship, getting the scholarship abroad, job vacancy or anything else.

English was known as a system, rule, and all about its systematic forms that is grammar. According to Brown in Hidayah (2013:2) grammar is the system of rules governing the conventional arrangement and relationship of words in a sentence. It means that to make the correct sentences, there are some rules which should be followed in arranging word per word so that it is suitable with the target of the language (the structure). In order to have good English, there are four main skills which should be mastered by the students. They are listening, speaking, reading and writing. Pamela in Javed et.al (2013:130) says that person needs a mastery of various elements to use the language to convey thoughts, wishes, intentions, feeling and information in a written form. The four basic English language skills are also divided into two categories such as receptive skills and productive skills. Reading and listening are considered receptive skills whereas speaking and writing are known as productive skills.

Generally, English sentence has the basic form such as positive, negative and interrogative. In interrogative sentence, there is called by question tag. Question tag is one of the important English sentence pattern of speech and plays a great important role in people''s communication. In learning question tag, actually it is related to tenses. As far as the students know about the tenses, it is quite easy for them to get understanding about question tag well. The question tag is indeed kind of interrogation but in this case, it does not discuss about Wh-question or yes/no question. It only determines the form of question tag in the end of sentence and it is followed by the punctuation of question mark.

The question tag can be categorized as one of materials which is still difficult to be mastered for the students. Sometimes, the students make the errors in using question tag on the sentences. It is because the students still lack understanding the use of question tag and don''t have an idea to form a question tag in the sentences. Corder in Muneera & Shameem (2013:146) has argued that errors are considered to be the features of the learner''s utterances

which are in one way or another different from those of the native speakers. He further states that the learners of a target language are not aware of their errors and thus are unable to correct these errors themselves.

Here are some examples of wrong sentences that are often made by the students in using question tag in affirmative sentences and negative sentences:

(a) He watches cartoon film, isn't he?

(b) Tommy is a teacher, isn't it?

(c) I am not at school, amn't I?

(d) Susi and Susan do not play tennis, does she?

These errors often appear because the students didn't have knowledge about the question tag so that's why they make errors. From the examples above, it should be:

(a) He watches cartoon film, doesn't he?

(b) Tommy is a teacher, isn't he?

(c) I am not at school, am I ?

(d) Susi and Susan do not play tennis, do they.

From the typical error, it can be concluded that the students really don't know how to use the question tag. Moreover, the verb also plays the important role in the sentences. It can be distinguished into 2 parts such as verbal and non verbal. These makes the students confused to determine whether it is verbal or nonverbal so that's why they make errors in making the sentences especially in forming the question tag. And they also still have less knowledge in contracting the auxiliary verb in question tag. So here it needs to overcome the students' error in using question tag.

1.2 The Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study, the problem of study was stated as the following:

1. What type of errors occur on tenth grade students at SMK Yapim Biru-Biru in using question tag?

2. How tenth grade students at SMK Yapim Biru-Biru use question tag in clauses?

3. Why tenth grade students at SMK Yapim Biru-Biru make errors in using question tag?

1.3 The Objective of the Study

Based on the problem of the study, the researcher formulates the objective of the study as:

1. to find out types of errors that occur on tenth grade students at SMK Yapim Biru-Biru in using question tag.
2. to analyze question tag that is used by tenth grade students at SMK Yapim Biru-Biru in clauses.
3. to find out the sources of errors that is made by tenth grade students at SMK Yapim Biru-Biru.

1.4 The Scope of the Study

This research only discusses about using question tag in simple present tense and pastense clauses, and the error analysis discusses about types and sources of error. This research will be conducted on tenth grade students at SMK Yapim Biru-Biru.

1.5 The Significance of the Study

Theoritically, the result of this research provides an error analysis of using question tag in simple present tense and simple past tense as a new horizon in teaching English at clasroom. It make sure teacher must be teach question tag carefully. This research also has big significance for the students. It improves student ability in using question tag.

Practically, this research helps English teachers to aware in teaching question tag. Whole of theory inside of this research are able to guide teacher in teaching question tag in classroom. For the students, this research are able to help them to find out the way in using quetion tag in a clause.