

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter covers the discussion about the reason why the researcher is interested in this topic, what questions that the researcher is eager to discover, the essentials of this thesis and some definitions relate to this thesis. Those items will be described completely as follow:

### A. Research Context

Writing English correctly is not as easy as turning the palm of the hand since we have to pay attention to the grammatical rule and the use of vocabulary accurately. Not all English learners know about the correct combination of words and it is also called by *collocation*. It may become familiar and seem easy for native English to use collocation properly, but not for non-native English. If we write an English text, the wrong collocation will expose us as that we have a weak English and make our quality of writing becomes decreasing. On the contrary, our good collocation will make our writing be more like a native and it will increase the grade of our writing.

Collocation is some words which usually appear together and make one idea.<sup>1</sup> For instance, the word “give” with the word “do”, if it refers to the help and it is combined with the word “favour”, it will be correct using “He will **do** me a favour” and is incorrect using another word such as “He will **give** me a favour”. Writing is one of linguistic competence expressed in the use of written

---

<sup>1</sup> Patrius Istiarto Djiwandono, *Master Kata-Kata Akademis Bahasa Inggris* (Surabaya: Andi, 2017), 85.

form.<sup>2</sup> Not like speaking, in a writing activity we deal with the invisible listeners which will be a reader of our writing. If the writers make a mistake or vagueness structure, they cannot solve that problem by body language, facial expression, or intonation of speech. The vagueness of structure will affect to the misinterpretation. Therefore, a good skill of language competence is fully required so that the writer are able to write a text in a correct structure.

Actually, the similar research has been conducted by Deogratias Nizonkiza. This researcher attempts to explore the effect of teaching collocations on building academic vocabulary.<sup>3</sup> But, in this research, the researcher only focuses on the mistakes in using collocation towards writing. The other research which is similar with this research has been conducted by Taeko Koya. The researcher tries to analyze high-frequency verb-noun collocation by Native Speaker of English.<sup>4</sup> But, in this research, the object does not focus on Native Speaker, but for the English as the second language learner or non-native speakers.

At Titik Nol English Course, which is placed in Pare, there is a program namely pre-intermediate program. This program is always taken by the people who want to learn about intermediate skill of English comprehensively. The program consists of five classes; writing, speaking, listening, grammar and reading. In this program, the students may take two classes only. The students joining pre-intermediate writing class is required to write an essay with the

---

<sup>2</sup> Pardonio, *Writing Clues for Better Writing Competence* (Yogyakarta: C.V. ANDI OFFSETT, 2006), ix.

<sup>3</sup> Deogratias Nizonkiza, "Improving Academic Literacy by Teaching Collocation," *Douglas College, Canada* 47 (n.d.): 1, <https://doi.org/10.5774/47-0-267>.

<sup>4</sup> Taeko Koya, "What Is the Reality of Collocation Use by Native Speakers of English?," *Hosei University* 5 (2006): 1.

topic given by the tutor and give a feedback after they hand in the essay. Most of the students have some difficulties about the collocation because sometimes they do not put the proper combination of some words. Of course, that will decrease the quality and grade of their writing when they attempt to write an academic text. Looking at this phenomenon, the researcher becomes interested to investigate and solve this problem by using scientific method.

According to that problem, the researcher is going to conduct a research since that phenomenon is quite necessary to be investigated and entitle the research as *the mistakes in using collocation: a study of essay writing at pre-intermediate students Titik Nol English Course Pare*.

## **B. Research Problems**

According to Adnan Latief research problems refer to questions raised to be answered through research projects,<sup>5</sup> while John W. Creswell states that Research problem are the educational issue, controversies, or concerns that guide the need for conducting a study (that research investigates).<sup>6</sup> Research question are qualitative or quantitative research that narrow the purpose statement to specific questions that researchers seek to answer.<sup>7</sup> Based on research context above, the statement of research focus is formulated as follow:

1. What kinds of collocation students usually use in their essay writing at pre-intermediate students Titik Nol English Course Pare?

---

<sup>5</sup> Mohammad Adnan Latief, *RESEARCH METHODS ON LANGUAGE LEARNING AN INTRODUCTION*, Second edition (Malang: Universitas Negeri Malang, 2015), 17.

<sup>6</sup> John W. Creswell, *Educational Research: Planning, Conducting, and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research* (Boston: Pearson, 2012), 59.

<sup>7</sup> Creswell, 110.

2. What kind of collocation mistakes students make in their essay writing at pre-intermediate students Titik Nol English Course Pare?

### **C. Research Objectives**

John W, Creswell states that the purpose statement is a statement advances the overall direction or focus for the study,<sup>8</sup> while according to Adnan research objectives are stated as the goal of research to be achieved by the researchers.<sup>9</sup> Based on that statement, the research objective to solve the problem of research:

1. To know what kinds of collocation students usually use in their essay writing at pre-intermediate students Titik Nol English Course Pare.
2. To identify what kinds of collocation mistakes students make in their essay writing at pre-intermediate students Titik Nol English Course Pare.

### **D. Significances of The Research**

Theoretical significance is about the benefit in science, and the practical significance is focused on an effort and step to solve the problem.<sup>10</sup>

The results of this study are expected to provide some beneficial contributions as follows:

1. Theoretical significance

The result of this study will be the alternative reference to enrich knowledge about grammar and vocabulary especially about the use of collocation in writing an English text.

---

<sup>8</sup> Creswell, 110.

<sup>9</sup> Latief, *RESEARCH METHODS ON LANGUAGE LEARNING AN INTRODUCTION*, 27.

<sup>10</sup> Tim Penyusun Pedoman Karya Tulis Ilmiah, *Pedoman Penulisan Karya Ilmiah* (Pamekasan: STAIN Pamekasa Press, 2012), 19.

## 2. Practical significance

### a) The lecturers

The study can help the lecturer to explore the students' ability in expanding collocation to develop their knowledge about writing skill.

### b) The students

It can help the students in comprehending collocation to ease them in writing English.

### c) The next researcher

It will be able to ease the next researcher to develop this study and to add this research as his/her research reference.

## **E. Scope and Limitation**

According to Oxford dictionary, scope is opportunity to achieve something.<sup>11</sup> The scope of this study is the mistakes students make in using collocation, while the limitation is limiting or controlling the subject, fact or condition that limit.<sup>12</sup> Based on the definition, the limitation of the study is for pre-intermediate students Titik Nol English Course Pare.

---

<sup>11</sup> *Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary*, Fourth Edition (Oxford University Press, 2008), 293.

<sup>12</sup> *Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary*, 256.

## **F. Definition of Key Terms**

To avoid misunderstanding about meaning of some terms used as keyword in this study to the readers, the researcher provides the definition of them, they are:

1. Writing : One of English skills to express the thought or idea by making a written text.
2. Essay : a kind of writing that usually contains introduction, body, and conclusion.
3. Collocation : Two or more words which usually appear together.