

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of Study

Language is a way for humans to communicate, with the existence of language humans can understand each other because the language used is the same that makes. There are so many languages in the world, and no one is sure how many of them are spoken.

As we know that every country has its own national language, in today's world of education not only the national language is the language taught by every school but also a foreign language or a second language, that's why learning another language is a must that will be achieved by each person.

On the other hand, the meaning of education in the Islamic context is so that humans are able to carry out their functions *fi al-ardh*, and so that humans think using their minds, by having knowledge and elevating their rank, so that humans obtain happiness and prosperity. in this world and the hereafter. According to Shihab (2016), "the final achievement of education is the formation of a human being who is balanced between physically and spiritually in carrying out his role as caliph".

The Qur'an uses Arabic as its language, and each language has its own grammar. In order to understand a language, students need to have their own grammatical knowledge, by learning they will gain knowledge about it and make it easy for them to master the structure of many languages. Therefore learning grammar will also make it easier for them to understand the structure of different languages.

From this explanation, it can be concluded that learning a foreign language is a must and learning English is important, especially for mastering grammar. Learning English is very important because we can find many aspects, such as economic aspects, technology, health, and many more, that's the reason English is taught in many schools, especially in Indonesia, because English is a foreign language and is taught in schools for every student class.

One important component of language is grammar. According to Harmer as quoted in Alfiyani (2013: 36) grammar is a description of the ways in which words can change their form and can be combined into sentences in that language. This is inseparable from the efforts that teachers are currently using in improving students' grammar skills, starting from using various types of learning methods that they apply in class, such as

playing various types of games and using various kinds of learning media, ranging from conventional to using digital media, but all of that can improve students' grammar skills to be better than before. So far, learning English, which is also known as classical learning, along with the development of the era of using technology makes students able to learn easily by using mobile applications. To improve grammar skills, you need exercises such as: memorizing vocabulary, reading comprehension, listening subtitles, speaking conversations, writing in English more often.

Exercise is important to activate students' desire to master English skills, and practice is very important because it is made as a tool to measure and evaluate students' ability to achieve the material provided. While doing the exercises one has to check whether the exercises are relevant or not. The researcher assumes that in order to master grammar, students must have more grammar practice, moreover this skill is not easy to master.

According to Imayanti and Damayanti (2018), mobile applications provide an alternative way of teaching and learning process. The students can use their cell phones effectively, from an affective aspect. In addition, from the psychomotor aspect, students like to

give positive responses to performance using mobile applications

with the existence of technology that affects human life whose existence also contributes to the education system. where technology really exists and develops, using a smartphone is a common activity that we can find anywhere. Therefore, recommendations for teachers teaching English Grammar about what mobile applications they should use to teach grammar. Teachers and students will also be able to consider the effectiveness of time and place in controlling students using mobile applications.

The role of information and technology has grown rapidly in the field of education. As these changes take place, there is an increasing demand for studies in learning theory and the relationship between computer device use. Mobile technologies such as tablets, computers or laptops, and smartphones enable learning in and out of traditional/conventional classrooms, this learning system bridges the gap between formal and informal learning.

One of the appropriate media to use to teach grammar is the Android application or what is known as the Duo Lingo learning application which is effective and efficient by providing interesting material for students to

learn grammar anytime and anywhere. It was found that this mobile-based learning technology has advantages in pedagogical aspects such as collaborative learning, blended learning, interactive learning, experiential learning. when viewed from the application of technology-based learning data in Indonesia there are still around 65% of schools that have used mobile e-learning based learning technology in Indonesia. After that, learning by utilizing technology is also important for influencing student learning abilities, because it includes all the tools that can be used to present information, especially those related to education and assessment, and several media that project learning material. It can be said that everything that is covered in audio-visual is classified as technology in education.

On the other hand, the level of learning mastery of students in high schools in Indonesia who study component languages, such as grammar is still low, because grammar as one of the English learning materials is quite difficult to learn at the high school level.

In the results of internships at schools, researchers provide evidence that sometimes students find it difficult to learn grammar, which is caused by several factors, such as a lack of mastery of English vocabulary, when the teacher asks them to say something in English, they don't

know what to answer. Their vocabulary is limited so they have difficulty understanding the meaning of the text, and if the teacher explains the material some of the students are busy themselves such as playing cellphones and others, so it can be concluded that the role of vocabulary in student grammar is very important in constructing effective sentences for students.

From the problems that these students have, it can be concluded that grammar occupies a very important role as a basis for student mastery. of English subject matter. and other lessons. Mastery of grammar will affect the way of thinking and creativity of students in the language learning process so that it can determine the quality of students in speaking. The quality of a person's language skills depends on the quantity of vocabulary and grammar rules he has. The more vocabulary and grammar rules a person has, the greater his language skills.

On the other hand, from Wahyu's point of view (2020). the use of the duo lingo learning application can also have an influence on teaching English not only grammar skills but can also be used to improve students' ability to master vocabulary and to find out students' perceptions about the application of the duolingo application in teaching English subjects, thus this is very important to develop the effectiveness of students in

learning grammar in a mobile way. because Mobile learning really helps students to study wherever they want, right. Learners can use cellphones, tablet computers, media players or other portable devices that can be used anytime and anywhere, it is a useful medium that can help everyone to learn a language because it can be used informally and spontaneously at every opportunity

Regarding learning in the current era, it is very different from the previous K-13 curriculum, with the Merdeka Learning curriculum making English subjects acceptable to students by using mobile information devices based on learning applications that can support students' learning experiences in learning English grammar. With the Freedom to Learn program and teachers as drivers of change, in essence they are trying to create a fun learning atmosphere for both teachers and students. Current digital advancements have an impact on learning approaches through self-learning programs and teachers as drivers of change to synergize with the digital era.

The implementation of the Merdeka Belajar curriculum has resulted in several scientific learning patterns carried out by the government which require that several learning activities be carried out using the role of



cellular information in the implementation of learning. The use of mobile technology has made a major contribution in educational institutions, including achieving distance learning goals, but various media can also be used to support the implementation of more interesting learning.

actually there are many language learning media in the world and Duolingo is one of them that can be used by them. Duolingo is a free mobile app (there is also a web version) and is statistically the most popular in the Education category on Google Play. Actually it is a learning app with the language of game concepts, so people will really enjoy using it. Studies have shown a statistically significant increase in language with the application

In addition, the teacher tries his best to encourage high student motivation to achieve this learning goal. it is hoped that in using this learning media so that students will learn to try and be serious so that they have great motivation and desire in learning grammatical structures, thus the researcher hopes that they can have a high awareness of students so that they are driven by their own will to overcome problems. various learning difficulties they face, and then students will be able to learn grammar more on their own. This shows that grammar is an



important skill to master when learning a language because it helps to understand spoken or written language. The role of the teacher must be patient in providing learning materials and helping them understand English grammar. Unfortunately, most students who are learning to read and write view grammar as their biggest challenge. students do a great job of constructing incorrect sentences, and this problem will affect how writers generate ideas. This example shows why English learners, especially those who wish to express their ideas in writing, must be proficient in grammatical formulations.

So that the methods and media that researcher will use must be creative because they can increase motivation and make it easier for students to learn grammar related to the challenges of the Independent Learning curriculum. the challenge that must be faced by researcher is to have ideas to be able to apply the use of technology in the current millennial era. In the current era, it can be said the 4.0 era where we have to keep up with the times. By utilizing existing technology, almost all school students have smartphones, so that with smartphones students can learn English with various learning applications that are already available to improve students' grammar skills. There are lots of learning applications on smartphones in the current 4.0 era, one of which is the “Duo Lingo”

application which can be downloaded by students. This is one method that can grow and motivate students to achieve their English learning goals because it can display innovative learning activities. and interesting.

Based on the background above, it can be identified the problems that will be faced by researcher are as follows, the teaching and learning process is less interesting, students have difficulty memorizing grammar, students lack confidence, students cannot understand the material provided by the teacher using English as a whole . One application that supports learning grammar is Duolingo. Duolingo is an easy to use, useful and fun app for practicing languages. They seem to like it more than reading regular books because this app is interesting. They can access it anywhere, especially via smartphones. The purpose of this study was to "The Effect of Duolingo on class XI students of SMA Negeri 9 Kota Bengkulu ".

## **B. Identification of Problems**

Based on the background of the research, the researcher determined the following as the study's difficulty:

- 1) The lower understanding that students have in the use of smartphone learning applications in the merdeka belajar curriculum

- 2) When teaching in English and the learning process the teacher does not use various media.
- 3) Students' difficulties in memorizing grammatical structures

### **C. Limitation of Problems**

In this study, the researchers focused on how effective Grammar learning was using the "Duo Lingo" Learning Application, which in learning when using the *Merdeka Belajar* curriculum, using a scientific learning method that familiarizes students with learning to use mobile phones and is active in discussing grammar learning.

### **D. Research Questions**

Based on the background mentioned, there are some problems which must be explained, they are:

1. What is the effect of duo lingo application for the students grammar ability in class XI SMA N 9 Bengkulu City?
2. How do students experience the use of the Duo Lingo application in Learning English grammar?

### **E. Objectives of Study**

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the research objectives are:

- 1) To find out the effect of using the Duolingo application on increasing the grammar of class XI students of SMAN 9 Bengkulu City?
- 2) To find out students' experiences in using the Duo Lingo application in their grammar learning.

#### **F. The Purpose and Significant of Research**

The results of the study was to determine what effect the Duolingo application had on the students of SMA N 9 Kota Bengkulu. research are expected to be useful for English teachers, students and for the research.

##### **a. Teacher**

The findings of this study can be used by teachers to help student effectiveness in learning English grammar. By Effectiveness the "Duo Lingo" app, teachers can engage students in classroom activities that help them influence their English grammar.

##### **b. Students**

Students can also take advantage of the "Duo Lingo" app to help improve their grammatical understanding. Furthermore, the researcher hopes that it can have a beneficial impact on students' understanding in the future, so

that they can enjoy learning English using their smartphones.

c. Other the Researchers

To complete the requirements for a bachelor's degree and to be able to continue studying while conducting this research in the future, this research will be written. It is anticipated that the study's findings will add new information that readers will find useful

### **G. Definition of the key term**

Knowing these key terms makes this research easier for researcher and other readers to understand. Many key terms related to this research such as Duo Lingo learning application, grammar mastery.

- 1) Learning media, in the educational context, refers to the tools or facilities used to assist the learning and teaching process. Learning media is very important in helping students understand new concepts, motivating them to learn, and developing their skills.
- 2) The Duo Lingo application is an English learning application that is able to help students learn language online, easily, practically and in an interesting way. because this platform is a game-

based learning media technology, which can be used for educational education in schools

- 3) Grammar ability is a strategic learning process in the form of forming word structures. These rules regulate the arrangement of sentences, phrases and words, especially in English in the use of learning technology that is in accordance with students' grammatical skills. with application technology Grammar plays a very important role so that communication can run well so that there are no errors in understanding the meaning of the sentences in the application that is used, this is prepared to support learning strategies in the *merdeka belajar* curriculum.

