

## **Chapter One**

### **Introduction**

This first chapter of this study firstly describes background and identification of the problem. It is then followed by delimitation of the problem and the research questions. The objective of the research and significance of the research are also included in this study. The last part is the organization of the chapters.

### **Background of the Study.**

Along with the times, humans have arrived at a modern technological age. Technology plays an important role in almost all fields including education field in Indonesia. The use of technology in education is very massive. Nowadays, teaching and learning process are usually held via online using a computer or smartphone. It allows students to access internet and computer software freely to meet their needs. The use of computer software is popular for modern students. One of the software is Grammarly.

For English language students, Grammarly is used to avoid mistakes in English writing process as writing has been a very beneficial skill in the language. Writing is an activity that requires many steps in the process including the process of finding, arranging, writing, or placing the idea on paper, and also reshaping and revising the writing (Meyers, 2005). A study done by McNamara et al. (2010) stated that academic writing quality needs writers' understanding in linguistic features such as text and syntax difficulty, lexical richness, frequency of words and sophisticated vocabulary. The benefits of writing can be seen from three reasons such as writing is crucial skill for academic success, it can be a tool that leads to a language proficiency and it

can also increase students' knowledge by understanding the gaps between two or more languages (Warschauer, 2010).

English language students cannot be separated from writing that will accompany them in most of the course. However, as writing needs many steps to be mastered well, some students might face difficulties in English writing process. This problem usually happens in the countries where English is a foreign language such as Indonesia. To overcome this problem, many students tend to use a tool, such as Grammarly, to help them check their English writing.

Based on an informal interview, some students at English Education Department (ELED) of a private university in Yogyakarta face several challenges in English writing such as lack of vocabularies and grammar understanding. As the results, they used Grammarly to check their English writings. The students prefer to use Grammarly than teacher corrective feedback because for the students, teacher corrective feedback is time consuming. Thus, the researcher wants to discover the advantages and disadvantages of Grammarly towards students' writing skills based on students' perception.

### **Identification of the Problems**

The use of the Grammarly is becoming more popular for students in many countries. The students use Grammarly to help them check grammatical mistakes in their English writing. As having face to face meeting is now not recommended because of corona virus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, having a tool or automatic software, such as grammar checker namely Grammarly is beneficial for both students and teachers. This is because Grammarly can be accessed independently to help students' learning process. By using Grammarly, the students can check their grammar mistakes quickly. As the result, the teachers can reduce workload on checking and

evaluating the writing. However, many learners, writers and teachers hesitate with the use of grammar checker (Smith, 2016). This phenomenon becomes more complex conforming between the use of Grammarly as grammar checker versus teacher corrective feedback.

Grammarly helps students reduce errors in terms of diction, grammar, spelling and punctuation and gives students feedback on their errors automatically. On the other hand, many students who have low linguistic knowledge do not understand the feedback from the system (Ghufron1 & Rosyida, 2018). Therefore, the learning process will not happen.

### **Delimitation of the Problems.**

As some students at ELED private university in Yogyakarta use Grammarly regularly, researchers wanted to know their perceptions on the advantages and disadvantages of using the Grammarly to help them improve their writing skills. The students must be from batch of 2017 as they have been introduced to a lot of written English to facilitate their classroom experience. They have also completed all English writing classes. In this study, the researcher will only use interview to collect the data from the participants.

### **Research Question**

The researcher has proposed the research questions for this research. There will be two research questions as research guidelines. The questions are:

1. What are the college students' perceptions on the advantages of using Grammarly in writing?
2. What are the college students' perceptions on the disadvantages of using Grammarly in writing?

### **Research Objectives**

Based on the research questions above, the purposes of the research are:

1. To know the college students' perceptions on the advantages of using Grammarly in writing.
2. To know the college students' in university perceptions on the disadvantages of using Grammarly in writing.

### **Significance of the Reasearch**

Research should offer some importance for being a successful investigation. The researcher is hoping this work will help teachers, students, and other researchers to fulfill their needs of knowledge. The participants in this research are the students of English Language Education Department of batch 2017. By understanding the advantages and disadvantages of Grammarly, the students are expected to find the best method in improving their writing skills

**The Teachers.** This research provides the information on the advantages and disadvantages of the use of Grammarly. Therefore, this study is expected to help teachers and pre-service English teachers to consider the use of Grammarly as an automatic software that can be helpful in the teaching process, especially in writing.

**The Students.** This research presents the advantages and disadvantages of Grammarly use in helping the students with their writings. Therefore, it is expected that the students can apply Grammarly maximally. On the other hand, the information on the disadvantages of Grammarly use is expected to be more aware of the potential disadvantages for their writing.

**Other Reasearcher.** This research is hopefully useful for other researchers as a reference to help them perform research on the same subject. The information of the advantages and disadvantages of the use of Grammarly in this research can be used as a basic knowledge to develop the ideas for their research.

## **Organization of the Chapters**

The report of this research is presented into five chapters. The first chapter consists of the introduction describing the background of the research, identification and delimitation of the problems, research questions and objectives of the research. This research aims to find out the advantages and disadvantages of the use of Grammarly in writing. The significance of the research and the organization of the chapters are also provided in this chapter. The second chapter deals with literature review. It explains Grammarly, Grammarly used in language learning, Writing, Advantages of Grammarly for students' writing and Disadvantages of Grammarly for students' writing. Chapter Three presents research methodology of this research. It consists of research approach which is qualitative using qualitative descriptive research design. It also describes the research setting and participants involving the students of English Language Education Department (ELED) at a private university in Yogyakarta. Chapter three also describes the data collection method using interview technique followed by data analysis. The next chapter, Chapter Four presents the findings and discussion. The final chapter, Chapter Five draws the conclusion and provides recommendation.

