CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

Grammar is one of the most important things to study English. It is also the basic skill to study the language. In linguistics, grammar is the set of structural rules that governs the composition of clauses, phrases, and words in any given natural language. The term refers also to the study of such rules; the term *grammar* is often used by non-linguists with a very broad meaning. As Butterfield (1993 : 19) puts it "Grammar is often a generic way of referring to any aspect of English that people object to." Speakers of a language have in their heads a set of rules for using that language. So that grammar become important to the learners for studying English because it can shows the true meaning.

Students in SMP Muhammadiyah 4 Giri are taught English as foreign language. English is the compulsory subject at school in all grades. Students study English for 1x40 minutes in each time at class. There are 3 meetings in one week for English for all grades. Most of the students have low ability to master grammar. In their opinion grammar is very difficult and boring. They feel bored because there is not any interesting media.

After interviewing the English teacher of SMP Muhammadiyah 4 Giri, the researcher found that the problems of the students are about the teacher's way to teach and give the grammar test. When the teacher gives grammar lesson, most of the students do not pay attention and when the teacher gives the grammar test they

could not do it well. There are so many mistakes that the students did. Because of those reasons, the researcher decides to develop grammar test using Macromedia Dreamweaver 8 which intent to make the students more interesting in learning grammar and doing the grammar test.

It is being the duty for the teacher to create interesting grammar test in order to make the students more interesting to do grammar test and make them more understand after doing the grammar test. One of the media to conduct reading is by using Macromedia Dreamweaver 8. Macromedia Dreamweaver 8 is one of interesting and attractive media, and it is also easier for the students to use. Students just need to read the questions and answer by clicking the answer which is correct according to them, and whether it is correct or incorrect there will be some explanations about it. Media can be a powerful tool for meaningful learning. As a teacher, you can increase learning by helping your students understand and actively analyze the media they consume (KQED Education Network, 2008).

1.2 Problem Statement

As stated in the background of the study above, we can conclude that there are many students in SMP Muhammadiyah 4 Giri do not like doing grammar test. It is difficult and boring according to them. The researcher tries to make multimedia test to make it more interesting and more understandable. Specifically, the problem is "*How is grammar test for 9th grade students of junior high school developed using Macromedia Dreamweaver 8?*"

1.3 Research Objective

The objective of this research is to develop grammar test using Macromedia Dreamweaver 8 media for 9th grade students of junior high school which is suitable with the curriculum, syllabus, and students' need.

1.4 Significance of the Study

There are two significance of this study, they are theoretical and practical.

Theoretically, it will support the theory of developing, more especially in developing grammar test. The development of grammar test through Macromedia Dreamweaver 8 is attractive. It can help students to understand the grammar easily.

Practically, this study is expected to give contribution for:

a.   Teacher who teaches in junior high school, this Macromedia Dreamweaver 8 can be beneficial as an interesting grammar test. It can be modified and integrated with other grammar sources.

b.   For the students, it can make them understand the grammar test easily and interestingly.

c.   For the school, it can make the school easier to give online test.

d.   For the readers, it can inspire them to develop into another skill of language.

e.   For other researcher, this product may also be taken into an action research to find out the effects of implementing this product in grammar test. It can be used as one of the developing test resources.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the study

The researcher scopes the study to develop grammar test for 9th grade in SMP Muhammadiyah 4 Giri using Macromedia Dreamweaver 8. The final product will contain some questions and explanations about the structure which are found in the syllabuses of 9th grade in the second semester in SMP Muhammadiyah 4 Giri. They are present tense and past tense.

The students can use this program without connecting to the internet. So they can take it at home. When they open this program they will find some choices, they are material for ninth grade in the second semester. If they open the media, they have to register first. After that the students can choose some menus in the next page there are 3 choices in this page, they are the present tense and past tense test, scores, and high scores. There will be 40 questions shown, the questions are multiple choices. Then they can try to answer the questions. There will be some explanations whether their choice correct or incorrect.

1.6 Definition of key terms

There are two key words to help the readers determine the focus of the research. The key words are (1) Development of grammar test (2) Macromedia Dreamweaver 8.

Development grammar test is a process to develop by integrating some aspects to be more interesting and increase the motivation of the students to do the test. In this term, researcher develops grammar test through Macromedia Dreamweaver 8 to motivate students and engage them in process of learning

grammar. There will be some tests of grammar which depends on students'
syllabus, they are only present tense and past tense because the researcher finds
narrative text and report text in the syllabus of ninth grade in the second semester.
It will be packed interestingly by using Macromedia Dreamweaver 8. When they
open this program they will find some choices, they are some materials for ninth
grades. After that the students can choose the material that they are going to learn.
There will be some questions shown, the questions are multiple choices. Then
they can try to answer the questions, if their answers are incorrect it will connect
to the explanation of the material.

Macromedia Dreamweaver 8 is multimedia tool which engage students to
do the test by clicking the answer. It stimulates student's comprehension well.
Students can re – play the questions and read some explanations for each answers.
The researcher use Macromedia Dreamweaver 8 with HTML (Hypertext Markup
Language) for the appearance and PHP (Hypertext Preprocessor) for the
operational.