

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **A. Background of The Research**

In everyday life in society and in the school environment, language is one of the tools to communicate both directly and indirectly. Uniquely, we can understand that the use of language is not easy. Other problems faced by language users include fear of using language, namely fear of being wrong, vocabulary, understanding vocabulary both lexically and grammatically. The use of words and word choice (diction) in language is needed because, with the correct use of words, the message conveyed can be easily digested and understood.

Language is a necessity for everyone as a means of communication. However, not everyone is able to use language properly and correctly, because everyone has different competencies. This of course depends on one's habits. Language is a system of meaningful and articulate sound symbols (produced by the speech apparatus) that is arbitrary and conventional, which is used as a means of communication by a group of humans to give birth to feelings and thoughts.

In the modern era, we often face several problems related to language or linguistics, so to overcome these problems we can study with academic studies about language or also called linguistics. Linguistics has several fields of study, because the object of linguistics is language which cannot be separated from the activities of a very broad range of people.

In studying language as a means of communication, it will be closely related to morphology, which is a field of linguistics that studies part of the language structure which includes words and parts of words, namely morphemes.

Alwasilah (2011:95), stated the components in linguistics cover various fields, namely phonetics, morphology, syntax and semantic. In this research, the field of study to be studied is morphology.

According to Aronoff (2011), Morphology refers to the mental system involved in word formation or to the branch of linguistics that deals with words, their internal structure, and how they are formed, including the ways new words are coined in the language of the world, and the way forms of words are varied depending on how they are used in „sentences. Morphology is the study of the combination of morphemes to yield words (Haspelmath, M, 2010). Furthermore, Morphology is the study of words and how they are formed.

Bauer (2007), morphology is about the structure of words, how words such as dislike are made up of smaller meaningful elements such as dis and like. Learning English morphology is essential for the students of English department because English morphology supports language teaching. English morphology also supports language elements (grammar, vocabulary) and language skills (reading, writing, and speaking).

In studying morphology, we are familiar with the term morpheme, where the meaning of morpheme is the smallest unit of form in a word that still has meaning. Morphemes have several types. Based on whether or not they can be directly used in phrases or sentences, morphemes are divided into two: free

morphemes and bound morphemes. Free morphemes are morphemes that, without combining with other morphemes, can already be used in phrases or sentences. Meanwhile, bound morpheme cannot exist independently without being joined or added to another morpheme.

Identifying a morpheme is very difficult, because there are several things that need to be understood, for example singer consists of two morphemes ( sing is a free morpheme and –er is bound morpheme because it cannot be used without being attached to another morpheme. )

The potential of the students in morphological still lack, it proven from their performance in recogniing and controlling the morphemes. It refers to the students comprehension of morphologically complex terms and their ability to develop new meaning of word.

In the opinion of morphology lecturer, students still do not fully understand how to use / analyze free and bound morphemes, for example in the use of morphemes; They do not understand which morphemes are still possible to add, or indeed which part of the morpheme should be the end of a word. They don'tknow that the addition or subtraction of a particular morpheme would bring about a change in meaning, even the type of word of which the morpheme is part. It looks very simple, but this simple thing will eventually hinder students' progress in mastering subjects that have something to do with morphemes.

Based on the explanation above, researcher is interested in analyzing the competence of fourth semester students in using free and bound morphemes. The ability of students in the use of morphemes will greatly help them in mastering the grammar and meaning of a sentence or speech in language.

#### **B. Scope of The Research**

The scope of this study is focuses on the morphological process in free and bound morpheme. The subject of this research is students of the English department in the fourth semester at the University of Khairun University. In this research, the writer analysed student's competence in using free and bound morphemes.

#### **C. Statements of The Problem**

There is problem that the researcher wants to answer in this researcher:

1. How students' competence in using free morphemes?
2. How students' competence in using bound morphemes?

#### **D. Objectives of The Research**

Concerning the problems of the study as mentioned above, the objectives of the study are formulated as follows:

1. To know students competence in using free morpheme.
2. To know students competence in using bound morpheme.

#### **E. Significant of The Research**

The results of this study is excepted to be useful and give new information to the morphology study. This analysis may be valuable for those who want to know deeper than their knowledges in understanding using free and bound morpheme.

Practically, the result of this study is hoped to give a contribution to the learners who are interested in this study morphology.