CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

Grammar is the set of rules that explain how word are used in a language. Grammar is one of language component which should be mastered by the students. the grammar of a language is a description of the way in which the language uses pattern of structure to convey the meaning. So, it would be impossible to learn language effectively without knowing the grammar, because grammar helps learners to identify grammatical form, meaning and use of grammar.

Grammatical form, meaning, and use is very important to be mastered by the student, because it is essential part of grammar. When the students comprehend about form of a sentence, they can make a sentence accurately. Student who understands about the meaning of grammar, they can fluent in grammar. The use of grammar correctly can make the sentence became acceptable. Student should mastered form, meaning, and use of grammar to learning a language well.

Grammar is one of language components in learning English which is integrated into four English skills, such as reading, listening, speaking, and writing. Grammar cannot be separated from those skills because it gives many contributions to learn language more accurately, fluently, acceptable.

Teaching grammar is process of transferring knowledge from the lecturer to the student. In process of teaching grammar, students are expected to mastery all of the aspect in grammar. When student have mastered grammar, they can written and speaking well. Lecturers have to applied the correct approach, strategy, method, and technique in teaching grammar, so the students can mastery and comprehend all of grammars' aspect.

Many people believe that perception is an abstract thing which is hard to define. According to Wesely, "learners' perceptions have been commonly associated with two targets; perceptions of themselves and perceptions of the learning situation[1]". Perceptions of themselves have often been defined as how students understand and make sense of themselves and their own learning. Perceptions of the learning situation and students' experience influent each other such as teaching grammar.

Students' perception in teaching grammar can be influenced by many factors. There are three factors that influence perception, for instance perceiver (attitudes, motive, interest, experience, and expectations), target (novelty, motion, sounds, size, background, proximity, and similarity), and situation (time, work setting, and social setting). Students as perceiver are influenced by attitude, motive, interest, experience, and expectation in teaching grammar.

[1] Wesely, P, *Learner Attitudes, Perceptions, and Belief in Language Learning*, (Foreign Language Annals, 2012), p. 45

There are some reasons why grammar should be taught by teacher such as: "the study of grammar is importance simply because language is a supreme human achievement that deserves to be studied, the study of grammar can be an importance vehicle for learning to study something the way scientist does, the study of grammar will help form mind by promoting "mental disciplines", also help students' score better on standardized test that include grammar, usage, and punctuation[2]". By teaching grammar, it can help people master another language readily, and help people master the socially prestigious conversation of spoken and /or written usage. In addition is teaching grammar can help students become user of the language that is more effective as listener and speaker and especially as readers and writer. In conclusion, grammar is very importance to be taught because so many advantages can be gotten by the student.

Based on the researcher's preliminary research in the third semester students and lecturer in IAIN Bukittinggi by doing interview, the researcher found the fact that the students in this semester have studied grammar since they were in the first semester. Since in the first semester until third semester, the students learnt grammar with the same lecturer. Students said that if they did not have problem in teaching grammar process because the method that used by the teacher in the class was easy to be understood by the student. The students had opinion if the problem in teaching grammar is when they had to remain entire pattern in the grammar class. The students thought if remaining the pattern was

[2] Constance Weaver, *Teaching Grammar in Context*, (London,Heinemann1996). p. 7

very difficult because they had to remain the entire pattern in grammar and they had to remain the pattern correctly so they could use the pattern properly. Besides remaining the pattern, students thought if grammar was very difficult to be applied in a sentence. Although they know the rule of the grammar correctly, but when they had to apply it in a sentence by their own language, they tend to make mistakes.

In line with the students, lecturers who teach grammar subject also said that almost of student face difficulty when they had to apply grammar in a sentence by their own words, and remain the entire pattern in grammar.

Based on interview, the researcher found two phenomenons. The first, grammar was very difficult to be learnt because they had to remain all the pattern of the grammar correctly. In other side, grammar had so many patterns to be reminded. The second, although they knew the rule of grammar correctly, but when they had to apply it in a sentence by their own language, they tend to make a mistake.

Because of those phenomenon, the researcher was interested to conduct a research about **"The Students' and Lectures' Perceptions Toward Teaching Grammar in IAIN Bukittinggi Academic Year 2017/2018"**

B. Identification of The Problem

Based on the background of the problem, some problems occurred toward teaching Grammar in IAIN Bukittinggi which can be identified as follow:

1. Grammar was very difficult to be learnt because they had to remain all the pattern of the grammar correctly. In other side, grammar had so many patterns to be reminded.
2. Grammar was very difficult to be applied in a sentence when the students used their own language to make a sentence, so they tend to made mistakes although they knew the rule of the grammar perfectly.

C. Limitation of the Problem

Based on the problems above, the researcher limited the scope of the problems to be researched, that is **"The Students' and Lectures' Perceptions Toward Teaching Grammar in IAIN Bukittinggi Academic Year 2017/2018"**

D. Formulation of the Problem

Based on the background of the study, the problem of the study was formulated as:

1. What do students perceive about teaching grammar in IAIN Bukittinggi?
2. What do lecturers perceive about teaching grammar in IAIN Bukittinggi?

E. Purpose of the Research

The purpose of the research was :

1. To find out students perceive about teaching grammar in IAIN Bukittinggi
2. To find out lecturers perceive about teaching grammar in IAIN Bukittinggi

F. Significance of the Research

This research is significant because it is useful for lecturers, students, especially English department students at English education section, and researcher.

1. For lecturer

   This can be as reference and input to the lecturer in applying the best method in teaching grammar.

2. For students

   Hopefully, this study helps the third semester students to find their problem in teaching grammar and improve their learning skill especially in grammar, so students' interest and students' ability are increasing in learning grammar.

3. For researcher

   It can improve the researcher's experience and knowledge about teaching grammar.

G. Definition of the Key Terms

1. Perception is a cognitive- process that allows us to interpret and understand around us.
2. Grammar is a set of rules that define how words (or parts of words) are combined or changed to form acceptable units of meaning within a language.