CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of terms.

1.1   Background of the Study

Language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human communication (Wardhaugh, 1977: 3). Its purpose is for people to communicate orally with each other and to express their needs. Without language people will get difficulties to find ways to share their feeling or communicate their needs.

There are many languages, one of them is English. English becomes the most essential language in the world. Almost all the people from many different countries around the world use it to communicate, it is spoken by millions of people all over the world. In English language there are four skills such as listening, speaking, reading and writing. One of the expressive language elements is writing skill.

Writing is probably one of the most important things in our life. By writing, people are able to express their ideas, feeling and opinion and able to communicate with other people. In addition, most of important official documents such as contracts, guarantees, laws, formal regulations and so forth are made in the written form. In daily life, people find that announcements, advertisements,

letters, information, and even warning are in the form of writing. Writing is one of the important skills in English because people need to learn writing in English for occupational or academic purpose. People should have a capabilities good writing in order to write grammatically. In short we are consciously or unconsciously engaged in a lot. Teaching writing is very necerssary to improve students' ability in writing such as narrative, expository, procedure, or recount and so forth. In learning process, the teacher is expected to guide the students to write.

Based on the writer's own experiences when she was having teaching practice, the students often found some problems in recount text. There are many students who still confused about how to write recount text. They feel difficult in arranging the generic structure used in writing recount text.In this study the writer wants to know the students ability in writing recount text.

The goal of writing recount text is telling news or describing the whole activity that has been done. Writing recount text also uses past tense and automatically the verbs of past tense e.g. went, got, slept, etc are also used. Beside that, writing recount text uses more temporal conjuction (when, then and after) to construct series of events.

Based on the background above, the writer is conducted a research entitle **" A Study on the Ability In Writing Recount Text of the Tenth Grade Students of SMK Kencana Sakti Kupang in the School Year 2018/2019 "**

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background, the writer would like to state several problems in several questions below:

1. Are the tenth grade students of SMK Kencana Sakti Kupang in the school year of 2018/2019 able to write recount text?

2. What is the level of ability in writing recount text of the tenth grade students of SMK Kencana Sakti Kupang in the school year 2018/2019?

1.3   Objective of the Study

Based on the question in the statement of the problems, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To find out if the tenth grade students in the school year 2018/2019 able to write recount text.

2. To find out the level of ability of the tenth grade students in the school year 2018/2019 in writing recount text.

1.4   Significance of the study

The significance of this study is a follows:

1. For the English teacher

This study is expected to give information to the teacher about the ability of his or her students in writing recount text.

2. For the students

This study can give motivation to the students of the researched school to have more interest in writing recount text because it can enrich their knowledge and skill as well as to develop English language.

3. For writer

This study is aimed at improving her knowledge and skill in writing, especially in writing recount text.

1.5   Scope and Limitation

There are four skills of learning and teaching language including learning and teaching English: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. There are also sub skills of learning and teaching language including English: vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, and spelling.

In this study the writer focuses her study on the grammar, and form or generic structures of recount text:

- Orientation: Introducing the participants, place and time.

- Events: Describing series of event that happened in the past.

- Re-Orientation: it is optional. Stating personal comment of the writer to the story.

1.6 Definition of the Terms

There are some terms that should be defined dealing with the study to make everything clear for readers.

1. **Ability**

   Ability is a potential or power to do something physically or mentally (Hornby, 1987; 2). In this sense ability means the students' capability to write recount text by using generic structure of it correctly.

2. **Writing**

   According to White (1986:10) writing is the process of expressing the ideas, information, knowledge or some information to share and learn. Beside that Tarigan (1994:3) stated, writing is an activity to produce or draw graphic symbols of a language that is understood by people. People will understand by graphic symbols presented if they understand the language and the graphic itself. Writing is a skill to transfer ideas, experiences, and feeling into the written form (Mulyani and Hafiz, 2012, p.225).

3. **Recount Text**

   Recount text is a reconstruction of something that happened in the past. It is the unfolding sequence of events over time and the purpose is to tell what happened. Recounts begin by telling the reader who was involved, what happened, where this event took place (Seaton, 2007).

4. **SMK Kencana Sakti Kupang**

   SMK Kencana Sakti Kupang is one of senior high schools in Kupang. It is located at Jl. Karya kencana, No. 11. Kelapa lima. Kota Kupang.