

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of study

Language is a mean of communication that is used to transfer information, ideas, and feeling from one person to another. It is used to communicate both of written and spoken languages. Considering the importance of the language, our government has drawn English as a foreign language that should be mastered by student. In Indonesia, English teaching aims at mastering four basic skills of language, which include listening, speaking, reading, and writing skill.

Nowdays, the student are expected to master those four skills in order to be able to use English communicatively even written or spoken language. In fact, the majority of students usually refuse to write. It causes them that do not know what to write. The writing is still considered to be the most difficult of the language skill for Indonesian students. The first stage in learning language is by hearing it.

There are still many reasons why writing English is difficult. Elbow (1998) said there are many peoples who cannot write. They feel confused when they have to write because they do not even know how to get started to write. Rigg (2011) also stated that getting started to write can be very difficult. This problem is caused by lock of motivation of the student. Most

of student' parents in school are not well educated or do not have good study background. Another problem comes from the teacher using a traditional technique in the teaching process. Many Indonesian teachers do not realize their responsibility that being a teacher is not only dealing with their attendance in the class but also dealing with technique to facilitate the learner needs, the tools they use and the result that student achieve, the media, the good material, and many necessary aspects. The use of interesting media also contributes to the better learning process both improving student participation and their interest in classroom activity which might lead them to have better ability in writing. According to Wright (1976:1) cited in Cakir (2006:67) many media and many styles of visual presentation are useful to language learner. When I was teaching in SMA Kristen 1 Kupang, I experienced that many student found writing difficult.

Based on the problem above, the study is formulated in the following tittle **"A Study on The Effectiveness of Comic Strip to Improve Writing Skill of the Eleventh Grade Student of SMKN 2 KUPANG in the School Year 2017/2018"**

1.2 Hypotheses of the study

Based on above background above, the writer formulates the following hypotheses:

H0: Comic strip is not effective in teaching writing.

Ha: Comic strip is effective in teaching writing.

1.3 Objective of study

Based on the background, it is clearly seen that the effectiveness of teaching media becomes focus of the study. Therefore, this study will be conducted in order to find out whether or not comic strip is effective to teach writing to the eleventh grade students of SMKN 2 Kupang in the school year 2017/2018.

1.4 Significance of the study

The result of the study is expected to give contribution to the teaching and learning process of writing in English foreign language.

1. For the students

Through this study the researcher expects this media can be used to help the students in generating ideas which might help them to write easily.

2. For the English teacher

The researcher hopes that this media will be able to give information for the teacher and may be used in class for various purposes, adding humor to your lesson and creating an environment that is conducive to learning.

3. For the researcher

This study is expected to be a great experience to face the future when she becomes a real teacher.

1.5 Scope and limitation

Media as it intend to help both the teacher to teach more reflectively and the learner to grasp the concept more effectively. There are four types of media which are print, visual, audio and audio-visual. In this research the writer using visual media. Graphic, chart, poster, diagram, cartoon comic, and comic are the example of visual media but the writer choose to use comic strip.

The use of comic strip in this research is to help the student in improving their English skills. There are four skills in teaching English, speaking, listening, writing and reading. In this research the writer use the media to improve students writing skill.

From the hypotheses of the study, this research is limited to the comparison of the effectiveness and ineffectiveness of comic strip media in improving students writing skills of the eleventh grade of SMKN 2 Kupang in the second year 2017/2018.

1.6 Definition of terms

There are some terms used in this study that should be defined. The definition may help the readers understand the study as a whole. The terms that should be defined are as follows.

1. Effectiveness

Boorish (1992:56) says that an effective teacher is one who had achievement motivated personality with a strong commitment and rich teaching experiences. Effectiveness in this study refers to comic strip in teaching writing to the eleventh grade student of SMKN 2 Kupang in the school year 2017/2018.

2. Comic strip

Plunket (1983:135) explains that the meaning of comic strip is a combination between cartoon picture and story. In this study comic strip means the media that teacher uses to improve student's writing skill of SMKN 2 Kupang in the school year 2017/2018

3. Writing

Writing is one of the most important thing that we do in college. Eric Gould, Robert DiYanni, and William smith (1989:18) said that writing is a creative act, the act of writing is creative because it requires to interpret or make sense of something: an experience, a text, an event.

4. Skill

Skill is a learned power to doing something competently: a developed attitude or ability (Merriam Webster, 1828).

5. SMKN 2 Kupang

SMKN 2 Kupang is one of the senior high school in Kupang, located in Jl. Ahmad Yani, No. 48, Fatubesi, Kecamatan Kota Lama, Kota Kupang, East

Nusa Tenggara province.