

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

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

1.1 Background of the Study

Now days, it is acknowledged that English is one of the well known languages in the world. It has become the most widely studied foreign language on the earth. English language is an international language that is mostly utilized by the world city to get interracial interaction and communication. One of the important things for preparing that communication is mastering the international language, English, whether it is in written form or in spoken form. As an international language, English is spoken by most of the people all over the world.

One of the languages which are taught in the school of our country is English language. English is one of the international languages that have an important role in the world. It is widely studied and used as a tool of communication among people all over the world. English becomes one of the important subject matter taught at school. In Indonesia, English is considered at the first foreign language and becomes compulsory subject learned by all the students from the elementary up to higher level.

The student study English in the school or in the course. They expect to learn some abilities. One of those abilities is writing. Writing is the process of using symbols (letters of the alphabet, punctuation and spaces) to communicate through and ideas in readable form. Writing is one of the skills that has to be mastered by students in senior high school.

In the first year of senior high school, the basic competency that should be achieved in the writing English subject is that students have ability to develop and produce simply functional written text in the recount text, narrative text, and descriptive text. They can use right diction, grammar, punctuation, spelling, and organization.

Many students who learn foreign language encounter a number of problems when they try to write because it consists of the rules of English writing grammatically and they also have to know about the structure of the English writing and choice of the words that are used in writing.

In the other hand the students as academic writer also have to know the process of the organization of writing. The students should be able to describe the organization and forms from paper, because writing involves creative process. Then, the student should be creative in using the technique to writing. They should know and understand how to start writing, find several ideas, develop their ideas into paragraph, revise their writing and make the final writing as well as possible.

Based on the writer's experience doing teaching practice program at SMA Kristen I Kupang, she found that many students were not able to write descriptive text. As the result the students are not able to write the simple text that they produced from their handbook. The students are not able to exposes their ideas in limited time in the class. Sometimes the students feel bored, because their teacher just asked them in order to write the English text based on handbook without using teaching media in learning writing, especially in writing descriptive text.

Descriptive text is one type of the texts in senior high school which is difficult enough to be learned by the students. To solve those problems the students can use many techniques to help them. One of those techniques is mind mapping. A mind map or spider

gram it is strategy for making notes on topic, prior to write. It is a structured strategy, which shows relationship of ideas so when the students use it they can easily to write their idea but how to use it is still difficulties for students when they try to write, understand and master the English writing.

Mind maps work well as a visual design that enables students to see the relationship between ideas, and encourages them to group certain ideas together as they proceed. Mind maps work well when created in group, since the discussion of this engenders aids the production of ideas, and make the task livelier and more enjoyable.

Relating to the case above, the writer would like to conduct an action research entitled a study on **“A STUDY OF THE USE OF MIND MAPPING STRATEGY TO IMPROVE STUDENT’S ABILITY ON DESCRIPTIVE WRITING OF TENTH GRADE STUDENTS OF SMA KRISTEN 1 KUPANG IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/2020”**

1.2 Problem Statements

Based on the background of this study, the researcher formulated the problem statement in form of the question:

1. Is the use of mind mapping effective or not in improving writing skill of the tenth grade students of SMA Kristen 1 Kupang?
2. How is mind mapping used to improve student’s writing ability?
3. What is the level of the writing ability of the tenth grade students after being taught using mind mapping?

1.3 Objective of Study

Objective of the study is actually the aim of what a study wants to find out. Based on the problem statements above, the objective of the study is:

1. To know whether the use of mind mapping is effective or not in improving speaking skill of the ten grade students of SMA Kristen 1 Kupang.
2. To identify how to use mind mapping to improve student's writing ability.
3. To identify the level of writing ability of the tenth grade students after being taught using mind mapping.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study will give some useful information about using mind mapping in writing. Significance of the study is meaning, importance, or value for human being. (Erom, 2016: 62). Hence, this study will be beneficial for those who have great concern in language teaching and learning particularly English teacher, students, and the writer. The significance of the study are as follows:

1. For the teacher

For the English teacher, the result of this study can be used as a reference to increase English teachers' writing competence in English teaching-learning.

2. For the students

- a. Helping the students to develop their interest to study and learn English seriously.
- b. Helping the students to develop their writing skills.
- c. Helping the students to learn English through descriptive text for pleasure and relaxation.

3. For the writer

For the writer, this writing is also as partial fulfillment to get sarjana pend.at teacher training

1.5 Scope and Limitation

There are many strategies that can be used in teaching writing such as: snowball throwing, think pair share etc. The writer limits the problem in this writing only in the student's learning writing descriptive text use mind mapping. It is essential to limit the problem in order to avoid misunderstanding in interpreting the problem. The aspect of writing that will be assessed are: grammar, spelling and punctuation.

1.6 Definition of Terms

In order to avoid the misconception of the readers, the writer wants to define some terms that are used in this study. The term that should be defined included:

a. Improving

Becoming or making better. It means, make the students use their brain to think about the descriptive words. In this study the students will improve their writing skill using mind maps.

b. Writing

Meyer (1999: 23), writing is thinking of paper. Thinking is a mind at work, finding facts, seeing relationship, testing the truth of them, and researching conclusion. The word writing comes from verb. It means an activity or a process. Writing is a way to produce language, which you do naturally when you speak. Meyers also says that writing is an action or a process of discovering and organizing ideas, putting them on

paper, and shaping and revising them (Longman 2000: 449). In this study the students are asked to write descriptive composition.

c. Descriptive Text

Descriptive text is a text that describes what kind of person or object described, good shape, properties and other numbers (<http://freeenglishcourse.info>). In this study the students are expected to build descriptive composition about " My family" and " My Favorite Teacher".

d. Mind Mapping

Main mapping is a diagram for representing tasks, words, concepts, or items linked to and arranged around a central concept or subject using a non-linear graphical layout that allows the user to build an intuitive framework around a central concept(www.tonybuzan.com). In this study the students will build mind mapping based on the topic " My Favorite Cartoon" and " My Favorite Teacher".

e. Technique

A way of using tools, materials, etc., and following rules in doing something .in this paper it means the way to solve the problem of first year student in writing descriptive text. In this study the students will be used mind mapping technique to help them in writing descriptive text.

f. SMA Kristen 1 Kupang

SMA Kristen 1 is one of the Senior high school in Kupang city located on 10 Aggur Street, Naikoten 1 Kupang in which the writer uses as the location of the study.