

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background of the Study

English is an international language used as a medium of communication or interacting with other people around the world. The world of English education requires students to improve their basic skills, namely; listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Writing skills require a lot of practices and efforts. In writing there are also components such as grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation that must be mastered by students. Goldman and Hirsch (1986: 5) state that writing usually requires writers to cover their topics more clearly and in more detail than speaking. According to Ghazali (2010: 295) the development of writing skills requires an understanding of how to combine linguistic components (knowledge of vocabulary, grammar, orthography, structure (genre) to produce a text.

In this study, the students are asked to write a text which is called “recount text”. Recount text is a text that aims to retell past events in order. According to Anderson, (1997: 48) recount text aims to provide an overview to the reader about an events that occur according to the time and place of the incident that are focused on are events that written sequentially

In some occasions, students are required to write a recount text using the past tense. There will be changes in the form of the *verb* and *to be* into the past form. For example, in writing the word *walk*. *To walked*.

Based on the description above, the writer wants to do a research with the

## **1.2. Research Question**

1. Are the fourth semester students of English Education Study Program at Widya Mandira Catholic University able to write recount text?
2. What is the level of ability of the fourth semester students of English Education Study Program at Widya Mandira Catholic University in writing recount text?

## **1.3. Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To find out whether or not the fourth semester students of English Education Study Program at Widya Mandira Catholic University able to write recount text.
2. To find out the level of ability of the fourth semester students of English Education Study Program at Widya Mandira Catholic University in writing recount text.

## **1.4. The Significance of the Study**

This study has an important meaning for English lecturers and writer as presented below:

1. To English lecturers, this research can be used as an information or feedback about the English Education Study Program students ability in writing recount text and the problem faced by the students.
2. To the writer: by doing this research the writer will enrich her knowledge and skill in writing, especially by identifying important features of written text.
3. For students it can help them to identify their ability in writing in order to improve their overall skills in learning English.