

CHAPTER I

INRODUCTION

This chapter presents the introduction. It discuss about background of study, research problem, objective of study, hypothesis, and significance of the study, limitation of study and definition of key terms.

A. Background of Study

English has become the first foreign language which is taught from elementary school up to university. Studying English actually not really easy for us who study English as a foreign language. Therefore English teacher has to create a good strategy in teaching learning English process.

In English, there are four skills which are taught in Indonesia. They are listening, speaking, reading and writing. In this research, the researcher only focuses in on one skill that is writing. Writing also like speaking, it is a productive skill but writing is more difficult than writing. According to Exdriko (2015), writing is categorized as a productive skill, it might be a problem for students in learning English because there are many aspects

which should be considered such as content, grammar, vocabularies, organizing idea, mechanic and style.¹

Writing is a complex activity since it requires students' comprehensive abilities such as mastering grammar, vocabulary, and punctuation. Besides, to write well, the students are expected to be able to present their ideas in the written form as writing is a means of communication. However, some think that writing is not only delivering ideas to others but also using a sheer energy to complete the writing process itself. Thinking the ideas, preparing the outline, transferring the outline into draft, revising the draft, and finally proofreading the draft to prepare for the final outcome.

Teaching writing is one of skills that are important for students because it implicates. Teacher has many strategies to improve the skill of the student in the class. The success of education is depending on the researcher and the student in the class. They use language to communicate in the class. Language has an important role in society. It connects people to another people in the society. It is also to express feeling, idea, event and opinion. Language is important role in both oral and written communication.²

Teaching writing to senior high school is difficult, because in Indonesia teaching English for senior high school emphasize on the achievement of standard competence. It requires the student to be able to communicate orally

¹ Yogi Exdriko, "The Teaching of Writing A Descriptive Text Using Clustering Technique for Bung Hatta University Students", *Ejournal*, Vol 3, No 5 (2015). Accessed on March 6, 2015. Accessed on 3th March 2015

² David Nunan, *Language Teaching Methodology, a Text Book for Teacher* (Sidney: Prenlce Hall International, 1991). 81

and written. Writing is the most difficult skill for learner. The difficulty lies not only in generating and organizing idea, but also in translating the idea into readable text.

According to Nurrofiah (2013), in teaching writing the students have some problems are grammatical, vocabulary, and structure of words.³ To solve the problems in teaching writing, the researcher tries to apply a technique and this technique called clustering technique. Aniza stated that, clustering technique is activity that uses to generate ideas.⁴ Therefore, clustering technique can help the students to improve their writing ability and helps students to organize their writing well before they actually write a paragraph.

Moreover clustering technique can motivate the students to write because clustering technique relates to use of pictogram which most students like. In the clustering technique, the students can draw and write a subject which they want to write as creative as they can.

Many previous study have been conducted and show that clustering technique can make student more creative and active during the class. For example, the study by Zulkarnain (2014). His research is about improving students' ability in teaching writing descriptive text using clustering technique in SMPN 3 Blitar (2014). This study use CAR (Class Action Research) and he result of this study is using clustering technique is one of the way that make students of SMPN 3 Blitar learn English writing enjoy, fun, motivating and

³ Feni Nurrofiah, "The Effectiveness of Using Clustering Technique to Improve Writing Skill of Report Text At The Eleventh Grade of State Islamic High School Purworejo in The Academic Year 2012/2013", *Ejournal*, Vol 1, No 2 (2013). Accessed on 4th March 2015

⁴ Aniza, "The Effect of Clustering Technique on Students' Ability in Writing Descriptive Text At The Second Grade of SMPN 2 Kubung in 2013/2014 Academic Year", *Ejournal*, Vol 1, No 6 (2014). Accessed on 5th March 2015.

explorative ways. This research show that using clustering technique is an effective method because the students score increase after getting teaching learning using clustering technique.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher becomes interested in writing a thesis proposal about teaching writing using clustering technique in learning process. So, in this study the researcher give the title **“The Effectiveness of using Clustering Technique in Teaching Writing Descriptive Text for First Grade Students’ of SMAN 8 Kediri”**.

B. Research Problem

Based on the background of study above, it is necessary to do study on the process of teaching writing of SMAN 8 Kediri. The statement of the problem of this study is “Is teaching writing descriptive text using clustering technique to the first grade students SMAN 8 Kediri effective?”

C. Objective of Study

Based on the problem stated above, the general purposes of this study is to know whether teaching writing descriptive text using clustering technique to the first grade students of SMAN 8 Kediri is effective or not.

D. Hypothesis

A hypothesis is a tentative explanation for certain behaviors, phenomena of events that have occurred or will occur.⁵ This research wants to know the effectiveness of using clustering technique to improve students' writing ability. The researcher hypothesis is:

“The alternative Hypothesis 1(Ha): Teaching writing using clustering technique to the first grade students of SMAN 8 Kediri is effective.”

E. Significance of The Study

The result of this study is expected to give positive contribution for teacher, students and researcher. So, they can use it as guidance for better learning process.

First, for the teacher is giving information to the teacher about the situation of English Class, giving information to the teacher about the readiness and the critical level of the students and as the material of evaluation for the teacher to improve students writing ability.

Next, the result for the students is as the effort to improve the students' writing ability and the effort to raise the intelligence and the competency of students thinking.

⁵ Gay L.R. Educational Research: Competencies for analysis and application, (New York: Macmillan Publishing Company, 1987).66

The result for the researcher will be useful for the researcher that conducts this research: the researcher will get the empirical evidence that the student who are taught using *clustering technique* have better writing achievement than those who are taught by *non-clustering technique*, get the good knowledge in teaching writing especially for the students in senior high school and the researcher also hopes to contribute the result of the observation to improve the quality of education in that senior high school.

F. The Limitation of Study

This research is focused on the student's writing ability achievement. This study is focused in the empirical evidence that the students who are taught using *clustering technique* have better writing achievement than those who are taught by *non-clustering technique* to the first grade students of SMAN 8 Kediri, especially in the second semester 2015/2016 academic year. The writing material that is used in this teaching using clustering technique is the material based on the English book.

G. Definition of Key Terms

In the definition of Key Terms, the researcher will define the key term that related to this thesis proposal; they are effectiveness, writing, teaching writing and clustering technique.

1. Effectiveness

Effectiveness is the capability of producing a desired result. When something is deemed effective, it means it has an intended or expected outcome, or produces a deep, vivid impression.⁶ This research presents the effectiveness of using clustering technique to bring about the result in students writing ability. When the students get the lesson using clustering technique, it can help increase students writing ability.

2. Teaching Writing

Teaching writing is a process of teaching in which the teacher shows and help someone or students to learn how to write well in English.

3. Clustering Technique

Clustering is another way to think of new ideas. The word "cluster" means a group of similar things. Clustering means putting words into groups. Each group, or cluster, has a number of words that are related to each other. Clustering is similar to brainstorming.

⁶ Dictionary.com, LLC. "Effectiveness | Define Effectiveness at Dictionary.com." Dictionary.com | Find the Meanings and Definitions of Word at Dictionary.com. (<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/effectiveness>, accessed on November 2,2014)