

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses background of the research, problems of the research, objectives of the research, significances of the research, scope and limitation of the research, and definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

English has been one of the most taught foreign languages in Indonesian formal school. Its urgency had been justified by many programs and plans carried out by the national education department. Despite the banishment of international standardized school throughout the nation, English subject still remains intact as one of the national curriculum. To fulfill the needs of learning English, there are various textbooks available for the use of both teacher and student.

Textbook is one of the most important media for teacher as well as student. With the aid of textbook, teacher could plan teaching material systematically and efficiently as textbook provides aim and goal for each lesson. The teacher could prepare and develop learning materials and class activities effectively. As for student, textbook can help them as reference in learning so that they are able to do self study outside the school session.

The importance of textbook in teaching and learning process makes it crucial for the teacher to select appropriate textbook for the student as there are various English books published by many publishing companies. The teacher needs to be careful in choosing the appropriate one. The content has to be in

conformity with the current curriculum as well as the aim and goal for students to achieve.

Learning in the Merdeka curriculum cannot be separated from learning tools, namely textbooks. Textbooks are one of the primary sources of learning, especially in physics lessons (Permatasari & Anwas, 2019). Textbooks are primary sources of education that contain knowledge, skills, and aspects of attitude (Rohmawan, 2020). The preparation and writing of textbooks must meet the rules of national regulations and the applicable in curriculum (Kurdiati, 2023). Ernawati in 2022, states that the formation of textbooks must be aligned with the national curriculum and a curriculum suitable for the situation, environmental demands, and the features of the academic unit in question. Therefore, physics textbooks must comply with the requests of the Merdeka curriculum that focuses on 21st-century learning that includes critical and creative thinking skills. Thus, the prepared books must provide a stimulus for students to get used to thinking critically and creatively (Sriliani, 2022).

The quality of education and the students in a nation are influenced by their capacity for critical and creative thinking (Ekawati et al., 2018; Maya et al., 2018; Rachmantika & Wardono, 2019). PISA, as a world academic assessment program, has surveyed students' level of education and quality in countries around the world (Sari & Yulisetiani, 2022). The results of the ISAP (International Student Assessment Program) survey announced by the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) in 2016 placed Indonesia at the bottom of the 72 countries surveyed. This can be used to evaluate education in Indonesia so that it changes in a better direction. These

changes can be achieved if the learning process prioritizes higher thinking. This is because the habit of high-level thinking (critical and creative) in learning is beneficial for successfully developing students' thinking skills. Critical thinking is the ability to think that puts forward an in-depth analysis of a problem (Azrai et al., 2020). The idea of critical thinking proposed by Facione is one of the principles of critical thinking that serves as a guide in this study-considering that the definition of essential skills of thinking offered by Facione in 2016 is consistent with the qualities of high-level thinking. Facione breaks down the various components of critical thinking into inference, explanation, evaluation, self-regulation, interpretation, and analysis (Lestari, 2022). The division of the six elements into categories in critical thinking is an attempt to understand the level of crucial thinking to readers and provides a transparent barrier between necessary thinking skills and other thinking abilities.

There are some previous study related to this research. First, it is from Widiyawati (2020). This research focuses on analyzing the content on English textbook for the tenth grade of Senior High School. The research finding showed that the results of relevance, life skills development, and Development of Diversity Insight of supporting materials are 62.5 2%. Thus, the results of the three points from the feasibility of content rubric assessment from BSNP are 71.66%. Second previous study was conducted by Karmila et al., (2019). For analyzing the data, the researcher presented and analyzed the content of the English textbook focusing on the grammar aspects. The finding showed that the contents were focused on certain grammar for junior high school at eighth grade students. Last previous study was conducted by Voni Nuralawiah (2024). This

research aims to analyze the accordance of the content of the English textbook "English in Mind Second Edition". The results of the three studies showed that the textbook was appropriate and the appropriateness of its content and presentation met the standards of English textbooks.

With the guidelines included in Merdeka curriculum, it is important for a textbook used to be in conformity with the base competence, listed in the current curriculum and rubric assessment from education national tends to analyze standard board, BSNP. For the research, the writer tends to analyze the content of textbook used in the First grade senior high school with the title "BAHASA INGGRIS Life Today For SMA/MA Kelas XII" in 2022 published by Ministry of Education and Culture of Indonesia to find out if it fulfills the requirement in current Merdeka curriculum. This textbook is chosen because it is used by Senior high school students for learning. The writer chose the textbook because in the preface of " BAHASA INGGRIS Life Today For SMA/MA Kelas XII " English textbook published by Kemendikbud proposes that the textbook includes four English skills (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing) that are related to real life situation and also the textbook text presents a comprehensive skills that are age-appropriate, friendly user, environmental aware, and easy to comprehend. This book's advantage is that the illustrations are using real pictures and using language that students easily understand. On the other hand, the writer has another reason to choose this textbook. So the writer uses the textbook preface statement to prove and analyzes whether the textbook is compatible and suitable with the contextual approach in models and learning of merdeka curriculum implementation. On the other hand, the writer

has another reason to choose this textbook. The textbook "BAHASA INGGRIS Life Today For SMA/MA Class XII " is the second revised edition that means this textbook has received improvements from the previous edition. The writer would like to make an analysis of the content of this textbook with the title A Content Analysis of English Textbook "BAHASA INGGRIS Life Today For SMA/MA Kelas XII".

B. Problem of the study

The formulation of the problem stated as: to what extent does the English textbook "BAHASA INGGRIS Life Today For SMA/MA Class XII" fulfil the feasibility of content requirements specified in Merdeka Curriculum?

C. Purpose of the Study

The main purposes of the study are to find out and describe the feasibility of content of "BAHASA INGGRIS Life Today For SMA/MA Class XII" textbook based on the requirement of the current Merdeka Curriculum.

D. Significances of the Study

The result of study is hoped to be useful for teacher to have new information about the content of "BAHASA INGGRIS Life Today For SMA/MA Kelas XII" textbook to be used in the classroom and able to make sure that the textbook is in comply with the current curriculum. The ministry of education is also likely to find the result of this research useful, as if any flaws detected, they can find a way to develop and evaluate the textbook. As the textbooks published by them are expected to be an example for other publishing companies.

While, practically, this research will give benefits English teachers, students, and further researchers.

1. For the teachers

This study aims to serve as a guide for educators in selecting high-quality English textbooks that align with the Merdeka curriculum and emphasize practical activities.

2. For students

This study aims to serve as a guide for students to assess the quality of this English textbook. This study also assists students in selecting supplementary books for learning that align with the independent curriculum.

3. For further researchers

The result of this research can be used as input in teaching-learning process, especially evaluating textbook. It is expected that this research can be used as a reference and information to further researchers who conduct research about evaluating textbook and the current Curriculum.

E. Scope and Limitation

This research focuses on the criteria of textbook evaluation in English textbook which is analyzed based on criteria of a good textbook proposed by Mukundan et al (2011). This research analyze on general attributes and learning teaching content aspects. Meanwhile, the limitation of this research is the content analysis on English textbook entitled “BAHASA INGGRIS Life Today For SMA/MA Kelas XII”. It is published by Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology of Republic of Indonesia as a textbook reference for

twelve grade senior high school in 2022. This textbook consists of 4 Units. This textbook is adaptation of English textbook from Cambridge University Press. This research is limited to content analysis on English textbook based on Phase E of Learning Outcome (*Capaian Pembelajaran*) of English for senior high school in Indonesia.

F. Definition of the key terms

1. English Textbook

English textbook is a tool, thing, or media for students and teacher in English teaching and learning process. It is a book containing facts about an English subject that is used by people studying that subject.

2. Content Analysis

Content analysis is a set of procedures to collect and organize information in a standardized form allowing analysis to infer the characteristics and meanings of recorded.

3. Merdeka Curriculum

Merdeka Curriculum is a system of teaching plans or materials that aims to develop students' learning interests and potential. Merdeka Curriculum includes the development of skills needed to face the challenges of modern development.