

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the explaining about the topic such as the background of the study, the problem of the study, the objective of the study, the significant of the study, the scope, and the definition of key tems.

A. Background of The Study

Language is one of the important factors in communication. Communication is a part of human's daily activities. In our life, people cannot be separated from this activities. It is known that, people communicate with others to share and to get information. Most of the human activities need communication. People communicate with others using language, and English is one of the important languages.

English is an international language that it is used to conduct communication in many countries almost in the entire world. English becomes the most important foreign language in Indonesia and it has influenced many aspects. There are many books of science and technology, art, and other published materials.

English language skills have complex roles. There are many things that should be learnt by the students. English language skills are some of the subjects that have to be taught in formal and non-formal education and they are expected to be able to master it.

In our English learning, there are four major language skills, namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Writing is one of the crucial language skills taught in both formal and informal education. Writing is one

of the four essential language skills to master. Writing requires concentrated thought in order to produce words, sentences, and paragraphs at the same time. For students who are learning a language, writing is extremely important. According to Oshima and Hogue (2007:15), writing is never a one-step process; it is an ongoing creative act. When you first start writing something, you have already thought about what to say and how to say it. Then, once you have finished writing, you go back over it and make changes and corrections. You write and revise and revise again until you are satisfied that your writing appropriately expresses what you want to say.

Essay Writing Course is one of the courses that aims to improve students' ability in academic writing using English. Although the expected writings are short essays, students are able to apply the knowledge gained in this course to other academic writings. Therefore, this course is one of the subjects imposed by students.

From the explanation above, the researcher chooses expository essay because it can make students to explore their idea or arguments about something.

Expository essay is a common type of essay. The purpose of this essay format is to explain a concept or another, without adding arguments. Because it aims to provide information, the effect of the form can be varied by combining various types of essays, such as describing something, explaining the cause, or taking the form of a process.

There are problems usually faced by the students, they are organization, content, vocabulary mastery, grammar and the mechanics.

Based on the statement above, it can be concluded that essay writing can make students develop their ideas especially in writing text. The researcher is interested in conducting the research entitled “*An Analysis on Problems in Essay Writing of The Third Semester Students of English Department of IAIN Kediri*”.

B. Research Problem

Based on the description in the background above, the researcher formulated the research questions that are:

1. How is the English Department students’ ability in Essay Writing?
2. What are the problems faced by English Department students in Essay Writing?

C. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem statement above, the goals of this research are:

1. To describe The English Department students’ ability in Essay Writing
2. To describe the problems faced by English Department students in Essay Writing.

D. Significance of the Study

There are some significances of this research that are;

1. This research will be beneficial to the writer who researched to find out the objective of the study as the answer to the research question.
2. This research would provide information that can be a benefit to the English teacher or lecturer about the students’ problems in essay writing.
3. This research also would be beneficial to the reader or the researcher who will conduct further research.

E. Scope of the Study

This research focused on analyzing the students of the English Department of the third semester students of IAIN about their ability in essay writing and also the analysis of the problems faced by them in essay writing based on common five categories of assessment that are content, organization, vocabulary, grammar, and mechanics.

F. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstandings between the reader and the researcher regarding the meaning of terms used in this study, the researcher clarifies the following terms:

1. *Writing* is a structured and complex composition in the form of a script used to express ideas in English developed by students of IAIN Kediri's English Education Department.
2. *Essay Writing* is typically a brief piece of writing that outlines the author's point of view or story. Essays can be formal or informal in character. Formal essays are typically academic in nature and address serious issues. As one of the course assignments, researchers will concentrate on formal essays. The researcher will analyze the expository essay. An expository essay does not allow for the writer's feelings or emotions. It is entirely based on facts, statistics, examples, and so on. There are sub-types here, such as contrast essays, cause and effect essays, and so on.
3. A *problem* is an unwelcome or harmful matter or situation that must be dealt with and overcome. A problem is generally defined

as a task, situation, or person that is difficult to deal with or control due to its complexity and opacity. A problem is a question that needs to be answered, or a matter that needs to be examined or proven.