

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter learns about the phenomenon of the students' difficulties for improving writing skill in the school. The researcher would conduct the happened phenomenon for his research. The researcher is also interested to explore the real circumstance in order the education elements would know how the real problems are. This chapter is divided into seven types, namely research background, problem formulation, problem limitation, research objectives, research benefits, and definition of terms.

### 1.1 Research Background

Nowadays, English becomes the most language that many people used. Language is as a tool for communication to communicate in social life. It is true if every human cannot be separated of communication to have interaction with their daily activities. There are languages such as English, Spanish, French, Russian, Korean, Chinese, Japanese and etc. Yet, people in the world need one language to communicate. Therefore, there are many reasons why English is a global language. According to Crystal (2003:3), English is a global language that can be accepted through recognizing by many countries worldwide. First, English is the most popular language that is used by most people worldwide. Second, personally English is easy to be learnt than the other languages. Finally, it can be stated that the development of world requires people to communicate in English to unite people in the whole countries.

As we know, Indonesia is a developing country that has joined ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). For facing this circumstance, which is for forcing people in Indonesia to have interact with foreigner, it would be required a skill to speak in English. Not only communicating in English, informal sector is also needed writing skill to give response to them. As it stated by the government, they want people learn English more and more. Sumintono (2010:2) states that many developing countries including Indonesia has proposed an International Standard International (or *Sekolah Bertaraf Internasional*, *SBI* in Indonesian term). It may

be able to conclude if Indonesia has to improve for allocating of programs in educational sector. Furthermore, as the demanding of the society, English in spoken written is very needed to be learnt for all the people.

There are skills that can support this educational sector, especially in English, such as listening, speaking, reading and writing. However, writing and speaking are the dominant one that is often used in society but also listening and reading is useful too. Among the four skills, writing is one of the important English skills. In researcher's opinion, writing is the most difficult skill to learn. It is stated by Brown (2001:334), the way how to produce writing is required specialized skills. It is not instant techniques to make written products or it can be said that the way to make written product must be done step by step. It is caused of writing skill is the end of the English skill phase of productive skills besides speaking skill. The writer must to have more ideas to produce a writing text. Many sentences should be correlated between the other in order to make the content has a meaning. It is actually, writing is the way of writers to express their own idea an opinion, so that the reader would know what the writer expressed. The rich of many ideas would help the successfulness of good writing. For this study, the researcher would explore more about writing skill. There are many reasons that why writing skill is classified important. As it deals with current 2013 Curriculum which is designed by the Minister of Education and Culture in basic competence, writing skill includes a skill that students have to achieve in Vocational High School.

The researcher would conduct in Vocational High School for some considerations, such as the students mastering correspondence using English and they can compete with their competitors. In learning process especially in Vocational High School, the students have to pass the apprentice as their compulsory. In fact, when the students doing apprentice in a company, sometimes the company use English for correspondence to the client. Many things happen unintentionally in every work that has been conducted by the institution. Therefore, the students that would apply to be apprentice participants have to be ready in every condition. The next reason is after their graduation later. If they become an independent architecture or consultant of project developer, definitely, they will have adequate English especially writing skill as their competitiveness.

The similar situation why the researcher implemented the research in Building Technique Department, the students could master English correspondence in order to be able to compete with their competitors. Therefore, in the learning process especially in Vocational High School, there are subjects that have been learned. One of the subjects is English that is considered difficult by some students. Some of them may be getting problem in looking for idea to relate the content of writing. For solving this case, the researcher intended to give solution in improving their writing skill. The researcher applied the different method which used picture series to help the students find their ideas. In this case, the researcher concentrated on major of Building Technique Department for improving their writing skill. By using picture series of products they are made, it would be a good way to stimulate their own idea. They could apply this method to face the real life after they graduate later. It is expected that after they learned in the school, they could encounter the real-life independently.

## **1.2 Research Questions**

According to the background above, the problem can be stated as following question:

1. How is the improvement of students' skill in writing through picture series?
2. How is the students' interest in improving their writing skill using picture series?

## **1.3 Research Objectives**

Related to the formulation of the problem, the objectives of this study had the purpose which the researcher planned to do or after the study. It was conducted to improve the writing skill through picture series on tenth grader in SMK N 2 Pengasih. The next aim of the research is to investigate how far the students interest by using picture series media.

## **1.4 Scope of the Research**

The implementation of learning process, especially for writing skill was required a method that could make an improvement. To make a limitation of this study, the researcher concentrated on writing skill through picture series. This

method had a function to guide the students' writing skill, in order, they could produce writing text related with their major. The material that researcher would teach to the students kinds of personal letter; business letter, sickness absence letter, retirement letter, etc. The material would be adapted from KI/ KD in the school. By using picture series, the researcher hoped that the students would improve their ability after conducting the method. In addition, picture series would motivate the students to get an idea based on the topic.

### **1.5 Research Benefits**

Theoretically, the benefit for implementing the research through picture media was improving students' writing skill easily than using other media. The research believed that the method would give contribution to increase the learning process, especially in writing skill.

The researcher expected that the research would give some benefits to the English teaching and learning for specific purpose, especially English for Teaching. The benefits of this research are classified as follows:

#### **1. For English Teachers**

The teachers could improve their competence in teaching English, especially in teaching writing.

#### **2. For the Other English Researcher**

The result of this research could help the other English researcher for preparing himself in order to be a good researcher with similar theme. In addition, the other English researcher could also increase his knowledge and give him some experiences in conducting an educational research.

### **1.6 Definition of Terms**

This section was aimed to clarify the concept of some keywords to avoid the misunderstanding. The researcher defined the keywords of research terminology that could be described as follow:

### **1.6.1 Writing**

According to Cunningsworth (1995:80), it can be defined that writing is a skill to create something that based on the information and managed it with their own way. Thus, it meant that the information they get would be constructed and proceed based on their perception to build word by word.

### **1.6.2 Picture Series**

Picture is described as a graphic of object that is represented in many media, such as paper, wall, board, etc. In teaching English, the teachers can use a picture series as their media in teaching process. As cited Lavallo and Briesmaster in Byrne (2017:3) states that pictures can empower students' dialog and translation of the topic.

### **1.6.3 Vocational High School**

Marsigit (2008:3) points that the conducting learning in Vocational education consists of six elements. They are; (1) preparing English for teaching; (2) developing curriculum in English; (3) developing syllabi in English; (4) developing teaching content in English; (5) developing lesson plan in English; (6) various method of teaching in English.