

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the researcher explained the detail of research background, the reason why the researcher conducted this research, research question, research purpose, research limitation, significance of the research, and terminology. It focused on the specific problem and the solution in order to help students improved their writing ability especially in writing descriptive text.

A. Research Background

English is an international language that use by people to communicated with each other even native or foreign. In Indonesia people known English as the foreign language, it did not used as the second language. In Indonesia, English is a language that commonly found in school as one of material that teaches in the classroom. It is really important for students at school to learn English for develop their knowledge and ability in communicate.

In learning English, there are four skills that have to be mastered, such as listening, writing, speaking, and reading. Those skills have their own characteristics that make them different from each other. Besides that, these skills are really important to improve students' ability to learn English because it could prove how much they understand how to use or produce something by using English correctly. As researcher knows, people learn a language through reading and listening activities. Then people create a

language by speaking and writing. In this research, the researcher focused on how to improve students' writing skill. Writing is an activity that is done by the students to produce their ideas about something in written form. There are some aspects that have to pay attention to in writing, such as grammar, mechanics, vocabulary, organization, and content. Writing is not as simple as it looks. It is not easy to construct ideas in written form. That is why writing is interesting, because not all people can write or express their ideas in written form. Through the writing activity, students can express their ideas, thoughts, feelings, and opinions in the written form.

Beside of how interesting writing is, there are some difficulties that students commonly face in learning writing. First, it is difficult for them to develop their idea, lack of grammar, lack of vocabulary, students lack of motivation to write because they cannot think about the idea, last students lack of spelling it means they did not pay attention when they write, either the word is missing an alphabet in it, students also lazy to open their dictionary. Then, in writing, there are some kinds of text those are narrative, descriptive, analytical exposition, procedure, report, recount, and explanation text. But in this research, the researcher only focuses on how to improve students' writing skill in descriptive text. Descriptive text is a text that is used to explain or describe something in detail. Those are that can be explained in descriptive text could be people, things, and places. It has two generic structures such as identification and description, then the language feature that is simple present tense, adjective, and action verb. The purpose of this text is to make the

reader have their own imagination in their mind by the description that has been written by the writer.

Based on the result of pre-observation by asked the teacher about the problems that were faced by the students in SMA Immanuel Sintang especially in Tenth-Grade (X B), the researcher found that the students were struggling to learn English. The teacher mentioned that there were some problems in learning English such as lack of vocabulary, grammar, and lack of motivation, also hard for them to explore the ideas, from the teacher's statements the researcher concluded that there are three main problems affect students' writing performance such as; students lack of motivation. Second, students lack of grammar knowledge and did not pay attention to word order. Last, they are lack word list. Those are the problems that affect the students' ability to write based on the results of the pre-observation activity.

Therefore, the researcher decided to use a technique called the clustering technique, especially to improve the learning process when the students are writing descriptive text. Clustering technique is one of the effective way to make the study activity be more interesting and can improve students' ability in learning because it is conducted in a fun way. Clustering technique is a technique in writing class by asking the students to make a circle in the middle of a blank paper and write the topic in it. Then, this technique uses boxes, lines, and arrows to help students connect their ideas. This technique is really helpful for students to stimulate and generate their ideas in writing descriptive text.

B. Research Questions

1. What is the effect of clustering technique implementation to the students' participation in teaching descriptive text at class X B of SMA Immanuel Sintang?
2. How can clustering technique improve the students' writing skill at class X B of SMA Immanuel Sintang?

C. Research Purposes

1. To elaborate the students' participation in teaching writing descriptive text through the implementation of clustering technique at class X B of SMA Immanuel Sintang.
2. To describe the students' writing improvement through the implementation of clustering technique at class X B of SMA Immanuel Sintang.

D. Research Significancess

In this study the researcher emphasize how to improve students' writing ability in descriptive text through the implementation of clustering technique, by read this research the researcher hopes it can be useful for the readers. This research has several significant as follow:

1. English Teacher

This research is really useful for the teacher who wants to teach writing skill especially in the descriptive text. This research consists of the easy technique that can be applied by the teacher when they want to teach descriptive text. The researcher hopes this research could help to

find a solution to overcome several problems that commonly occur in learn to write. The researcher use clustering technique to overcome those problems that was mentioned in research background.

2. Students

This research aims to help the students to overcome their difficulties in learning descriptive text and how to correctly express their ideas in written form. Also, this research explained how to use the clustering technique very well and it is easy to implement by the students. The students could practice even when they are at their home by making a paragraph of descriptive text in detail, so they can make a good paragraph by following those steps of the clustering technique correctly.

3. Other Researchers

The researcher hopes this research could be useful and help the other researchers who want to do the same topic on their research. This could be the reference and guide line what will the researchers have to do when do the same topic research. Because the contents is good enough and easy to understand by read it and understand it carefully.

E. Limitation of the Research

Based on the problems that found by the researcher, the researcher limited the use of clustering technique to elaborate the students' participation in teaching writing descriptive text through the implementation of clustering technique and to describe the students' writing improvement through the

implementation of clustering technique at class X B of SMA Immanuel Sintang.

F. Terminology

1. Teaching Writing

Teaching writing is aim to make students are able to express their idea, opinions, feelings, and thought in written form in order to share knowledge and information.

2. Descriptive Text

Descriptive text is one kinds of text in learning writing. Descriptive text is kind of text to give particular information about person, place, and things. Descriptive text also has two generic structures and has language features.

3. Clustering Technique

Clustering technique is a technique to help students construct their idea in writing descriptive text. It uses circle, box, line, and arrow to connect the idea between the topic in order to make specific idea of their topic in some circles and connect them to each other.

4. SMA Immanuel Sintang

SMA Immanuel Sintang is one of the private schools in Sintang city. It is located at Jl. Teluk Menyurai. The class that be the subject was X B students.