

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the researcher describe about background of research, questions, purpose, significance, limitation of research and terminology.

A. Research Background

English is a native language. This is very important, especially in education. English is included in a few languages in this country. Foreign languages have a function as a tool to communicate in the surrounding environment. Language is also a communication system for everyone. Students need to learn foreign languages as an international language as it is used for communication among people in different countries.

In our own country, English is studied from kindergarten because English is not our native language, so it is only natural that students have a hard time learning. Based on these statements, English is studied by methods to make students easily learn English as their second language. Descriptive text is a text that describes the way objects, people, or places look. In descriptive text, students use their imagination and perception to be creative in describing something.

The researcher knows that English is not our native language, and therefore mastering English is not as easy as our mastering of the Indonesian language. Language skills and proportions are crucial for language learners. The proportions include vocabulary, pronunciation, grammatical structures, and mechanics of writing, and phonology, which

can affect language skills such as speaking, reading, listening, and writing. Sometimes students are good at speaking, reading, and listening, but they struggle with writing. Writing is the most difficult skill for beginners to learn English. Those aspects are grammar, vocabulary, and writing mechanics. They must understand the criteria well to produce good writing.

In learning to write, students have to understand and know about vocabulary, grammar, sentence structure, and sentence relationships. Sometimes students can speak English fluently, but they cannot understand when writing or preparing an article. In reality, almost all of the students are not yet able to learn English well, especially in writing. This is usually displayed when they write articles in English. Most of the students write incorrect essays, but not all of the students can express their ideas when writing essays or articles. It is because they are not interested in learning writing skills.

The same problem happened with the seventh grade students at SMPN 9 Sintang in writing English. The students can write essays using Indonesian easily, but many students cannot write in English. They have problems like vocabulary, but they cannot put it into written text in English. They do not know grammar, vocabulary, and mechanics in writing, so most students are not interested in writing because they think writing is boring, and sometimes they feel lazy about writing in English.

The researcher did pre-observations at SMPN 9 Sintang on seventh grade students in the English language education subject. The researcher found problems in writing ability. The students did not know how to write in the English language. In this research, the researcher found some problems with the students, like their lack of vocabulary, mechanics of writing, and grammar in writing. Those problems are students' lack of writing skills, especially in grammar. Most students do not know how to use correct grammar or vocabulary in writing descriptive texts. The researcher also found difficulties in vocabulary. Most of the students did not know the vocabulary and the mechanics of writing. This is also the problem that the researcher found in this research. Most of the students did not know how to start the writing, and almost all of the students in the seventh grade at SMPN 9 Sintang did not like the English language. In this research, the researcher was interested in analyzing students' abilities in writing descriptive texts. The researcher analyzed each student's ability in writing descriptive texts based on their score. Students' scores were got from the English teacher at SMPN 9 Sintang.

The researcher analyzed the students' scores in writing descriptive texts. The researcher analyzed students' scores based on the score they got from the English teacher at the school. The descriptive text in this study was used to determine the students' writing ability at SMPN 9 Sintang, so the researcher wanted to examine more deeply the students' ability in

writing English at SMPN 9 Sintang in class VII students as research subjects.

B. Research Question

1. How is the students' ability in writing descriptive text at the Seventh Grade students at SMPN 9 Sintang?
2. What are the difficulties of students in writing a descriptive text of Seventh Grade students at SMPN 9 Sintang?

C. Research Purpose

The purpose of this research study to analyzed writing skills of Seventh Grade students at SMPN 9 Sintang.

1. To know the students' ability in writing descriptive text at the Seventh Grade students of SMPN 9 Sintang.
2. To know the difficulties in writing descriptive text at the Seventh Grade students of SMPN 9 Sintang.

D. Research Significance

The significance of the study is supposed to be useful for:

- a. For teachers

The researcher expected this research useful for teacher guiding their students' in improving the student's writing descriptive text. English teachers can improve the teaching and learning process of writing descriptive text with descriptive text as a medium for teaching English. The result of this research hopefully becomes one of the

useful references used to improve students' learning achievement. The result of this research can be a reference for other English teachers in solving their problem on their students' writing ability in writing descriptive text. Teaching writing descriptive text is useful for the teacher to help them in teaching writing and to help them guide the students in teaching writing for Senior High school.

b. For students

For all of the students at SMPN 9 Sintang especially Seventh-Grade students, the researcher is expected able to learn writing using descriptive text better so that they can improvement their writing skills in applying the correct grammar, vocabulary, and mechanisms of English words to writing descriptive text. They are expected to have better in writing fluency. They have the opportunity to practice English without stress and they love English and learn it with pleasure. So that the students can learn to enjoy with their teacher to learn together in the classroom activity.

c. For researchers

This research is useful for other researchers who are interested in using descriptive text in teaching-learning writing. The researcher get invaluable experience which can be used to know students ability in writing descriptive text and learning quality in other situations and provide information also start point for other research in difficulties students writing descriptive text. The researcher hopes the other

researchers can use teaching-learning descriptive text to improve students' ability in writing descriptive text.

d. For STKIP Persada Khatulistiwa Sintang

This research is expected this thesis to be used to add references as research material for other researchers who will take the same type of research but they will examine more deeply with the same problem. The results of this research are also expected to be good enough reading material to enrich references in thesis writing or to determine writing skills in writing descriptive texts.

e. For school

The researcher expected this research useful for schools at SMPN 9 Sintang. This research can guide the English teachers in teaching-learning writing using descriptive text to invite the students interested in learning writing text. The result of these studies can be infected to other teachers so that they get the clearness in the use of technology and it improves the quality of teaching writing descriptive text at schools.

E. Limitation of the Research

The limitation of the research problem is the researcher's writing ability to use descriptive text to be more effective and efficient in learning writing. The researcher limited this research's focus to learning writing descriptive text in seventh-grade students at SMPN 9 Sintang. Based on the description of this research, the researcher was interested in conducting

the research "An analysis of students' ability in writing the descriptive text of the Seventh Grade students at SMPN 9 Sintang." In this research, the researcher focused on the seventh-grade students' writing skills at SMPN 9 Sintang, with approximately 36 students, consisting of 14 males and 22 females.

F. Terminology

1. Analyzing means breaking down a topic or concept into parts in order to examine and understand it, and to rearrange the parts in a way that makes sense.
2. Writing is an activity that someone do to pour an idea into written, and also to create notes or information on a media such as a book, which is the main media when writing. Writing is usually on paper media using tools such as pens or pencils.
3. Descriptive text is a type of text that describes something like a humans, animals, plants, or inanimate objects related to object to be described.
4. SMPN 9 Sintang is the school used by researcher in did the research. After conducting this research, it is expected that the school was be interested to conduct this research to student's ability in writing descriptive text. Using descriptive text can also be effective in teaching- learning process by writing descriptive text to know student's writing descriptive text at SMPN 9 Sintang.