

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the writer discusses about the background of the problem, the identification of the problem, the limitation of the problem, the formulation of the problem, research questions, the purposes of the research, the significance of the research, and the definitions of key terms.

1.1 The Background of the Problem

One of the important skills that must be possessed by the language learners is writing. Through writing activity, the students can develop their thinking. Raimes (2017:4) states that there are some functions of writing, they are to communicate with a reader, to express ideas without having to meet in person, to explore a subject, to record experience and to become familiar with the conventions of written English discourse (a text). So, writing can be mention as a language skill which is used in indirect interaction, if people can't meet each other.

According to Rass (2001) writing is a difficult skill for native speakers and non-native speakers because writers must be able to write a text in multiple issues such as organization, content, purpose, vocabularies, audience, and mechanics such as spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.

In writing, students must understand and know about vocabulary, grammar, sentence connection, sentence structure, etc. Students should learn so many aspects to make a good writing. To be a good writer, the students should get

enough practice. The practice are supposed to stimulate the students' skill in writing and expressing thoughts in a good passage.

In revised Kurikulum 2013 of first year vocational high school, there are kinds of writing texts that are introduced to students. One of them is descriptive text. Descriptive text is a text that describe place, animals, thing and other. The students should be able to write descriptive text with a good organization. So, they have to learn it well in teaching learning process.

Based on the observation that writer did at class X Engineering major in SMK Negeri 1 Painan, most of the students are not interested in writing. It is difficult for them to express their idea in writing because of lack of vocabulary, grammatical mastery, and background of knowledge. To face the problem above the teachers try to use media to make the students interested in learning writing. The technique has been applied by the English teacher at SMK Negeri 1 Painan. The teacher used video as the stimulus in teaching writing.

There are several research that have been done about an analysis of students' ability in writing descriptive text. Harahap (2018) did a research entitled "An Analysis of Students' Ability in Writing Descriptive Text at the Tenth Grade of Senior High School 1 Tambang". She analyzed the content, the vocabulary, the mechanics, the organization, and the grammar. The result is the tenth grade students' writing ability in senior high school 1 Tambang are good, but the students are still not able to use grammar correctly. Next, Siahaan (2013) also did a research entitled "An analysis of Students' Ability and Difficulties in Writing Descriptive Texts". She analyzed the organization and linguistic feature

of descriptive text. The result is the students get high and middle score to write a descriptive text with a good organization and language feature.

The previous research above is only conducted in senior high school. So, the writer is interested to know the students' ability in writing descriptive text at vocational high school. The writer conducted a research entitled "An Analysis of Students' Ability in Writing a Descriptive Text after Watching a Video at the First Grade of SMK Negeri 1 Painan".

1.2 The Identification of the Problem

There are seven problems that students faced in writing descriptive text according to Mulyadi (2008). They consist of content, organization, vocabulary, grammar, idea, punctuation, and experience in writing.

First problem is content. The students have found difficulties to write a text with the suitable content. Second, organization. The students also found difficulty in writing the descriptive text with a correct generic structure (organization). Third, the students have lack of vocabulary. The students are usually lazy to keep in mind number of vocabularies. Because of that it is difficult for them to write. Fourth, grammar. Grammar is important aspect in writing because with a good grammar we can convey our idea to others. Most of students use incorrect grammar while writing a text. It makes the reader misunderstanding the idea of the writer. Fifth, the students have difficulty to develop their ideas into paragraph. Sometimes, the students get a good idea to write, but they can't develop their idea into paragraph. Sixth, mechanics. The students didn't use appropriate mechanics in their text. For example they made

mistake in using punctuation. They use comma (,) for the position of period. Seventh, experience in writing. Most of students didn't have experience in writing. They don't have habit to write a text. They usually focus on learning subject, they don't practice their ability in writing at home. This make them find difficulties to write a text.

1.3 The Limitation of the Problem

Based on the background of the problems above, the writer limited the problem of this research into five main problems. They are introduction, description, grammar, vocabulary, and mechanics.

1.4 The Formulation of the Problem

The formulation of the problem in this research is “How is the students’ ability in writing a descriptive text after watching a video at class X Engineering major in SMK Negeri 1 Painan?”

1.5 Research Questions

- 1) How is the students’ ability to express the content of introduction of descriptive text after watching a video at class X engineering major in SMK Negeri 1 Painan?
- 2) How is the students’ ability to express the content of description of descriptive text after watching a video at class X engineering major in SMK Negeri 1 Painan?
- 3) How is the students’ ability to use grammar in writing a descriptive text after watching a video at class X engineering major in SMK Negeri 1 Painan?

- 4) How is the students' ability to use vocabulary in writing a descriptive text after watching a video at class X engineering major in SMK Negeri 1 Painan?
- 5) How is the students' ability to use mechanics in writing a descriptive text after watching a video at class X engineering major in SMK Negeri 1 Painan?

1.6 The Purpose of the Research

Based on the problem above, the general purpose in this research is to know the students' writing ability in writing a descriptive text after watching a video at class X engineering major in SMK Negeri 1 Painan. In more specific the purpose of this research is:

- 1) To find out the students' ability to express the content of introduction of descriptive text after watching a video at class X engineering major in SMK Negeri 1 Painan.
- 2) To find out the students' ability to express the content of description of descriptive text after watching a video at class X engineering major in SMK Negeri 1 Painan.
- 3) To find out the students' ability to use grammar in writing a descriptive text after watching a video at class X engineering major in SMK Negeri 1 Painan.
- 4) To find out the students' ability to use vocabulary in writing a descriptive text after watching a video at class X engineering major in SMK Negeri 1 Painan.

- 5) To find out the students' ability to use mechanics in writing a descriptive text after watching a video at class X engineering major in SMK Negeri 1 Painan.

1.7 The Significances of the Research

The result of this research is expected to give contribution to the teacher, students, and the next researcher.

- 1) For the teacher, this research can make the teacher know the ability of their students in writing descriptive text after watching video.
- 2) For the students, this research can make them know about their ability in writing descriptive text.
- 3) For the next researcher, this research can be used as source of information and references.

1.8 The Definition of the Key Terms

- Writing Ability is students' skills to develop descriptive text.
- Descriptive text is a type of text learned by the students at SMK Negeri 1 Painan.
- Video is a stimulus used by the students to develop descriptive text.