

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Indonesian government has paid attention to the education for a long time. It can be seen from the government's seriousness in the body of the Constitution. The seriousness is stated in the opening part of the Constitution, that is:

*(1) Setiap warga negara berhak mendapat pendidikan; (2) Setiap warga negara wajib mengikuti pendidikan dasar dan pemerintah wajib membiayainya, serta (3) Pemerintah wajib mengusahakan dan menyalenggarakan satu sistem pendidikan nasional yang meningkatkan keimanan dan ketaqwaan serta akhlak mulia dalam rangka mencerdaskan kehidupan bangsa. (1945 Constitution Section 31).*

The government realizes how important qualified education in Indonesia is, therefore, the government has to make serious effort to improve the quality national of education. Various studies and experiences show that education gives broad benefits to nation's existence. Education can create educated people who become the main pillar to develop the society. Education also gives the real contribution toward economic growth through education workers mastering technology and having abilities.

Education has an important role in developing the country. To make it better, government has many innovations to improve the quality and create qualified students in order to continue to higher and better education. One of the innovations made by the government is to provide schools which refer to

International Standards, namely School Designed for International Standard, or in Indonesian it is called *Rintisan Sekolah Berstandar Internasional (RSBI)*, and International Standard School, in Indonesian it is called *Sekolah Berstandar Internasional (SBI)*. According to Zaenuri (<http://www.scribd.com/doc/7034770/The-Implementation-of-Sbi-Revised>) *RSBI* is a school that implements both the national curriculum based on *Standar Nasional Pendidikan (SNP)* and the international standardized curriculum.

The kind of school has firstly been available since 2006 and the rule underlining is the legislation number 20, 2003 section 5 sentence 3 stating that *Pemerintah dan/atau Pemerintah Daerah menye-lenggarakan sekurang-kurangnya satu sekolah pada semua jenjang pendidikan untuk dikembangkan sekolah yang bertaraf internasional.*

There are some inputs in the *RSBI* which make it different from other national schools; that is the use of English as instructional language, air-conditioner classroom, multimedia facilities, and limited students. The reason of developing International Standard School is increasing the education level both primary and secondary level in order to be equal with other developed countries.

*RSBI* uses English as instructional language for certain subject such as Mathematics and Science. Since Indonesian language as mother tongue, and English as the foreign language, the teacher and students face the difficulty to use English as the instructional language in the teaching-learning activities.

Since this school is a new program in our country, how *RSBI* runs and is implemented is still in question. The language used in teaching Mathematics and

Science is also to be questioned. The main question is how English is used in the *RSBI* and how it can make good communication. Good communication means that the materials can be transferred well; no misunderstanding between the teacher and student, no misunderstanding dealing with the materials, and also enabling the learners to learn.

Furthermore, the teachers make several efforts by implementing many techniques to improve the students' capability to learn Physics. However, the results do not change significantly. English is mostly used in the greeting, opening, giving the material, and closing the lesson. Although the teachers do not use English fully, but the teachers try to use English as much as possible. The students are also asked to answer the question in English. It means that the teacher hopes that the students can speak fluently in English. In teaching learning Science process in *SMP Al-Islam Surakarta*, every student has a bilingual book which consists of Indonesian and English. The students are given keywords before the teacher delivers the material. Besides the teacher has to focus in presenting material to the students, the teacher also prepares material, syllabus, and media that will be used in teaching Science.

Based on the background above, the researcher conducts a research entitled: *A Study on Teaching-learning Activities on Science at SMP Al-Islam Surakarta School Designed for International Standard in 2011/2012 Academic Year.*

## **B. The Scope of the Study**

The writer focuses on the use of English on Teaching-learning activities on Science at the second grade of *SMP Al-Islam Surakarta* School Designed for International Standard in 2011/2012 Academic Year.

## **C. Problem Statement**

Knowing the problem is the most important part in a research, the writer decides some problems as follows

1. how is the teaching-learning activities on Science at *SMP Al-Islam Surakarta* School Designed for International Standard in 2011/2012 academic year?
2. what are the problems in teaching-learning activities on Science at *SMP Al-Islam Surakarta* School Designed for International Standard in 2011/2012 academic year?

## **D. Objective of the Study**

Based on the statement above, the objectives of the research are as follows

1. to describe the teaching-learning activities on Science at *SMP Al-Islam Surakarta* School Designed for International Standard in 2011/2012 academic year
2. to describe the problems in teaching-learning activities on Science at *SMP Al-Islam Surakarta* School Designed for International Standard in 2011/2012 academic year.

## **E. Significance of the Study**

The writer hopes that the research entitled: “A Study on Teaching-learning Activities on Science at *SMP Al-Islam Surakarta* School Designed for International Standard in 2011/2012 Academic Year” has practical and theoretical benefits.

### **1. Practical Benefit**

- a. The government can use this research as one of the evaluations of how the process teaching-learning in the class of School Designed for International Standard.
- b. The headmaster can use it as an illustration to determine the success of teaching the materials using English on the implementation of *RSBI* class.
- c. The teacher can use it as input to minimize or eliminate the weaknesses that exist in the teaching-learning activities of *RSBI* class.
- d. The student can improve the knowledge in the teaching-learning activities on Science at *SMP Al-Islam Surakarta* School Designed for International Standard.

### **2. Theoretical Benefit**

The writer hopes that this research can be used by other researchers to open the analysis related to the research on teaching-learning activities on Science at *SMP Al-Islam Surakarta* School Designed for International Standard in 2011/2012 academic year.

## **F. Research Paper Organization**

The writer divides this research paper into five parts. They are Chapter I consisting of background of the study, the scope of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, significance of the study, and research paper organization.

Chapter II is review of related literature. It deals with previous study, the concept of *RSBI*, teaching-learning activity, English for Science, and the concept of Content-based Instruction (CBI).

Chapter III is research method presenting type of the research, object of research, subject of the research, data and data source, method of collecting data, technique for analyzing data.

Chapter IV is research finding and discussion. The research finding elaborates the implementation of teaching-learning activities on Science and the problems in teaching-learning activities on Science at *SMP Al-Islam Surakarta* School Designed for International Standard in 2011/2012 academic year.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion, and the last part, the writer presents bibliography, virtual references, and appendix.