

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter presents background of the study, problem of the study, limitation of the study, objective of the study, significance of the study, and research paper organization.

#### **A. Background of the Study**

In Indonesia, English is stated as the first foreign language. As the foreign language, English is taught from the Kindergarten to University in Indonesia. English as a foreign language is used, the reference is usually to a situation where English becomes a language instruction at school.

The learners are learning English as foreign language. The result will be better if English is used as the medium of instruction in the first year of Junior High School to university than English is considered as a foreign language. Based on the fact in the university, they have been studying English since they were in the kindergarten. They have serious difficult understanding the books written in English. The result can be shown by students' communication ability, their ability to use the language in the real communication. The students' difficulty is writing, especially in writing descriptive text.

According to Wardhugh (1977:3) in Srijono (2010:1), language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human communication. Students need to develop communicative efficiency in interaction. This is something the teacher can tell to the students through explanation and examples. In relation to the language skills, the students often fail in producing their knowledge of English. They also often fail in attempting to grasp and understanding English.

Writing has always occupied a place in most English language course. One of the reasons is that more and more people need to learn to write in English for occupational or academic purposes. In writing itself, there are

some types of text usually called genre. Genres are cultural specific and have associated with particular purposes, particular stages: distinctive beginning, middles and particular linguistic features.

Descriptive text is a genre that usually taught at school. Gerot and Wignell (1994: 208) states descriptive text is a text that describes a particular person, place, or thing. Descriptive text contains some elements, such as social function, generic structure, and lexicon grammatical features. All the elements have to exist in a descriptive text.

Descriptive text describes a particular person, place, or thing. Descriptive text consists of identification and description. Identification is identifying phenomenon to be described. Description is giving information about specific participation. Descriptive text focuses on specific participants, use of nominal groups, and simple present tense.

In vocational high school, descriptive text is one of texts which is learned at the tenth grade students. But, the students usually faced difficulty in writing descriptive text because it must use present tense which is complicated for them and they have the little vocabulary in writing especially in writing a descriptive text.

The researcher has three reasons why he is interested in doing this research about the students' ability in writing descriptive text. The first reason is that writing is a difficult activity for the tenth grade of SMK N 6 Surakarta. The second reason is that descriptive text must be written in present tense. Then, the last reason is that the tenth grade students usually have little vocabulary in writing text.

Based on the students' difficulty in writing descriptive text, the writer wants to do the research entitled "STUDENTS' ABILITY IN WRITING DESCRIPTIVE TEXT OF THE TENTH GRADE YEAR STUDENTS OF SMK N 6 SURAKARTA IN 2015/2016 ACADEMIC YEAR"

**B. Problem of the Study**

In this research, the writer formulates the problem of the study as follows:

1. How is the students' ability in writing descriptive text at the tenth grade of SMK N 6 Surakarta in 2015/2016 academic year?
2. What are the problems faced by the tenth grade students of SMK N 6 Surakarta in 2015/2016 academic year?

**C. Limitation of the Study**

The writer makes a limitation in this research. The writer just researches the ability and the problem faced by the tenth grade students of SMK N 6 Surakarta in writing descriptive text.

**D. Objective of the Study**

Based on the research problem, the objectives of the research are:

1. to describe the students' ability in writing descriptive text at the tenth grade of SMK N 6 Surakarta in 2015/2016 academic year.
2. to know the problems faced by the tenth grade students of SMK N 6 Surakarta in writing descriptive text.

**E. Significance of the Study**

In this research, the writer presents the significance of the study. The writer hopes that his works is significant both theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretically

The result of research can be used as an input in English teaching learning process especially in developing students' ability of writing descriptive text.

2. Practically

- a. For the Teacher

This research can give description about the students' ability in writing descriptive text in the first grade students on SMK N 6 Surakarta.

b. For the Students

The writer wishes that this research can improve the students' ability in writing descriptive text.

c. For the Researcher

It will be used for the reference and comparison for them on doing their research.

## **F. Research Paper Organization**

The writer divides this research paper into five chapters as follows:

Chapter I is introduction. It consists of background of the study, problem of the study, limitation of the study, objective of the study, significance of the study, and research paper organization.

Chapter II is review of related literature. It deals with previous study, notion of writing, genre of writing, teaching writing using genre-based approach, descriptive text, ability in writing descriptive text, and notion of analytic scoring in writing.

Chapter III is research method. It presents research type, place and time of the research, subject of the study, object of the study, data and data source, method of collecting data, and technique for analyzing data.

Chapter IV is research result and discussion. It explains the students' ability in writing descriptive text and the problem faced by students in writing descriptive text.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion.