

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of Study

English is a big key on the modern world. It means that English is an international communication that has important influence in every life. The development of science and technology puts English as a medium to spread innovations. In other sector also needs English as the basic knowledge to develop many sectors such as business, tourism, and government. It makes people more appreciating in English language as the first language for almost all of countries in this world.

In Indonesia, English is learning as foreign language for students. So, the government makes a curriculum about English as a main lesson from the basic school (in Elementary School, Junior High School, Senior High School) and up to University. In fact, not all of teachers emphasize in practice but just the theory. The students rarely use English in their daily activities include in English classroom. Although, students learned for long time, but they still can not to use English language.

English has four basic skills, they are; speaking, listening, reading, and writing. In this section, the writer focuses on writing skill. Writing is one of the language skills that should be taught besides the other skills.

People can communicate using written language such as message, letter, announcement, invitation, etc. Writing activities offer students not only the opportunity to show their knowledge, understanding, and creativity but also a means through which they acquire knowledge, process, and organize their thinking to find and fill in holes in their understanding, and build their creative skills (Lenski and Verbrugge, 2010: 8). The effectiveness of sharing or giving information could be seen when a person tries to communicate with another person in written forms. The writer thinks that the information could be effective if the reader understands what the writer says in written form. It is different from spoken form; the speaker speaks to the listener directly. Here, the speaker does not have much time to think more.

Based on observation on the eighth grade of SMPN 1 Balong, it was found that students were still difficult to master the writing skill. They could not write their mind freely. They got a problem to make the sentence or paragraph. These problems are caused by the lack of vocabularies. Besides, the students do not have strong motivation in learning. Students feel bored and tired when they study English.

The problem faced by learners in English language should be solved by the English teacher. The teacher should be creative. By using appropriate and good strategies in the process of teaching and learning English at class, it is expected learners will feel easy in receiving writing materials from teachers. According to Oxford (1990: 1) learning strategies are steps taken by students to enhance their own learning. Strategies are especially important for language learning because

they are tools for active, self- directed involvement, which is essential for developing communicative competence. Appropriate language learning strategies result in improved proficiency and greater self- confidence.

The writer in this research is interested to use experiential learning method in teaching writing at class especially to write a composition in writing the recount text. Recount text is kinds of types text that retell the past event which the purpose is informing or entertaining the reader. By telling story in written form. It makes them easy in understanding and implementing recount text in writing. Experiential learning method is one of the strategies that can be used to solve the students' problems in learning writing. It can make the students active and creative in learning writing. Experiential learning is a process of learning in which learners combine knowledge, skills and values through direct experiences. Learning would be optimal if the participants involved. Ideas and principles are experienced and discovered by the learners will be more effective in changing behavior.

By experiential learning method, the writer hopes that the students are able to improve their skill. Hopefully, this method will help students to remind story and create their own story. Based on the problem above, the writer decides that it is necessary to conduct classroom action research at school. This is to make the students interest in writing and help them to explore their ideas easily.

Based on that problem, the writer is will to conduct a CAR entitle: "Improving Students' Writing of Recount Text through Experiential Learning Method at the Eight Grade Students of SMPN 1 Balong in the Academic Year of 2015/ 2016".

## **1.2 Statement of the Problems**

Based on the background of the study above, the statements of problems is how can experiential learning method improve students' writing recount text at the eight grade students of SMPN 1 Balong in the academic year of 2015/2016?

## **1.3 Purposes of Study**

Based on the statement of the problem above, the purposes of this research is know how to improve students writing recount text by using experiential learning method at the eight grade students of SMPN 1 Balong in academic year of 2015/2016.

## **1.4 Significance of study**

The researcher hopes this research will give contributions to:

### **1) For the Teacher**

The benefits of the research is to explore and prove whether experiential learning method is effective to be applied in teaching writing so that the students can improve their writing ability optimally. It can motivate teachers to find a new method or technique which is appropriate in teaching writing. It also encourages the teachers to develop their creativity to improve teaching learning process.



2) For the Students

The use of experiential learning in the teaching and learning process will surely attract the students' attention to study. The students can be know their comprtence and the potential in writing and solved their problem in writing.

3) For the Researcher

The result of the study is used to answer the available questions in this final project based on the data got a long the research and to imrove the researcher's knowledge and researcher's experiennce.

4) For the Educational Institution

The result of the the research can improve the quality of education of the school, espencially teaching and learning writing.

### 1.5 Scope and Limitation

To avoid misunderstanding and in order to avoid the wide discussion, the researcher decides scope of this research is writing skill through Experiential Learning Method. Then, the researcher limits it on writing a recount text.

### 1.6 Definition of Key Terms

Definition of key termsis used to explain some terms that related to the title of the research. It makes easier to know the problem that will be researched in the classroom action research. The definitions of key terms are as follows:

*Writing* : is planned, permanent and crosses the boundaries of space and time, process made up of numerous sub- skill, all communication is purpose-

driven and our purpose will determine (whether we communicate in writing, the genre, the format, the style and language), all communication takes place within a context which will give rise to different text types and different language. (Cornbleet and Carter, 2002: 15)

*Recount text* : is a text that tells about what had happened in series of events in sequence. (Purwanti, 2013: 59)

*Experiential Learning* : is the process whereby knowledge is created through the transformation of experience. Knowledge result from combination of grasping and transforming experience.(Beard and Wilson, 2013: 25)

