

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher explained about a general subject area to a particular field of research, they are; background of study, statement of problem, purpose of study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of key term.

A. Background of Study

English as an international language has been used for all over the world in recent years. English is the world's most widely studied foreign language now days. In other words, English has important role in people's communication. In Indonesia, English is taught in schools as a foreign language. Therefore, English is taught at various levels of education, there are Elementary School, Junior High School, Senior High School and University.

In English teaching and learning process, there are four skills that should be mastered. They are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. These fourth skills will help students in learning English. These basic skills are expected to prepare the students to continue their study to higher education. So, the students must study English lesson to reach this goal. One of them, students must be learn writing skills.

Writing is one of important skill that must be learned by the students. According to Anggraini (2011: 8), "Writing is important skill. The ability to

communicate, writing is also the main goal of studying English in Indonesia". According Johnstone et al (2002: 54), "Writing is the one of the basic skills of the English language". That is generally considered one of the most difficult that other skills for foreign language students' even native speakers feel difficulty in showing a good command of writing.

In line with statement above, Busthomi in Cahyono, (2009: 75) stated that writing is a means of communication, especially when the person wants to communicate is not right there in front of the people. Based on Tangpermpoon (2008:1), "Writing is the most difficult skill because it requires writers to have a great deal of lexical and syntactic knowledge as well as principles of organization in L2 to produce good writing". The conclusion, writing is the basic skill that requires great deal of lexical and syntatic knowledge and used to communication to support oral language.

In education sector, writing skill is very important to explore the student's ability. Writing is one of the basic skills that students must have to reach the success in learning English. Some students like writing then the students take their idea in writing easily. In other hand, there are also dislikes to write something. The students think that they difficult to research idea and they do not know start their writing from where. Besides, the students are worry to make mistake about writing in English. The students are worry about paragraph writing, research paper, and expressing idea. The students think everything they write is full errors. Most of the students also feel that writing is more difficult than speaking.

Writing is a means to convey message, ideas and feeling through printed word. So, writing is very complex and difficult, it is not only in terms of structure but also vocabulary, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling. Actually, writing skill should be given right from the start of students learning, so he/she may have both speaking and writing skill.

One of strategies that usually used learning process in writing is mind mapping. This strategy is usually used in teaching learning process because this strategy can explore the students' ideas in writing skills. Mind mapping is an easy way to place information to brain and take information out from brain. "Mind Mapping is creative and effective way to write and will map the students mind by a simple way" (Buzan, 2010: 4). According to Alamsyah (2009:58), mind mapping is a useful technique that helps the students to learn more effectively, improves the way that the students record information, and supports and enhances creative problem solving. Based on Hedge (1998: 30) stated that making a mind map is a strategy for note-making before writing; in other words, scribbling down ideas about a topic and developing those ideas as the mind makes associations. This strategy can help the students' ability in writing skill, for example: can make the students more active, creative and expressing idea.

SMP Negeri 4 Kecamatan Ponorogo is one of the favorite Junior High School in Ponorogo. The students of SMP Negeri 4 Kecamatan Ponorogo are more than 800 students. The students are in grade VII, VIII, and IX. In this research, the subject of this study is in grade VII, especially in class VII G. This

subject has some characteristic, in VII G the students' are: passive and not creative. So, according to this condition, these subjects match to do a research.

The researcher wants that mind mapping can be used in teaching learning process as the success strategy in teaching. In this research, researcher wants to know the influence of mind mapping strategy towards writing skills at seventh grade students of SMPN 4 Kecamatan Ponorogo. Based on the background of study above, researcher wants to do a research about **“The Influence of Mind Mapping Strategy (MMS) Towards Writing Skills at the Seventh Grade Students of SMP Negeri 4 Kecamatan Ponorogo in the Academic Year 2016/2017”**.

B. Statement of Problem

Based on the background of study above, the statements of problem in this research are:

1. Is there any influence of mind mapping strategy towards writing skills at seventh grade students of SMPN 4 Kecamatan Ponorogo?

C. Purpose of Study

The purposes of this study are:

1. To know whether there is influence of minds mapping strategy towards writing skills at seventh grade students of SMPN 4 Kecamatan Ponorogo.

D. Significance of Study

According to purpose of the study above, the benefit of this research are hoped as bellow:

1. For the teacher:

The result of study can be used as a reference to increase English teachers' writing competence in teaching learning process.

2. For the students:

The result of this study can be used to improve the students' ability in writing skill.

3. For the next researcher:

It helps the other researcher to get the reference from this research as the discourse to finish his/her research.

E. Scope and Limitation

Scope and limitation that are used in this research are:

1. Scope

There are many kinds of writing strategies that is usually used in the teaching learning process; there are Clustering Strategy, Think Pair Share Strategy, Group Investigation Strategies, Mind Mapping Strategy, etc. The researcher limits the study focuses on the influence of mind mapping strategy towards writing skill.

2. Limitation

In this research, researcher only uses mind mapping strategy to know the influence of mind mapping strategy towards writing skills at the Seventh grade of SMP Negeri 4 Kecamatan Ponorogo. However, when the researcher wants focus to the writing skill, in the other hand there are some skills also there in every meeting on English Teaching and Learning process like listening, speaking, and reading because SMP Negeri 4 Kecamatan Ponorogo uses KTSP (*Kurikulum Tingkat Satuan Pendidikan*). With this condition, the researcher not only teaches on writing skill but also teaches three others.

F. Definition of Key Term

There are some definitions of key term in this research:

1. **Mind Mapping** : Mind mapping is a useful technique that helps the students to learn more effectively, improves the way that the students record information, and supports and enhances creative problem solving (Alamsyah, 2009: 58).
2. **Writing skill** : Writing is the most difficult skill because it requires writers to have a great deal of lexical and syntactic knowledge as well as principles of

organization in L2 to produce good writing (Tangpermpoon, 2008: 1).

