

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1. 1 Background of the Study

In daily conversation we always use a tool to communicate to each other. The communication tool we use is called language. In social life, people use two kinds of language; they are spoken and written language. That kind of language forms express ideas, thoughts and emotions. According to Hornby (1974:202), language is a human speech in general or the expression of thoughts and feeling in words. Language as the tool of communication of course has function based on the needs of the people who use that language.

Nowadays, the speed of globalization in this world impacted to the language cultural development. It is also developed and influenced in education and technology. In this global development also, people need a means of global communication that is a language which can be used and understood by people around the world. English is one of the international languages which is used globally and dominated in all aspects of social life. Almost every country uses English as the second language or foreign language except the countries having it as their native language.

Because of its important role in global communication, English in our country is taught in every school. English is integrated to the curriculum and become one of the compulsory subjects in every level of education from kindergarten to senior high school level. Based on the situation above, English learners are asked to master the special skills in English. There are two aspects or skills to be mastered in learning

English, they are basic skills and sub skills. Basic skills are listening, speaking, reading, and the last one is writing, while the sub skill that should be learned by the students are grammar, vocabulary, spelling, and pronunciation.

One aspect of the basic skills that should be learned by the English learner or students is writing. Writing is one of the basic skills that plays an important role in daily communication in written form. Based on writer's assumption, the learners who master English Writing well, they are good in reading, listening, and speaking too because good writing demands good grammar and vocabulary.

Writing can be defined as the way words are formulated and how to combine each word to create sentences or phrases which have meaning. Writing also deal with language structure, level of sentences that can be used and what words that can be used on that language.

During the writer's teaching experience, the writer found that some students of SMA Kristen 1 Kupang had some difficulties in writing. They need to be trained and taught because they did not really know how to write a text especially procedure text in the correct way. There are some possible causes why students find writing is difficult. Some students are low in grammar and vocabulary, this may become a cause.

Seeing these phenomena the writer is interested to make the study under the title “ **The Effectiveness of Using Small Group Discussion Technique in teaching Procedure Text to improve Writing Skill of the Eleventh Grade Students of SMA Kristen I Kupang in the School Year of 2014/2015**”.

1. 2. Problem Statements

To make this study easier to be understood, the writer would like to formulate the problem as seen below:

1. Is Small Group Discussion Technique effective to improve the writing ability of the Eleventh Grade Students of SMA Kristen I Kupang?
2. What is the student's level of writing after being taught by using Small Group Discussion Technique?

1. 3. Objective of the Study

Based on the question in the problem statement, the objectives of this study that will be done are formulated in the following sentences:

1. To find out whether the Small Group Discussion technique is effective to improve the writing ability of the eleventh grade students of SMA Kristen I Kupang.
2. To find out the students level of writing after being taught by using small group discussion.

1. 4. Significance of the Study

Significance is something important in doing this study. This study will have some significance or benefits for the following persons:

1. For the writer

These researches increase his knowledge in using of Small Group Discussion Technique on teaching and learning later on.

2. For English teachers of researched school

The result of this study inform about the students' capability in writing a procedure text after being taught by using small group discussion

3. For the readers

It gives information about the effectiveness of using Small Group Discussion Technique in teaching and learning particularly in teaching writing.

1. 5. Scope and Limitation

This study is a Class Action Research. The writer wants to improve student's English skills by applying one of teaching techniques. Small group discussion is a teaching technique used by the writer in this study to improve students writing skill.

There are four English skills that have to be mastered by the students namely Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. The writer only focuses on how to improve students writing skill. There are four kinds of texts taught in Senior High School they are report text, narrative text, descriptive and procedure text. In this study the writer focuses on students' ability in writing procedure text. The writer takes procedure text as the way to improve writing skill because this text gives student more information about how to use, how to operate or make something.

1. 6. Definition of Terms

Before going to the discussion of the study, the writer presents below some explanation about the terms which are related to the topic to help the readers to understand what the writer wants to talk about in this study.

1. Effective

Hornby, A. S (1992) effectiveness is determined without reference to cost and whereas efficiency means "doing the thing right", effectiveness means "doing the right thing". So the effectiveness in this study means give something more. Effectiveness in this study refers to technique of small group discussion to improve student's skill, particularly in writing skill.

2. Small Group Discussion

According to McCroire, P. D (2006), Small Group Discussion refers to a group which consists of six or fewer students who are assigned a task that involves collaboration. The relation of Small Group Discussion with this study is a number of people in the same place or group to share the ideas.

3. Technique

A particular way of doing something, especially one in which you have to learn special skills. The skill with which somebody is able to do something practical.

4.. Writing skill

Writing is the act of putting down in a conventional graphic form something that has been spoken or thought (Rivers M. Wilga, 1981). In relation to this study, the term writing refers to the art of expression, of imparting to someone else the writer's own thought, experience and sense.

4. Procedure Text

According to Jemy Harmer (1991) procedure text tells how to do something. This might include instructions for how to carry out a task or how to play a game, directions for getting to a place and rules of behavior. In relation with this study is

a text which giving instruction to use, doing or how to operate something.

Procedure text has some structures or so called generic structures that consist of three parts. They are aim/goal, materials and steps or methods. One example of procedure text is “how to make a cup of coffee”.

5. SMA Kristen 1 Kupang

SMA Swasta Diakui Kristen I Kupang is one of the private senior high schools established by Yayasan Pendidikan Kristen Nehemia. It is located at Anggur street No.1. Kupang.