

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter, consists of Background of the Study, Reason for Choosing the Topic, Problem Statement, Objective of the Study, Hypothesis of the Study, Limitation of the Study, Significance of the Study, Definition of Key Term, Organization of the Study.

1.1 Background of the Study

English becomes among the language that incorporates a huge role within the world. It's called the language of international communication. Because of this standing, individuals are learning and making an attempt to accumulate it so they're ready to communicate with additional individuals worldwide and use it in their daily lives also. Kingston et al (2002:3) state that student's achievement in learning English is only measured by productive skills, especially the writing performance. Moreover, recently people prefer the written form of communication in accessing information to the oral communication. Abbas (2007:203) states that concept in term of the language use : the spoken language which is very dominant will be followed by the more dominant of the written language. Thus, the target of the English teaching and learning should be emphasized at serving to the scholars to be able to communicate each in spoken and written forms.

Most of the English learners might agree that writing is the most difficult skill to master (Hersyaf et al : 2009). Students' low interest and lack ability in writing their

ideas with the use of correct grammar, vocabulary, diction, and punctuation are some indicators showing the unsuccessful of teaching writing. The first indicator is the students' low interest on writing than speaking. They prefer to express their ideas orally rather than in written form. As the result, students can speak English fluently but they cannot write English well.

Social media may be outlined as web-based and mobile technologies used mainly for communication. It's a platform within which includes socializing and online networking through words, images and videos. Instagram is a social media that focuses on writing captions of uploaded photos or videos and share it to the digital users of the globe. The use of social media, particularly Instagram, is extremely in style among teenagers, with attention-grabbing in it, one of which is to upload photos and videos with captions. Several photos and videos were uploaded on Instagram followed by captions such as quotes or description as well as narrations relevant to the photos. In Indonesian context, many captions are written in English but some are also written in Bahasa Indonesia. The research was about the use of Instagram for improving students' writing skill and it took place in SMA N 2 Semarang entitled "Improving students' writing skill of descriptive text by using Instagram post. The research involved planning, implementation, observation, and reflection. The researcher would asked the respondent to make a descriptive text beforehand with the topic places and then submitted. After that the researcher instructing them to make a descriptive text based on the photo that the researcher already uploaded in Instagram. Things to be examined included; grammar, vocabulary, and diction.

1.2 Reason for Choosing the Topic

In this modern digital era, teaching writing seems to be one of the toughest skills to be taught among English as Second Language students. Having smartphones and tablets, students can access social media everyday by chatting with their friends, updating their status and current feeling as well as uploading videos and picture in order to keep up with the world. Writing on social media help the users (students) to express their opinion and thoughts, their feeling, share their memorable moments and even inspiring others. Social media also help the students to encourage the use of English Language as the users(students) want their captions to be read locally or internationally and the best way to do it is through the use of English Language as it is a language that used by the world.

Since the senior high school students have to master the writing skill, they have to be able to produce texts in the written form, but unfortunately, most of them have difficulties in writing the texts correctly. Their low interest in learning writing, less practice, difficulty in getting idea, low grammar mastery, low vocabulary, teaching method, the role of media and many more aspects are some problems they face in writing. Those problems cause them to make some mistake in producing written texts. Of course it becomes when they cannot produce written text correctly.

On the other hand, the students often produce many texts on social such as Instagram. They can freely express their ideas accompanied by pictures via the social media. Of course they do it by themselves. They do it for fun without being

asked. The fact that almost all of them have their own smartphones make them easily express their ideas through the social media.

1.3 Statement of the Problem

Considering those problems, an effective method of teaching writing is urgently required and the use of Instagram as a media to teach writing is interesting to explore. Therefore the research question proposed was : was the use of Instagram posts as visual media in writing class effective to improve student's writing skill of descriptive text of the eleventh grade students of SMA N 2 Semarang in academic year 2019/2020?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

In line with the research question above, the objective of this research is: To find out if the use of Instagram was effectiveness to improve student's writing skill of descriptive text of the eleventh grade students of SMA N 2 Semarang in academic year 2019/2020

1.5 Hypothesis of the Study

As the research problems stated previously, there will be a set of hypotheses namely null hypothesis (H_0) and the alternative hypothesis (H_i) as the followings :

H_0 : There was no significant difference on the students ability of writing descriptive text between students who were taught descriptive text using Instagram

posts as a visual media and those who were taught descriptive text without using Instagram posts.

H1 : There was significant difference on the students ability of writing descriptive text between students who were taught descriptive text using Instagram posts as a visual media and those who were taught descriptive text without using Instagram posts.

1.6 Limitation of the Study

Initially it was planned that this study used 2 classes, each class consisting of 36 students, but because of the covid-19 situation, the researcher decided to use 1 class consisting of 36 students, that class was class XI IPS 1. Focusing on teaching and learning in writing using Instagram to write a descriptive text.

1.7 Significance of the Study

The finding of the analysis was beneficial in some ways in which.

1. Pedagogical

- a. The analysis may be used as reference for anybody else.
- b. The analysis may be helpful because the references in selecting the technique in teaching writing, particularly descriptive text.

2. Practically

- a. The finding of the analysis may be utilized by teacher as a relevancy improve their technique in teaching writing and to search

out the foremost suitable technique for rising the student's ability at writing descriptive texts.

- b. The finding of the analysis may be helpful input for the scholars.
- c. Improve students ability and to be told English particularly writing talent.
- d. To improve student's writing ability at descriptive text.

1.8 Definition of Key Terms

1. Instagram

Instagram is a social media that focuses on writing captions of uploaded pictures or videos and share it to the digital users of the world. The use of social media, especially Instagram, is very popular among teenagers, with interesting features in it, one of which is to upload photos and videos with captions.

Instagram comes from the word "instant" or "insta", like a polaroid camera which used to be better known as " instant photos" (Undersatnding Instagram, 2012, in <http://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/instagram>, accessed on January 4 2020). Instagram can also display photos instantly in appearance.

According to Bambang Atmoko, Instagram is a application of a Smartphone specifically for social media which is one of digital media has almost the same function as Twitter, but the different lies in taking photographs in the form or place to share information about its users. Instagram can also provide inspiration for its

user as well can increase creativity, because Instagram has features that can make photo more beautiful, more artistic and better (Atmoko, 2012: 10).

2. Writing description

Writing skills mean the skill to write down thoughts/ideas/opinions/fact/stories etc, in a manner which makes the thought clear and comprehensible to the readers.

According to Saleh Abbas (2006: 125), writing skill is the ability to express ideas, opinions and feelings to other parties through written language. The accuracy of the expression of ideas must be supported by the accuracy of the language used, vocabulary and grammatical and spelling usage.

According to Ahmad Rofi'uddin and Zuhdi (1999: 159), writing skills are skills to express thoughts, ideas, opinion about something, responses to a statement of desire, or expression of feeling with use written language.

1.9 Organization of the Study

This study is divided into 5 chapters to ensure the readers' understanding in sequence of learner' perception on academic writing process and also the objective of the study

Chapter I is Introduction : This chapter presents the Background of the Study, Reasons for Choosing the Topic, Statement of the Problem, Objective of the Study, Limitations of the Study, Significance of the Study, The Definition of the Key Term and Organization of the Proposal.

Chapter II is Review of Related Literature : This chapter presents Reviews of Related Theories and Previous Studies.

Chapter III is Method of Study : This chapter presents Research Design, Subject of the Study, Variable of the Study, Instrument of the Study, Technique for Collecting Data, Scoring Technique, and Data Analysis.

Chapter IV is Analysis of Result and Discussion : This chapter presents The School of the Study, The Instrument, The Research, The Analysis, and The Discussion.

Chapter V is Conclusion and Suggestion.