

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains of the Background of the Study, the Reasons for Choosing the Topic, the Question of the Study, the Objective of the Study, the Hypoteses of the Study, the Limitations of the Study, the Significance of the Study, the Definition of Key Terms and the Outline of the Study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is one of the important aspects for people to share ideas, opinions, and feelings. Students in Indonesia learn English from elementary school to university.

English is an International language, people usually speak English as a means of communicae with people from different. It will be easier to understand what is being expressed. English has four skills, all of them must be learned comprehensively in order to get maximum results.

Harmer (2004), writing is a fundamental language, it is significant as 4 elements in english. It is a skill that must be learned seriously because writing is an important subject. Furthemore, process to write needs long time.

Lehr (2004), vocabulary is the meaning of words in both written and oral language it is an essential part of language. Students cannot apply their English basic skill well without having enough vocabularies. If people have limited skill in four skills in English, actually they have limited vocabularies.

Fardhani (2005) states students who had a trouble to change and improve their thought in written form because they do not master in vocabulary. Therefore, PVN is one of the media for the students to improve their vocabularies. Students will get many vocabularies and they can express and transform it in their written form with their own PVN. Not only can improve their vocabulary, PVN can improve their writing skill, because without vocabulary students cannot write something that they want to write.

McCarten (2007) states that many vocabulary research will be the success learners and be a good vocabulary notes. Students will more easily understand with the vocabulary notes they have namely “Personal Vocabulary Notes” because they write with their own writing and book notes with the colorfull paper, it really makes the students interested in always opening, writing, and reading their PVN. In additio, they can learn at home, at school, and when they find the new vocabulary somewhere, they can write it on their PVN. This is an effective for the students to master in vocabulary.

Kurzweil (2002) conveys that to become a good learners, PVN is a way to improve students’ vocabulary in a personal way. By using PVN media, students will write least 15 words in a day. They write them on note paper. They have to make it as interesting as possible. Later, students get the new words from their note papers and those words can improve in writing activity.

Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested in finding out the effectiveness of using personal vocabulary notes to improve students’ writing skill on descriptive text.

1.2 Reasons for Choosing the Topic

The researcher prefer with the title “The effectiveness of using personal vocabulary notes to improve students’ writing skill on descriptive text” because of the following reasons :

1. Writing is an important skill for students must be learn seriously. In SMPN 5 UNGARAN the students were very reluctant to write because they did not have many vocabulary so they did not know what they would write. Personal Vocabulary Notes had not been used in that school. The writer hopes that it will make the students enjoy writing.
2. The writer hope that PVN will make the teacher to improve students in writing. Students will improve their writing skill with many words that they have in their PVN, they use the words that match with the writing that they are going to write.
3. Personal Vocabulary Notes make students’ writing on descriptive text improved. Before students make the descriptive text, they will choose the words that they are going to use in their PVN, then they can improve their writing with the words in their personal vocabulary notes.

1.3 Question of the Study

Related to the background of the study above, the question of the research is:

“Is personal vocabulary notes effective to improve students’ writing skill on descriptive text of the eighth graders students of SMPN 5 Ungaran?”

1.4 Objective of the Study

The objective of the study is :

To know the effectiveness of personal vocabulary notes to improve students' writing skill on descriptive text of the eighth graders students of SMPN 5 Ungaran.

1.5 Hypotheses of the Study

The hypotheses of this study were :

H0 = The use of Personal Vocabulary Notes is not effective to improve students' writing skill on descriptive text.

H1 = The use of Personal Vocabulary Notes is effective to improve student's writing skill on descriptive text.

1.6 Limitation of the Study

The use of Personal Vocabulary Notes to improve the writing skill on descriptive text of the students. This research will be applied for the eighth graders students of SMPN 5 Ungaran.

1.7 Significance of Study

The writer hopes that the result of the research will be useful to provide input for :

1. Practical Significance

a. Students

The writer wish that students can improve writing on descriptive text by using Personal Vocabulary Notes and they will interesting teaching learning process.

b. Teacher

English teacher will use this media to teach the students, so the students will enjoy learning English.

c. Next Researchers

Hopefully, the next writers can get the information from this study and it will be one of the references, and they will improve their teaching writing on descriptive text.

2. Pedagogical Significance

The result of this study is hopefully become a guide for the teacher in advising the students for completing their final project. Hence, it is expected to give an effect to the students, especially those who are working on the final project in order to become a motivation to complete it.

1.8 Definition of Key Terms

1. Personal Vocabulary Notes

Kurzweil (2002) conveys that PVN is a way to improve students' vocabulary and encouraging them become a good learners.

2. Writing Skill

Urquhart and McIver (2005) writing is a detail learning, students must be active and the teacher should help them to discover a purpose. Also, the readers should get the writer's intend.

3. Descriptive Text

Pardiyono (2007) text that has a particular purpose is descriptive text. In addition it is text to retell about person, thing, and place.

1.9 Outline of the Study

This outline of this proposal consist of three chapters :

Chapter I consists of the Background of Study, the Reasons for Choosing the Topic, Question of the Research, the Objective of the Study, the Hypoteses of the study, the Limitations of the Study, the Significance of the Study, the Definition of Key Terms, the Outline of the Study.

Chapter II is Review of Related Literature. It disscusses the theories used as the bases of this study and previous study.

Chapter III present of the Research design, Subject od the Study, Variables of the Study, Instrument of the Study, the Procedures of Data Collection, Method data Analysis.

Chapter IV is consists of the Description of School's Profile, the Description of the Participants, the Validity and Reability of the Instrument, the Analysis of Pre-test, the Analysis of Treatment, the Analysis of Post-test, and the Discussion of the Research Findings.

Chapter V present the Conclusion and Suggestion of the experimental research.

