

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses some aspects dealing the topic of the research. They are background of the research, problem of the research, focus of the research, purpose of the research, the benefit of the research, the scope of the research, and the operational definition of the terms.

1.1 Background of the Research

English is a language that everybody in the twenty-first century needs to know. According to David Crystal (2000; 1), English is a global language. This assertion indicates that a nation uses English to communicate with other countries around the world. As a result, students in Indonesia are required to learn English. Along with elementary schools, junior high schools, and high schools, to senior high schools, even Colleges, etc.

Listening, speaking, reading, and writing are the four language skills that learners are required to master while studying English. Writing skills are important to learn both in school and in real life as one of the language skills. This skill will greatly aid in the completion of essay assignments at school. When you have the ability to compose, coming up with ideas will be easy. Harmer (2007: 112) claims that writing allows students to think more freely than speaking. You will never be able to avoid sending texts, emails, and other correspondence in your daily life. Writing skills would also come in

handy in this situation. As a result, the opportunity to write in any format can offer many benefits in student life, such as academic performance.

According to these goals, tenth graders should be able to write in any situation. Writing is one of active skill in language learning. By writing, the students can communicate, give opinions and transfer their idea in written form (Pohan, 2018). Writing is a form of communication that allows students to put their feelings and ideas on paper, to organize their knowledge and beliefs into convincing arguments, and to convey meaning through well-constructed text. When we write, we have to notice on some components, such as vocabulary, spelling, pronunciation, and grammar (Pratiwi et al, 2019). This demonstrates how difficult it is to learn writing skills.

Learning Indonesian is not the same as learning English. Students find it difficult to write correctly because of the differences in writing structures between Indonesian and English. Some of them are unsure how to use it in their writing; "sky blue" should be "blue sky," for example. This mistake happens as students translate Indonesian directly into English. Spelling errors are another common blunder made by students. For example, the majority of them spell "Cheks" incorrectly as "Cheeks." As a result, most students would rather learn to speak than to compose.

The challenge of writing in the sense of second language learning is not only in the development and arrangement of ideas, but also in translating ideas into readable writing. Planning, arranging, punctuation, word selection, and other skills are required of students (Mohammed & Abdalhusein, 2015:

292). Grammar, according to Lyons (1996: 54), is one of the most difficult aspects of learning English for students. There are many rules in grammar that cannot be ignored. There are articles, parts of speech, sentence patterns, tenses, nouns, etc. The part of grammar that Indonesian students consider easy but makes mistakes are nouns. The use of singular and plural is an example. A singular noun is a noun that indicates that the object is singular or only one and plural noun is a noun that is used to indicate that the object is more than one. The noun above is easy to understand but it is still the reason for students' writing errors.

That is the reason why the researcher is interested in analyzing the students' errors and conducting research with the title "An Analysis of Tenth Grade Students' Errors in Writing Descriptive Text".

1.2 Problem of the Research

Based on the background of the research, the problems of the research are as follow:

1. What are common errors made by students in writing descriptive texts of tenth grade of SMA Negeri Pakusari ?
2. What are the causes of errors made by students in writing descriptive texts of tenth grade of SMA Negeri Pakusari ?

1.3 Focus of the Research

Based on problem identification, this study is focused on finding common errors that are usually made by students in writing descriptive texts. The researcher

also wants to know the cause of the writing error made by students. The implementation is for class X SMA Negeri Pakusari in the 2020/2021 academic year.

1.4 Purpose of the Research

Based on the statements of problem above, the purpose of the research are as follows:

1. To know the common errors made by students in writing descriptive texts of tenth grade of SMA Negeri Pakusari ?
2. To know the causes of errors made by students in writing descriptive texts of tenth grade of SMA Negeri Pakusari

1.5 Benefit of the Research

Through this research, there are some benefits that can be achieved. The benefits are useful for:

1. The Teacher

The teacher can use the result of study as a reference in teaching English in the future, about the strategy to teach English especially in writing descriptive text.

2. The Students

The students can see errors they have made from the result of study, it can motivate them to improve in the writing skill especially in descriptive text.

3. Other Researcher

The findings of this study can be used as a reference to conduct further different research design or methodology.

1.6 Scope of the Research

This research was conducted at SMA Negeri Pakusari, which choose 10th grade students as research objects in analyzing what common mistakes they often made in writing descriptive text.

1.7 Operational Definition of the Terms

1.7.1 Error

In general, error is a mistake. While specifically error in this study refers to error in writing is something done or written by accident that is not correct, not accurate, or does not give the right result.

1.7.2 Descriptive Text

Descriptive Text is a text which says what a person or a thing is like. Its purpose is to describe and reveal a particular person, place, or thing. Most descriptive text is about visual experience, but in fact the experience is different with the sense of sight, we can also use it to make descriptive text.