CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses some aspects dealing with the topic of the research. They are the background of the research, Problem of The Research, Objective of The Research, Operational Definition of the Terms, Significance of the Research, and Scope of the Research.

1.1 Background of the Research

Writing is very important to be mastered by English learners. Writing is a difficult skill to acquire, to write well the ESL students should have an understanding of grammatical structures, vocabulary, and tense usage by Swick (2009). Widiati & Cahyono (2006) argued that writing is the most complex skill compared to the other three skills. It means that writing is the most difficult skill learned by students, especially for foreign language learners, because they do not only have to master the vocabularies but also the grammar structure.

According to Kurniawati (2017:3) Descriptive text is one of the functional texts which is difficult to learn by the students. Descriptive text is the text that describes a place, someone, or something. Descriptive text composed by introduction and description. The introduction is the part of the paragraph to introduce the character, and the description is the part of the paragraph to describe the character. When the students write descriptive text, they used simple present and adjective clauses. In writing descriptive text, sometimes the students find difficulties. According to the writing cooperative of Trombley (2018), writing is a

difficult thing, because in writing, we need to require concentration, practice, diligence, courage, and humanity in an essay.

The above mentioned statement suggested that various teaching strategies be employed to help students to develop their descriptive writing ability. According to Stone and Morris (as quoted in Issac, 2010), teaching strategies are a description of learning that includes the structure, outline of planned tactics, and the teaching objectives needed to implement the strategy. Teaching strategies can help students take more responsibility for their learning and enhance the process of teaching for learning. A teaching strategy is a teachers' plan in the teaching and learning process to achieve the purpose which has been planned. In other words, teaching strategies are approaches to teach students. The teacher has to apply the strategy to balance between the method which the teachers used and the way the teachers used to apply the material by Sarjan (2017). A research done by Utami Putri, Tari (2020) with the title An Analysis of Teachers' Strategies on English E-Learning Classes During Covid-19 Pandemic. The research objective is to find out the strategies on English e-learning classes during the COVID-19 pandemic, the strategies help the teachers in English e-learning. This research has a similarity with online learning but also has the difference. In this study was too general because this study was not focused on teachers' strategies in teaching writing descriptive through online learning.

Since the end of 2019, Face-to-face teaching is also banned, and the government instructed all the educational institutions to shift from traditional learning to online learning using digital platforms (Iivari, Sharma, & Ventä-olkkonen, 2020.) Students are required to study online from home because of the

covid 19 pandemics. According to Cao et al (2020) this policy has an impact on the world of education: especially the development of student learning. In this case, teaching English in online learning is a challenge for the teacher; where the teacher must play an active role in online learning. Online learning is defined as learning that is carried out as distance learning assisted by electronic devices such as smartphones, tablets, laptops and computers that require an internet connection (Gonzalez & Louise, 2018). This virus was first discovered in Wuhan, Hubei, China. Until now, there are 1.781.127 people in Indonesia exposed to corona (CNN 2021) total of 49.455 people died, while 1.638.279 others were declared cured. In Indonesia, the number of positive cases of coronavirus infection continues to grow. As of Wednesday (24/5/2021), positive cases of COVID-19 infection reaches 5.907 people, 127 died, and 5.234 patients were cured. Paras putri (2020:3) The COVID-19 outbreak resulted in changes of teaching and learning interactions in schools. According to Huda (2021), covid 19 has impacted to the new habituation of learning mode i.e online learning. It has not been easily implemented because online learning is new system in indonesia. In some schools have difficult to do online learning because of several factors such as poor signal connections and teachers do not understand how to use electronics. Thus, it is important to analyze the teachers strategies in teaching writing through online learning. Teachers and students are not allowed to do face to face learning, so teachers and students do virtual learning by using online applications and have to find the alternate strategy to teach during the COVID-19 pandemic to continue their studies.

A research done by Hanik et al (2021) The strategies of blended learning in new normal era at Kuala Lumpur Indonesian School. This research aims to discuss learning strategies, implementation of learning strategies, analysis of learning strategies in the Kuala Lumpur Indonesian School (SIKL) based on Blended Learning with the TPACK (Technological, Pedagogical, Content knowledge) approach in the new normal era. The difference between this research is in this research was too general because this study was not focused on teachers' strategies in teaching writing descriptive through online learning.

The researcher assumes that the teaching writing online become a problem if not overcome soon because online learning still new in Indonesia. For this assumption, the researcher is interested to do descriptive research. By doing this research, the researcher gives this research with title "ENGLISH TEACHER'S STRATEGIES IN TEACHING WRITING DESCRIPTIVE TEXT THROUGH ONLINE LEARNING AT MAN LUMAJANG IN 2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR.

1.2 Problem of the Research

Based on the background above, the problem that should be answered in this research is "What are the English teacher's strategies used in teaching writing descriptive text through online learning?".

1.3 Purpose of the Research

The purpose of the research is to describe the English teacher's strategies in teaching descriptive text used at Senior High School through online learning. It will be conducted for English Teacher at the tenth grade of MAN Lumajang.

1.4 Benefit of the Research

1. Theoretical Benefit

   The results of this study can provide information about the strategies of English teachers to teach descriptive writing in online class.

2. Practical Benefit

   a. For teachers

   This research can be used by English teachers to improve their strategies in teaching writing through an online class.

   b. For researchers
   The result of this research can be used as the reference for those who want to conduct a research in English teaching online learning.

1.5 Scope of the Research

The scope of this research is focusing on descriptive writing strategies taught by the teacher through online learning. This research was conducted by English Teachers at the tenth grade of MAN Lumajang in 2021/2022 academic year.

1.6 Operational Definition of the Terms

In the hope of avoiding misunderstanding, the researcher needs to clarify the key terms as follows:

a. Writing

Writing is one way to express opinions and ideas in writing either paper or through the media indirectly. To master this skill, several processes must be learned.

b. Teaching strategy

Teaching strategy is an action planned by the teacher before teaching, so students can understand how the teacher teaches and makes students understand in learning. According to Crawford (2005:18), Teaching strategy is more than a set of methods. Teaching well means addressing a set of objectives, for a particular group of students, at a certain point in the school year, with certain resources, within a particular time frame, in a particular school and community setting.

c. Online learning

Online learning systems are web-based software for distributing, tracking, and managing courses over the internet. During the Covid19 pandemic, students are required to learn from their homes, therefore the role of online learning is very important. Due to government regulations teachers and students cannot do face-to-face learning in class but can still learn from online learning using technological media; smartphone, laptop, internet and etc.