

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Basic Consideration

This research entitles “*The influence of Facebook as media to improve students’ writing ability*”. Writer would like to find out the usefulness of facebook and students’ writing activity in order to increase their ability. Further, the writer wanted to explore the facebook advantages as media to improve students’ writing ability. There are some reasons to choose this media such as; facebook is the most popular social media and almost students have Facebook account. It is also simple to use and accessible not only by personal computer (PC) but also by mobile phone. Thus, students can go online easily.

Essentially, facebook is familiar for most people around the world especially who loves surfing in cyberspace. It is places for somebody to be friends, share their thinking, allows sending messages, give comments, posting our writings or even pictures and of course for chatting. However, the availability of cyberspace makes people get and share information easily. It offers amazing things such as web search, sending mail and of course social media. Talking about social media, it is the miracle of technology, which allows people to communicate with others without limitation of space and time.

By this high of technology, people are interest to grow ideas to apply this facility in teaching and learning activity. Easy to accesses a lot of information and possibility make connection anytime, inspire teachers to use Facebook as media to

communicate with students for example giving information, giving tasks, and practicing English together in a group. Thus, it will become a new interesting way because learning activities are not only can be happened in classroom but also can be online.

Budiardi (in *Facebook Base Writing Learning for TEFL Journal*, p. 319) wrote that Facebook is a social media or people usually called it as social network. It is a site on internet which has capability to make people know each other by having their own profile by registering a private account. Further, Facebook become a popular site around the world. Almost all of people in the world have Facebook account. Indonesia itself is the second country which has biggest Facebook users after USA. Its users is not only adult people but also other levels of age like elementary students', junior high school students', senior high school students', and college students'. These explanations became the reasons for choosing facebook than another social media. Facebook in Indonesia is the most popular way in online communication. Most students have their account and always use it for updating status, commenting, chatting almost every day. Further, the facebook facilities are also provided in mostly mobile phones thus it easy to access.

As the fundamental or main reason in composing this research, the initial study has been done by observing students learning process at Islamic School Nurul Yaqin Kota Gorontalo. It found that writing is the most difficult skill to be mastered by students at school. In this case, writing means producing ideas in alphabetical (letter) form. Some students' writing problems are lack in

vocabulary, weakness in mastering grammar and hard to find out writing ideas itself. However, mostly in teacher lesson plan according to educational standard, writing activity are only about deciding generic structure and findings some information from the text. In this case, student in senior high school had already try to produce writing in order to they can write formal or informal written form in the future.

Moreover, the weakness of their writing skill is also come from learning process. Students did exercises such as answering questions from text, arranging jumbled words or sentences, and finding out missing words in the gaps paragraph. Those kinds of exercise actually are written test form, but students do not produce writing. It means that there is no sharing idea. The students will depend on textbooks or worksheets thus they inclined become uncreative. Thus, facebook could be used as a new, interesting, and familiar media for students to teach them produce writing.

Before mastering writing skill, the students should practice composing good writing. Peha (2003:3) mentioned several aspects in composing good writing namely ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency and conventions. Firstly, ideas are relating to the substance of writing. According to my opinion, ideas are reason the reason why a written is composed. Thus, it is the most important part in a piece of writing. Generally, there are two kinds of ideas i.e. main ideas and supporting details. Secondly, writing aspects are also included the organization. The writer believes that organization itself relates to how authors arrange the ideas well and the way of moving from an idea to another.

The third aspect is voice. Voice is about how the writing feels someone when the audience reads it; formal or casual writing. The next aspect is word choice. It is related to the form of our writing such as the words, phrases, sentences, and so on. The fifth is sentence fluency. The term “sentence fluency” refers to the way individual words and phrases sound together within a sentence and how groups of sentences sound when read one after the other. The last aspect is convention. Convention that is correct and communicative. Conventions are the ways we all agree to use punctuation, spelling, grammar, and other things that make writing consistent and easy to read.

Based on the previous explanation about several components of writing, it gives valuable information in making good writing. Despite for beginner such as students, they are not demanded to write as perfectly as expert. They need guidelines start from basic of writing i.e. sharing ideas. As following up teachers can give knowledge trough correcting grammar, organize the ideas and putting right punctuation or words spelling. The students can also start by making a sentence, short paragraph until they can compose an essay.

1.2 Problem Statements

Based on the basic consideration above, problem statement in this research is “can Facebook as media influenced to the students’ writing ability?”

1.3 Objective of Study

This research is purposed to describe whether Facebook as media is influenced and improve students’ writing ability or not.

1.4 Reasons for Choosing Topic

1. Media is needed in learning activity because it can develop students' interest and motivation during teaching process.
2. Facebook is familiar social media especially for students. Students are in their account facebook almost every day even during they are in classroom. Facebook is easy to use and access by them.

1.5 Limitation of Study

Media as learning tool has various kinds namely visual, audio, and audiovisual. Using of media can be adjusted with the learning materials. This research is focused in discussing the influence of facebook as media in writing. It was limited in facebook because its most famous social media, it has facility to post written, and it accessible by personal computer or even by mobile phone.

1.6 Significance of Study

There is some significance in doing this research, they are:

1. This research can be a proof of using facebook in teaching English especially in improving students' writing ability.
2. Students are trained to write and produce written form.
3. Students enjoy in learning English because they do writing in interesting media.
4. Teachers can apply facebook as learning media for helping them to convey and deliver materials.