

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Basic Consideration

Writing is a language skill that important to be learned by the students because it can help they to convey their idea in written form by using media such as news paper, magazine, book etc. Writing is needed to be learned in order to make us know how to put the idea and opinion in written form. To use those media the students are helped to have many ideas to make them easy and free in writing their main idea.

Writing is not only conveying idea in writing form, but also how the content of writing can make the reader can understand what we are discuss our writing. This is an activity to convey to show our point of view and feeling in written form it has the function to communicate idea directly or indirectly. In addition, a writer must pay attention about the reader ability in comprehending the message given in the text. Writing activity is important for the students in language learning because it can help them to train their own thinking, showing idea and problem solving.

Related to the explanation above, one activity of the writing skill is writing argumentative paragraph. It is an activity to convey opinion about something we read or know we like or dislike, agree or disagree about a topic or issues.

In fact, that not all the students have the ability in writing argumentative paragraph. For some students, it is difficult to show the idea, to find the focus of argument and the other is less of ability in writing forms especially the rules of writing it self . So it can be said that the students' ability in writing argumentative paragraph is still low.

There are some factors that can make the students' ability becomes low such as the method used by the teachers in teaching writing is still conventional or still using the speech method. Learning environment does not make the students comfortable in learning. Another aspect is the motivation of the students in learning English is low.

As the subject of this research is the student of SMA Negeri 1 of Gorontalo City, the choosing of this school because this school is one of the famous schools that have the students have various ability and attitude in learning, especially in learning language skill such as writing. In addition, the teachers in this school use the various method and approach in teaching English.

One main point become the focus of the problem in teaching writing especially writing argumentative paragraph is the method used by teacher in teaching. The choosing of teaching writing method is necessary in order to make the learning of writing more interesting. Of course it is reasonable because the choosing an exact method can make the students interest in learning.

In addition, using problem based learning can help the students to find the main problem and how to solve the problem. If the students can found the base problem they can understand the material taught by the teacher. Refers to Whals (2005: 24) "in Problem based learning, students learning is driven by the tutorial problem from which students identify learning needs". Based on this statement, it can be said that by using PBL, it can make the student find what is the problem given and how to find the solving. Furthermore, the PBL is related to the material of this research namely argumentative. In giving the argument, the students have to find the problem and actual information an then give the argument.

Based on the reason above, I would like to conduct the research entitle "Improving Students' Ability in Writing Argumentative Paragraph by Using Problem Based Learning Method.

1.2 Problem Statement

By seeing the basic consideration above, it formulates the problem statement of this research “can the problem based learning improve the students’ ability in writing argumentative paragraph?”

1.3 The Objective of Research

Based on the problem statement above, the objective of this research is to find out whether the problem based learning can improve the students’ ability in writing argumentative paragraph or not”

1.4 The Significance of Research

After this research done, it is expected some significances as follows:

For the students, this research is expected can improve the students’ ability in writing argumentative paragraph. For the teacher, it is expected can be inspired them to choose a good writing method especially in teaching writing argumentative paragraph. For the reader, this research is expected can give useful information in order to use the method of teaching writing

