

Chapter 1: Introduction

In this chapter the researcher presents some points related to this research. Those include background of the study, formulation of the research question, aim of research, and research significant.

Background

Writing is one of the basic skills that must be mastered by the language learner. This skill needs more attention because this skill is harder than any other skills in language such as speaking, listening, and reading. It is in line with Heaton (as cited in Hadisubroto, 2008) stated, "Writing is hard and complicated skill". For the learners who want to have a good writing, they need to learn another important part in language that is grammar. It is necessary to have good grammar in writing, because grammar determines the way the writer want to say by his writing. It makes writing more difficult than other skills in language such as speaking. In speaking, the learner only need to make the listener get the point of what the speaker wants to say, even though the speaking is not correct grammatically.

There are many definitions that people stated about writing. Writing of course can be differentiated clearly against other skills like listening, speaking and reading. However, speaking and writing may have some similarities between them. According to Wright (as cited in Arifin, 2012) speaking and writing is a productive ability, by the mean people express ideas by producing language in oral form or written form. Speaking and writing may have some similar characteristics, such as consideration of grammar, organizing idea, and some other linguistic features (pronunciation and intonation in speaking, or punctuation and capitalization in writing). The difference is writing is more detail than speaking. It is seen to mainly depend on correct use of language as a network of systems. Writing covers a number

of elements, such as content, grammar, vocabulary, unity and coherence. All of these items essential in writing.

In other hand, there are also many differences between writing and speaking. According to Bereton (as cited in Suprayitno, 2014) writing is quite different from speaking in one very important way because the text has to carry all the meaning because the writer is never around to explain. This is not like normal speech situations, in which listener can tell you they do not understand, or you can use tone or voice or body language to help you explain some points. Writing needs a clearer and more grammatical manner in order to compensate the absence of certain features of spoken language so that misunderstanding in the transmission of meaning way is avoided.

In learning process, teacher of writing gives much help to his students, to make they understand with their material. One of the ways to make writing effectives in order to make students understand is asking the students to write summary about the material that the teacher want to teach. Writing summary is one of the task that teacher ask to students in order to make them understand about the material before or after teacher explain the material. It does not only give the students additional explanation that they got from other sources, but it also helps the students to improve their writing skills. Therefore, Summary is very important in students learning. Kirkland (as cited in Lin, 2012) stated, “Although summarizing is a complex activity that can impose an overwhelming cognitive load on students, in an academic setting it is a highly essential and necessary skill”.

Turk and Kirkman (as cited in Efrilianti, 2012) stated that “a summary is condensed version of the essence of a text”. A summary is brief version of a larger reading. To write a summary, the students or the writer have to use their words to express briefly the main idea

and relevant details of the piece they have read. The purpose in writing the summary is to give the basic ideas of the original reading.

However, some students are not always understand with the material of the course even though the teacher asks them to write summary by themselves. Sometimes, there are some students who do not know anything about the summary they have written before. It will give bad effect in their learning. Some students also did not have good progression in writing ability even they always write a summary.

This case happened in some students of Class D in sixth semesters. They got task from the lecture of Literary Criticism to make summary about the materials of literary criticism. In the next week, when they already wrote their summary, the lecturer asks the students to present their summary in front of their friend, but some students refuse to present about their summary even the teacher give their summary back, with some reasons. One of the reason is they get lack of idea about their summary. It makes the discussion method that the teacher applied in classroom is not success well, because only a few of students who involve in that discussion, and the other just silent and sometimes just make themselves busy with their mobile phone while the discussion is ongoing.

Based on the explanation, the writer is interested to find out about this problem by doing the research with the title is “**Students’ Problems in Writing Summary**”.

Research Question

Based on the basic consideration, the research question is “what are the problems faced by students in writing summary?”

Aim of Research

According to the research question, the research objective is “to identify the problem faced by students in writing summary”.

Research Significant

There are two significances in this research; they are Theoretical significances and practical significances. Theoretical significance is this research will give new references for the study of writing summary in the future. Practical significances are three. First, this research will give information about student’s problem in writing summary. The second is to develop students sense of awareness in writing summary, and the last is this research will help the teacher to make writing summary become more effective in order to give additional explanation to the students about the material of study.