

Chapter 1

Introduction

The basic information of the current research is provided within this chapter. There are numerous headings represent each sub-topic of the research, such as background of the research, research question, research objective, these points will be thoroughly discussed as the major standing point for the research to be conducted further.

Basic Consideration

Writing is one of the main English language skills. This skill is trying to draws our experiences, feelings and opinions in written form. As stated by State Literacy and Numeracy Plan (1999, p22) In academic writing, the students are asked to write an effective text or they should pay attention to all the component of writing such as the purpose, text structure, cohesion, syntax grammar, spelling and punctuation State Literacy and Numeracy Plan. This is means that the students should write their text structurally and systematically. Actually, many people already have a chance to write since elementary school. However, they still find it difficult to write. This is due to the inappropriate strategy that the teacher used.

According to Institute of Education Sciences (2012, p.35), students who were given extra instructional time in writing had improved writing quality rather than students who did not receive extra instruction. Contribute to the overall writing quality. Similarly, Tahqil (2015, p.75) stated that “one way of improving writing skill is

through constant writing". The more students write, the more their writing skills will develop. On top of that, writing has to be meaningful to the reader, and even more important, writing has to be interesting.

Based on my observation in SMA N 1 Telaga Biru, most of the students in this school are difficult to write. Furthermore, they are lack of vocabulary and grammar. They are also unable to organize their idea coherently during writing. Thus, the teacher should change their strategy in teaching writing in order to improve students' writing.

Megaibab (2014, p.71) stated that there several aspects that must be considered by the students in writing such as grammar, vocabulary, content, and structure. Students, sometimes, are difficult to write clearly. In fact, they have many topics to be discussed in writing. However, they do not know what they should write for the first sentence since they have insufficient vocabulary. Having sufficient vocabularies is important in writing. This is due to assist people to compose a good writing. In addition, another difficulty in students' writing is grammar. Grammar is the important aspect of writing because it shapes one's writing better.

Based on the above explanation, students have a hard time during writing. They are rare to write and so they have no prior knowledge in writing. Therefore, a strategy that can give the students opportunities build their capacity in writing is necessary. One of the strategies that can be used to face this problem is to ask them to write diary. In writing diary, the students can write just about anything such as thoughts or problems that they encounter without worrying about the theme. Bailey

(1990, p.34), and McDonough (1997, p.34) emphasized the significance of diaries in writing curriculum asserting that in writing a diary the content is under the control of the author. In addition, Several aspects such as the style or grammar are not overly considered. This means that they are free to writing just anything. However, some studies try to investigate more to find the advantages of using diary to improve students' writing skill. Nowadays, the notion of 'diary' is used against the traditional methods of writing where the focus is usually on the end product stressing correctness of form and paying attention to the mechanics of writing rather than the message the writer tries to send.

Therefore, the purpose of this research is to determine the effectiveness of using diary to improve students' writing. Therefore, this is important for the teacher in order to make students familiar with writing and to master English.

Problem of Research

Based on the previous background, this research intends to answer the question "can diary improve students' writing skills?"

The Aim of Research

The aims of this research is to find out the effect of using diary improve students' writing skill.

Significance of Research

1. Giving a reference to the development of teaching learning process in writing skill as additional knowledge in English learning to improve teachers ' teaching to the students.
2. Giving a contribution to the students in order to build students' skill in writing, especially in composing simple past tense.