

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses: (1) background of the study, (2) research question, (3) research objective, (4) significance of the study

1.1 Background

English is the dominant worldwide language of the 21st century. It has progressively more become the working system for the global conversation. English is also relating community from different parts of the globe and cultures. Nallaya (2013), explain now a language that is used in communication technologies, international diplomacy, manufacturing and trade, mass media, expertise, technology, education. In short, it can be a reason why English very essential to learn by everyone.

In education, the students' English proficiency get a lot of information easily, trough English the students can also communication with other people in the world. In Indonesia, English is learned as a foreign language because Indonesians communicate with other people by using Bahasa. Depdiknas RI (2006) states that English subject as part of curriculum. Moreover, government policy number 32 in 2013 states that English is considered as one of the compulsory subject that must be taught from Junior High School, since it has become one of the subject that is tested in the National Examination (UN). English is taught from Junior to University level as a compulsory subject, the aim is to develop students potential, in which it is hoped that they could have

communicate competence, interpersonal, transactional, and functional aspects by using any kinds of spoken or written text.

In new curriculum, the students not only required to understand the materials being taught, but also must be active in the teaching and learning process. Susanti (2015) states that teachers are not only source of learning for students (teacher-centered), but more is expected to be facilitator for the students (student-centered). Students must be active to interact with learning resources and learning environment. Environment in question is the teacher themselves, other students, libraries, materials or teaching materials (such as books, modules, leaflets, magazines, video recording, and others). So, before start teaching and learning process the student have to prepare the materials for learning in their classroom and must be active to ask questions based on their materials.

In teaching English, there are four skills need to be learned by the students, namely speaking, listening, reading and writing. Marion (2013) states that writing is one of the most important skills for educational success, but also one of the most complex skills to be mastered. The students have to learn some aspects of writing skills in the classroom. In education, especially in writing subjects, the students learn to write a simple sentence to express their self to practice the subject that they have learn before. Such as take a note, create an opinion, essay, letter, and poetry. All those things need to a practice first and the teacher become a guide for the students to learn. The teachers have to explain and give an example for the students before asking to practice.

To practice writing in the classroom is not an easy thing to do, because writing is a productive skill. Harmer (2007) explained that there are two kinds of productive skill in learning English, speaking and writing. It means the students need to produced language use their imagination, ideas, feeling and opinion when they start to write something.

To support the writing skill the student need to follow a tool to study. Textbook is very needed in the learning process. Yulianti (2011) argues that textbook is an instructional material which consist of content and material of the subject and has a great contribution for teaching and learning process. In the textbook, there are many writing task as to help the students to practice their writing skill. Textbook have a big impact on the learning process. Therefore, the good component of task on the textbook can support the teacher to teach and achieve the aim of learning. Briefly, textbook also can help students to understand the material in the classroom easily.

Nowadays, to find a compatible textbook that appropriate with the component of the task is not easy. The teacher should be able to establish the textbook that have compatible material to use for students. according to Longman(as cited in Nunan, 2004, p. 2), a tasks refers to all the things and activity one performs every day at work, at play and even in between. In conclusion, those reasons were enough to motivate the teacher to select a good textbook that can be used in English Language teaching in the classroom or course.

From the explanation above, the researcher interested to conduct this research. There are some reasons why the researcher encourages choose this topic. First, because writing is one of the four skills in English teaching and learning that have to be mastered by the students. So, the students need to learn writing task from the beginning to get prepare and practice well. Second, textbook is an important aspect of teaching and learning process. Textbook can be the support for the teacher to teach the task well and save the teacher time to find kinds of task.

Concerning to this, some researcher had conducted research about writing task. The first by Dita Ayu Prastian's thesis (2014) with the tittle "*An Analysis of Writing Task of English Textbook Entitled Bright for the Seventh Grade students of Junior High School*". The researcher took this study because it has the resemble title about analyze the writing task but different book and method. The second by Ambarwati (2014) in her study, she found the percentage of writing exercise provided in "Talk Active" is 71, 43 %, it means that the writing exercise is good and developing the writing skill.

In conclusion, based on the background the researcher wants to analyze the English textbook and focuses on the writing task. In this study, the researcher use the textbook publish by Erlangga entitled "*English On Sky I*" for the seventh grade students of junior high school. This book was designed based on the 2013 curriculum. Before use this book, the researcher did preliminary study by interviewing teacher at SMPN 2 Muara Enim. Based on their response related to the textbook that used in the school, this book are used as a second book in their

school to teaching and learning. So the researcher decides to conduct a research paper entitled “*An Analysis on Writing Task in the English Textbook “English On Sky I” for the Seventh Grade Students of Junior High School*”.

1.1 Problem of the Study

Based on the background above, the researcher found some problems as follow:

1. What were the types of tasks in the English textbook “*English On Sky I*” based on criteria suggested by Raimes?

1.2 Objective of the Study

Based on the research problems, the objective of this study are:

1. To find out whether the writing task provided in English textbook entitled “*English On Sky I*” suitable with the criteria suggested by Raimes.

1.3 Significance of the Study

The result of this research may increase the knowledge in the field of education in general and English language education especially. This research is expected to give some contributions to the science, especially language studies. For the students, this research can help students in choosing a writing exercise from English textbook to improve their writing skill. For the teachers, this research can give a reference to select suitable English textbook in term of writing exercise in the teaching process. For the publisher, it is hope that in arranging a textbook, they will present materials and exercises which appropriate with the ideal of textbook’s materials especially in writing. For the researcher, this

research is expected to be used as a reference for other in writing exercise analysis. For the institution, this research is expected to help students in general to develop their English capabilities, so the institutions get the achievement and prestige among the education institution.