

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the background of the research, scope of the research, statement of the problem, objective of the research, and significance of the research.

A. Background of the Research

The use of language in communication consists of two kinds, namely spoken language and written language. The language used in communicating both verbally and in writing appears in all activities that take place in each of our daily lives, such as education, religion, commerce, politics, and children. English is an international language used almost all over the world, and in Indonesia English is used as a language in relations with all countries in this era of globalization. In fact, people use language to express their ideas and desires. English has become the language used by many people around the world to connect and share with others. Therefore, people should read and master English to gain broader knowledge, information, and technology.

In language learning, there are four skills that students must master. The four skills include listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills. The four skills are always related to each other and reading and listening skills are receptive skills, while speaking and writing are productive skills.

Written is one of the language skills that must be taught to students and writing skill has a very important position and role in everyday life. Writing skill is a requirement to engage in various fields of activities that take place. To reach the competency standards of the learning process of language and literature, it is not just teaching about literary theories but students are also required to express their thoughts, ideas, opinions, and feelings through written works as creative writing, in this case can be in the form of essays of poetry, short stories, novels, and others through the process of describing all forms of observations based on desires.

According to Lubis (2014), writing is an activity for producing and expressing, it is producing the words and sentences then it expressing with the meaning of ideas, thus writing skill is the activity to transfer the ideas through words and sentences the idea will change to scientific.

In addition to gaining knowledge about theory, students are also required to think about thoughts, ideas, opinions, which are written in a text through creative writing, in this case, it can be a process of describing something contained in the image of all forms of observation based on desire.

Writing skill is not something that can be taught through explanation solely, students will not acquire writing skill just by sitting down, listening to the teacher explanation, and noting the teacher explanation. Writing skill can be improved by doing writing activities continuously so that it will affect student results and achievement of students in writing. Results and achievements can be increased if

there are changes in students' attitudes and behaviors both in the knowledge aspect, but also psychomotor. A few students experience obstacles in developing their writing skill. This is also experienced by the English Students Language Program. The obstacles are that their imagination is still lacking, diction used in writing is less varied, difficulty in determining the theme, and less able to develop ideas. According to Linse (2005) stated writing is productive skills because the focus is on producing information. However when they are writing, they clearly have more time to think about what they want to say than they are speaking

B. Scope of the Research

Based on the background of the research above, this research focuses on students' perceptions of using pictures in descriptive writing at the English Language Education Study Program of Khairun University Ternate.

C. Statement of the Problem

Based on the above background, the research problem can be formulated as follows: What are the students' perceptions of using pictures in descriptive writing at the English Language Education Study Program of Khairun University.

D. Objective of the Research

The objective of this research is to know the students' perceptions of using pictures in descriptive writing at the English Language Education Study Program of Khairun University.

E. Significance of the Research

1. Theoretical Significance.

The results of this research are expected to contribute to existing theories concerning the use of pictures in descriptive writing.

2. Practical Significance.

It is hoped that the research results can be useful for teachers, students, and prospective researchers.

- a. The results of this study are expected to benefit teachers and lecturers to improve students' writing of descriptive text in using pictures.
- b. The research results are also expected to improve students' grammar, vocabulary, punctuation, capitalization, cohesion, and coherences so that their descriptive writing would be better by using pictures.
- c. Research results are expected to be a reference for other researchers who will conduct further research in the same topic.