

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of Study

English is the language most widely used by almost all people in the world. As an international language, English has very important position to help people a lot in communicating with different people around the world that used their own language. English is one of the languages used for communication in the world and it is the most popular language (Lucantoni, 2006, p.3). Indonesia as a developing country has realized that English as an international language that Indonesian people needs to be master.

In Indonesia, English also has an important role in education. It is not only a kind of subject that should be known and mastered by students in the classroom, but also is taught in every level of education beginning from Elementary School, Junior High School, Senior High School to university or colleges. Even, some universities have English Department. Due to this fact, students should have sufficient competencies in mastering the four skills of English; those are listening, speaking, reading and writing (Alexander, 1975, p.8). The four language skills are divided into two groups, passive and active. Harmer says that listening and reading skills are passive skills of language (receptive skills), while speaking and writing skills are active skills of language (productive skills) (Harmer,

2001, p.199). Each skill has its difficulty, some people think that writing is the most difficult skill.

Writing is a means to communicate indirectly not conveyed orally. It has many benefits in revealing a variety of desires, feelings and thoughts (Ahmad Izzani, 2008, p.90). Writing in the English language is the ultimate goal of language study. It uses all the skills of listening, speaking and reading the text, using of vocabulary, idioms, and grammar to express ideas and messages.

From the explanation above, writing is a process activity in expressing the concepts, ideas or opinions. Because of the importance of writing, Allah said in Surah Al-Alaq verse 4-5 as follows:

الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ (٤) عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَم (٥)

The verses explained that Allah commanded people, particularly Moslems to read and study science in the form of writing. In written form, Allah has taught them what they do not know.

There are many materials in writing, one of them is summary. Summary is a brief explanation of a story or piece of writing. A summary is a condensed version of a large reading. A summary is not a rewrite of the original piece and does not have to be long nor should it be short. To write a summary, the writer uses his or her own words to express briefly the main idea and relevant details of the piece the writer has read.

In summarizing or making a summary of the article, students felt difficult because of many aspects. They felt difficult to understand the

meaning of the article, wrong word choice, and also had many mistakes in grammar. Even, they may have wrong capitalization letter in their summary. It means that they find some difficulties to summarize the article, particularly about using capitalization. There are still many who make mistakes in capitalization.

Capitalization means some letters are capitalized in handwritten or typed writing computer, such as name of people or things, first word of sentence, initials used in names and abbreviations of well-known organizations, etc. However, some students do errors of capitalization in writing. Capitalization error means the letter that should be written in capital letters but it is not written in capital letter. Otherwise, the letter should not be written in capital letter but it is written in capital letter.

When the sixth semester students were summarizing articles in Academic Writing course, they felt difficult in many aspects. Some felt difficult to understand the meaning of the article, some of them felt difficult in grammar, and other difficulties. None of them is concerned about whether he or she made the correct capitalization or not. They just pay attention to the content of their summary and also the grammar. However, the students should write according to the rules that have been specified, one of which is the capitalization.

Also, there were still some other capitalization errors made by the sixth semester students of the academic year 2015/2016. They still went wrong in writing capitalization. Some students forgot with capitalization

rules, they focused in the content and grammar of writing. Ideally, they should make the correct capitalization since they had learned English for years. The researcher conducted the research in May-December 2016 in English Department of IAIN Antasari Banjarmasin at Jl. A. Yani Km.4. In May through June to collect the data, in October through December to analyze the data

Related to this title, the writer got previous research. There was a thesis with similar idea, written by Anggaraini Novianti (2011) entitled, **An Analysis on the Ability of Using Capitalization and Punctuation in Paragraph Writing of The Eight Grade Students at MTs Ashri Jember in the 2010/2011 Academic Year.** Comparing with this thesis, the writer finds similarity and difference with the topic that will be researched.

The similarity is both the writer and Anggraini Novianti chose capitalization as the topic. Besides, the difference is that the writer wants to know what capitalization errors are made by the sixth semester students in summarizing articles at IAIN Antasari Banjarmasin, while Anggraini Novianti wanted to know the students' ability in using capitalization and punctuation in paragraph writing of the eighth grade students at MTs Ashri Jember.

Realizing that the sixth semester students of English Department will graduate and almost become as future English teachers, they are expected to have good English skill, listening, speaking reading and

writing. More particular, they write English to finish their study for the final project, writing a thesis.

Therefore, according to the phenomenon and explanation mentioned above, the writer is interested in conducting research with the title: **“THE CAPITALIZATION ERRORS MADE BY THE SIXTH SEMESTER STUDENTS OF ENGLISH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IN SUMMARIZING ARTICLES AT IAIN ANTASARI BANJARMASIN IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2016/2017”**. It will answer what capitalization errors made by the students in summarizing articles are and what the most common capitalization error made by students in summarizing articles is.

## **B. Statement of Problems**

Based on the background above, the writer formulated the statement of the problem as follows:

1. What are capitalization errors made by the sixth semester students of English Education Department in summarizing articles?
2. What is the most common capitalization error made by the sixth semester students of English Education Department in summarizing articles?

## **C. Objectives of Study**

Based on the formulation above, there are two purposes of this research:

1. To know capitalization errors made by the sixth semester students of English Education Department in summarizing articles.
2. To know the most common capitalization error made by the sixth semester students of English Education Department in summarizing articles.

#### **D. Significance of Study**

The result of this research is expected to have advantages, such as:

1. Enriching the writer's knowledge and experience in this specific research.
2. Giving information and knowledge regarding the importance of capitalization errors.
3. Giving valuable contribution for all English teachers in the English Department to improve the teaching and learning English.
4. Being consideration and an input for educational administrators to increase and to improve quality of teaching writing.
5. Providing information and considerations for future researchers.
6. Enriching literary source of the IAIN Antasari library.

#### **E. Definition of Key Terms**

There some terms are used in this research. In order to avoid misinterpretation of them, some terms are defined as follows:

1. Capitalization is the use of uppercase or capital letters in the text.
2. Error (from the Latin *error*, meaning "wandering") is an action which is inaccurate or incorrect.
3. Summarizing is defined as taking a lot of information and creating a condensed version that covers the main points.
4. Article is a written composition in prose, usually nonfiction, on a specific topic, forming an independent part of a book or other publication, as a newspaper or magazine.
5. Sixth semester students of English Education Department are the students who actively learn at the semester six in the department in academic year 2015/2016.

Thus, the meaning of the title in my thesis is the incorrect capitalizations made by the sixth semester students of English Education Department in summarizing articles.