CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of study

Language is a means of communication among individuals. It is a system of sounds which is structured and is used to communicate people’s feelings, intentions, purpose, etc to the other. It is a special characteristics of human beings, because only human beings speak a language. Nevertheless, the ability to speak a language should be developed in a social group. This is line with what Quran has stated in surah Ar-Rum verse 22, as follows :

The verse explains that Allah created language for mankind in order to communicate between one and another. He creates many languages for different groups of people so each has their own language. Hence, all languages have the same function that is used for communication in the social community.

There are various languages in the world that people use to communicate. One of them is English. English is used for many purposes around the world. There are many reasons why it is important to learn. The most common reason is because of its role as a language of international communication. It is used in various aspects, such as transportation, commerce, banking, tourism, and education.
In learning English there are four language skills. They are listening, reading, speaking and writing. Listening and reading belong to receptive skills in which the language users require the ability to receive spoken and written language. Speaking and writing belong to productive skills in which the language users require the ability produce the language both spoken and written. (Harmer, 1983, p. 44).

Students’ ability in communication refers to two ways of communication. These are oral and written communication. Both of them are important to be mastered. The oral communication is used for communication directly, and the written communication is used for the passive or indirect communication. Although the oral communication is dominant, the written communication, also has important role. Today, there are many kinds of communication in writing such as writing documents, letters, books, and even in writing a message via mobile phone.

Writing is an important skill in English language learning. Writing skill is useful for human to make good and smooth communication. In, general, it can be said as a way to express ideas, feeling, and thought in written form. By writing, a writer can tell the message and information to readers. Myles 2002, p. 12) states that writing is an English skill which needs an effort and much practice in composing, developing and analyzing ideas. Because of the importance of writing, Allah said in Surah Al-Alaq verse 4-5 as follows:

According to Jacob (1981, p.90), there are at least five general components found in writing. As follows:
(1) Content, the writing is knowledge, substantive, and relevant to assigned topic; (2) Organization, the writing contains about fluent expression, the idea clearly stated / supported, well organize and cohesive. It is also shows a clear relationship between the main idea and supporting sentence;(3) Vocabulary, the writing consist of effective words, the words from mastery and appropriate register; (4) Language use, the choice of structures and lexical items gives a particular tone or flavor to the writing; (5) Mechanics, the use of the graphics convention of the language, it includes the use of capitalization, spelling and punctuation.

A good ability in writing means having a good ability in vocabulary, grammar, spelling, punctuation besides the content and the organization of writing. The rules of grammar help to govern the way writing takes place, and ensure that it can be easily understood by people who read it.

In writing, the students usually make many mistakes even in grammar, structure, and the content. Most mistakes that they have made are often found in writing activities such as writing in note taking. The mistake that the students make when write note taking like forget to write punctuation in their note. Sometimes, they also write the sentence between subject and verb is not appropriate.

Based on the statement, it shows that the writing needs accuracy in conveying someone’s thought or idea. Because of that, writing is not an easy task for students to do; even it is in writing some sentences. This is indicate by the excessive number of common errors in writing note taking made by the seventh semester students at English department of UIN Antasari academic year 2016/2017. The common errors that they made like spelling in writing, grammar and punctuation.
Oxford Dictionary (2008, p 494) defined that error is “doing something a mistake, especially one that causes problems or affects the result of something”. Note taking is the practice of recording information captured from another source. By taking notes, the writer records the essence of the information, freeing their mind from having to recall everything. By using the correct note taking, it can help the students to enable you to avoid unintentional plagiarism, helps students to focus on what is important in what students are reading or hearing, help students to understand and remember material, and make connections.

The researcher chooses writing skill for this research, because writing is productive skill. As foreign language learners, the students should be able to organize ideas, to clarify the concepts and to absorb the process of information. It makes the students more active rather than passive receivers of information. The students are required to write effectively and producing good sentences, paragraphs and even good text.

The researcher chooses note taking for this research, because it will help the students to avoid plagiarism and to make them easy to understand the material. Also the benefit for students when write note taking for helping the student to think about course content in such a way to better understand it upon later review. The researcher is interested in doing this research at UIN Anatasari Banjarmasin, because it is one of universities in South Kalimantan which has English Department, and the time is flexible for many students to choose program there. The researcher chooses the seventh semester students because they had learned about note taking in Academic Writing class. The researcher chooses spelling,
grammar and punctuation in note taking because by using the correct spelling, grammar also punctuation it can help the meaning of their writing easy to understand when the student read it later.

Related to this title, the researcher got some previous researches. There are some thesis with similar idea. The first one is a thesis by Bayan Ezzedeen AL-Askhar (2013/2014). Untitled “The influence of Note Taking on Improving Students Academic Achievement from English anf TEFL Majors at An-Najah National University.” The writer found the similarity and the difference in this research. The similarity is the researcher analyzes about note taking. The difference in this research is the data were collected from, questionnaire. The finding of the data analysis showed 95.55% of the students’ respon confirm that note taking is beneficial for students in several ways that result in improving their academic achievement.

The second similar study had been done by Ferit Derya (2010) in his work “The Effect in Writing of Note Taking on University Students’ from listening the Lecture”. The writer found the similarity and the difference in this research. The similarity is the researcher analyzes about note taking in writing. The difference in this research is the researcher is quasi – experimental study. The study includes threee research questions mentioned in the first chapter. Questions 1 and 2 are answered in the second chapter. Chapter 4 will deal with questions 3. He identify (100 % agreed) participants’ responses that they felt at ease if allowed to take notes while listening to lectures. Also 86.4 % believed that taking notes helped to
understand the lecture. 68 % agreed that they remembered enough of the lesson that the teacher gives by writing note taking.

Based on the explanation above, this study is conducted to analyze the common errors in writing note taking made by the seventh semester students of English Department at UIN Antasari. The research is entitled: *Common Errors in Writing Note Taking Made by the Seventh Semester of English Department at UIN Antasari Academic Year 2017 / 2018*.

**B. Statement of Problem**

Based on background of study that was explained above, there are two problems the researcher will identify which is in the researcher be formulated:

1. What are the errors in writing note taking made by the seventh semester of English Department at Antasari State Islamic University Academic year 2017/2018?
2. What is the most students’ common error in writing note taking made by the seventh semester of English Department at Antasari State Islamic University Academic year 2017/2018?

**C. Objective of Study**

Regarding to the formulation above, there are two purposes of this research:

1. To describe the common errors in writing note taking of the seventh semester of English Department at Antasari State Islamic University Academic year 2017/2018
2. To describe the most students’ common error in writing note taking made by the seventh semester of English Department at Antasari State Islamic University academic year 2017/2018.

D. Significance of Study

The significances of research here are to give some advantages to thereepoints:

1. For the students, the researcher expected that the students, especially the seventh semester students can get some benefit from the researcher to improve their note taking skill.

2. For the lecturer, it can help the teacher to prepare the English Writing material.

3. For writer, to enrich her knowledge about English language skill and the finding of this research can be used as valuable information for the next researchers who are interested in conduction research on similar object or other objects.

E. Definition of Key Terms

In this study, the researcher needs to define some key terms to avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation. The definition of terms is provided as follows:

1. Common is usual or familiar, happening or found often and in many places. Based on Oxford Dictionary defines common as “shared or used by two or more people” (Oxford Dictionary, 2008, p. 84) in this research the researcher wants to know the student’s common error in writing note taking.
2. Error Refers to failure to use the language system correctly caused by some factors such as carelessness, memory lapses, and physical condition. Errors that the researcher means in this study based on Corder, in which errors can be described as omission, addition, selecting and ordering.

3. Writing is one of the language skills which is used for medium of communication, especially indirect communication. Writing is one way to express human’s ideas, opinions and thoughts about everything in mind around them.

4. Note taking is the practice of recording information captured from another source. By taking notes, the writer records the essence of the information, freeing their mind from having to recall everything. According to Ward and Tatsukawa (2003, p. 59) note-taking has two functions. First, the notes produced are useful when reviewing. Second, the process of note-taking itself helps students learn the material.