

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Rationale

Technology and knowledge development that continuously improve has brought human to modern civilization and it makes human must improve themselves, so they can be able to compete in this era. They can be reached challenge by having good skill and competence globally. All of those have the source of education.

Education is one of the very important components in developing our country. By education, people can achieve this goal. One of the goals of education is to form an educated people who have good personality, knowledge, skill, and the other aspect.

Education in the largest sense is any act or experience that has a formative effect on the mind, character or physical ability of an individual. In its technical sense, education is the process by which society deliberately transmits its accumulated knowledge, skills and values from one generation to another.<sup>1</sup>

It is not easy to get a good education without hard work and guidance from all parts, whether from teacher, parents. It is known that in education occurs a teaching learning process where there is an activity to transfer or give knowledge,

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<sup>1</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Education>

skill, and experience to students. One of the tools to communicate among human is language.

Language is one of communication instruments especially among human beings. Language is an intimate part of social identity.<sup>2</sup> By using language we can communicate with each others. Besides, language is used to express the idea, mind, opinion and feeling, each orally or written to others. Murcia and Meintosh in their book *Teaching English as a second or foreign language*, stated: “the essence of language of human activity, activity on the part of one individual to make him understood by another, and activity on the part of the other to understand what was on the mind of the first”.<sup>3</sup>

Jeremy Harmer in his book *The Practice of English Language Teaching* said that “Language is a way to communicate ideas comprehensibly from one person to another that can be used to convey thoughts, ideas, or instructions. We can see that language can help to shape thinking can also to shape the language.”<sup>4</sup>

Basically, the different languages use different devices for showing the relationship of one word to another. The people in the world use different languages for communication in different situation according to their culture and society. They use the language as a system of communication by using sounds,

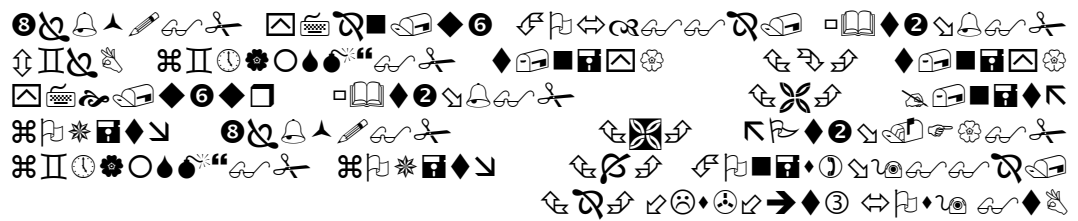
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<sup>2</sup> Sandra Lee, McKay, *Sociolinguistics and Language Teaching*, (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1996), p.3

<sup>3</sup> Marianne Celce-Murcia and Lois Meintosh, *Teaching English a Second Language*, ( Los Angeles: Newbury Hruse Publishers, Inc. 1954) p. 183

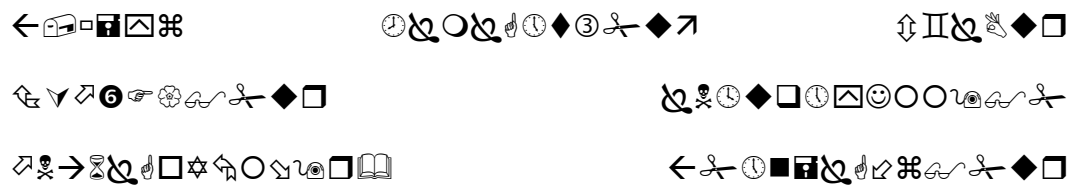
<sup>4</sup> Jeremy Harmer, *The Practice Of English Language Teaching* ,Third Edition,( San Fransisco: San Fransisco State University), p.72

symbols, or words in expressing meaning, idea, thought or feeling.<sup>5</sup> These differences of languages show that Allah the Almighty, as the Creator and the Master of this world and all everything for happiness of human being orders people to study His verses in this world, as Allah the Almighty said in the holly Koran, surah Al-Alaq verse 1-5 :



This verse explained about obligatory for learning and teaching. It is known that to get the knowledge, someone have to communicate each other, and to communicate they need a language. So, Language is not only used for interaction with another but also used to communicate, share the information and develop sciences and technology.

There are many languages in the world that we use to communicate. It's suitable with the verse of the holy Qur'an, Ar-Ruum: 22 below that there are many different languages in the world:



<sup>5</sup> [http://www.Unixl.com/dir/education/languages/language\\_definition/](http://www.Unixl.com/dir/education/languages/language_definition/). Retrieved on Saturday, 8th of January 2011, 21.00.



One of the languages is English. English is an International Language and one of important languages and a lot of used in the world. It has some reason, first, English has function as scientific key, because a lot of science is written in English and also important book both for studying exact and social science. Second, English is medium language among of national, so that no wonder if a lot of national learning English.<sup>6</sup> So, English has strong reason to be used as an international language.

In Indonesia, English is a second language. It has very essential position in communication among people. English is introduced as a compulsory subject to be taught from the 1th year of Junior High School, Senior High school and as a local content subject in Elementary school.

Henry Guntur Tarigan states that there are four skills which must be developed and mastered by students. The four skills are listening, speaking, writing and reading<sup>7</sup>.

Writing activity is one of the crucial things for students but many people say that writing activity is the difficult one, because we can't write when we don't have enough knowledge especially in grammar and vocabulary. According to Omaggio Hadley, 1993, the ability to write well is not a naturally acquired skill; it

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<sup>6</sup> Elan Dwi Winarto, *Belajar Cepat Bahasa Inggris*, (Jakarta: Pustaka Belajar, 2006), p 1

<sup>7</sup> Henry Guntur Tarigan, *Membaca sebagai suatu keterampilan berbahasa*, (Bandung Angkasa, 1985)

is usually learned or culturally transmitted as a set of practices in formal instructional settings or other environments. Writing skills must be practiced and learned through experience. Writing also involves composing, which implies the ability either to tell or retell pieces of information in the form of narratives or description, or to transform information into new texts, as in expository or argumentative writing. Perhaps it is best viewed as a continuum of activities that range from the more mechanical or formal aspects of "writing down" on the one end, to the more complex act of composing on the other end.<sup>8</sup>

Writing has many components such as, grammar, vocabulary, coherence, and spelling. Grammar especially part of speech is one of problem faced by students in mastering of English. One aspect of grammar is preposition.

Preposition are part of the grammar of each language. In English some of these are used to indicate the location of people and objects. In this case, this is called a preposition of place. Even those who speak native English have difficulty with this concept at the time, so it should not be a surprise to students of English as a second language when they have problems in terms of their mother tongue. This is due to the fact that there are not many rules for the use of prepositions in English sentences.<sup>9</sup>

Preposition is one aspect of grammar. Preposition had many kinds and types. One of them is preposition of place. It often found on descriptive paragraph. Today, it's one of problems faced by students in using preposition.

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<sup>8</sup> Omaggio Hadley, A. (1993). *Teaching language in context*. Boston: Heinle & Heinle

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.onlinelearningnest.com/common-mistakes-in-learning-a-proposed-place/>

Based on the writer's observation, the students elementary 3 LBPP-LIA Banjarmasin had English well. But, at the first interview to the English teacher, he said that grammar especially preposition becomes a serious problem to his students.

For students who learn English, they often get confused and make error when using preposition in sentence. These errors using preposition often had found on writing.

In learning English, students' factors, facility, environment and teacher factors are important factors that can influence the students to mastering English.

All of the reasons above the writer motivated to hold a research, especially to know how far the students' ability in using preposition of place on writing descriptive paragraph at elementary 3 LBPP-LIA Banjarmasin.

Based on the background information above, the writer interested to make research entitle "THE ABILITY IN USING PREPOSITION OF PLACE ON WRITING DESCRIPTIVE PARAGRAPH OF STUDENTS ELEMENTARY ENCOUNTER 3 AT LBPP-LIA BANJARMASIN"

To avoid any misinterpretation toward the title, the writer will explain some terms in the title as follows:

1. Ability is the power, knowledge, etc to do something or a skill. Students' ability meant that the students have skill to do something. In this research

especially is the ability in using preposition of place on writing descriptive paragraph.

2. Preposition is aspect of grammar that usually used to connect the word and can be used to show where something is located. Here means the aspect of language.
3. Writing is activity of write. Here means the skill of English
4. Descriptive is intending to describe something. Here means kind of the text/paragraph.

#### **B. Reason For Choosing the Title**

Some of the reasons that the writer choose based on the title as follows:

1. Realize that English is very important language that used as international language. The most frequently used in modern science and technology.
2. Grammar (especially preposition) is one of the important aspect has to be mastered by students so they can communicate in English easily.
3. The use of prepositions is very difficult, so that the students encounter some difficulties in learning English.
4. The students' of elementary encounter 3 LBPP-LIA Banjarmasin attempted to know the ability of students in using preposition of place on writing descriptive paragraph.

#### **C. Statements of the Problem**

Based on the background above, the writer formulates the problem is follows:

1. How is the students' ability in using preposition of place on writing descriptive paragraph?
2. What are the students' common errors in using preposition of place on writing descriptive paragraph of students elementary encounter 3 LBPP-LIA Banjarmasin?

#### **D. Purposes of the Research**

Based on the problem above, there are two purposes that writer has:

1. To know the students' ability in using preposition of place on writing descriptive paragraph.
2. To know the common errors in using preposition of place on writing descriptive paragraph of students elementary encounter 3 at LBPP-LIA Banjarmasin.

#### **E. Significance of the Research**

The research result hoped can be:

1. Give the writer knowledge about the ability of students Elementary Encounter 3 LBPP LIA in using preposition of place on writing descriptive paragraph.
2. As an input for English teachers at LBPP-LIA Banjarmasin to improve and develop English teaching learning process well.



3. Give basic information for other researchers who want to do the same research in more enriched one.

#### **F. The Outline of the Study**

The writer endeavors to organize the research contents as follows:

Chapter I : Introduction; which consists of rationale, reason for choosing the topic, statement of the problem, purposes of the research, significance of the research, and the outline of the study.

Chapter II : Theoretical review; which consist of the definitions of preposition, the kinds of preposition, the functions of preposition, the definition of writing, definition of descriptive paragraph, the influential factors of students' ability in using preposition of place on writing descriptive paragraph.

Chapter III : Method of the research; which consist of the subject and object research, data and source data, technique of collecting data, procedure of collecting data and research procedure.

Chapter IV : General description of the research location, data presentation, and data analysis.

Chapter V : Closure; which consist of conclusions and the suggestions.