

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consist of background of study, research questions, objective of study, significance of study, and definition of key terms.

A. Background of Study

Plagiarism is a critical problem in academic field and potentially lead to criminal acts. The rapid development of technology, especially the internet, has made it easier for students to browse many written works from various sources and it is very possible for them to plagiarize, so that plagiarism is commonly occur in student assignments. According to Park (2003), plagiarism is defined as the act of adopting someone's work without giving credit to the original author. Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty and is an unethical act. As mentioned in surah Al-Baqarah verse 188:

وَلَا تَأْكُلُوا أَمْوَالَكُمْ بَيْنَكُمْ بِالْبُطْلِ وَتُدْخِلُوا بِهَا إِلَى الْحُكَّامِ لِتَأْكُلُوا فَرِيقًا مِّنْ أَمْوَالِ النَّاسِ بِالْإِثْمِ وَأَنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ

This verse contains an explanation regarding the prohibition of taking other people's rights in a false way. Like the act of plagiarism, which is taking someone else's work without permission and claiming it as one's own, which is an act that violates the law and should not be tolerated.

As humans, we have an obligation to remind other humans to prevent unlawful acts, such as the plagiarism referred to in this research. As mentioned in Surah Ali 'Imran verse 104:

وَلْتَكُنْ مِنْكُمْ أُمَّةٌ يَدْعُونَ إِلَى الْخَيْرِ وَيَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَيَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ

This verse emphasizes the importance of encouraging good deeds and discouraging bad deeds. As previously explained, plagiarism is considered a form of dishonesty and a bad act that should be prevented. Therefore, Muslims must avoid plagiarism and promote academic integrity.

Plagiarism has several forms, as classified by Shidarta (2011) are verbatim plagiarism, patch-work plagiarism, paraphrase plagiarism, keyword plagiarism, and idea plagiarism. In addition, (Nugraha et al., 2018) classified plagiarism into 3 categories: 1) totally copy-paste; 2) totally copy-paste from mentioned author; and 3) copy-paste and deleting or changing few of original words. Regardless, all the form of plagiarism is wrong if do not giving credit to the original author. The students must have committed one of the forms of plagiarism mentioned intentionally or unintentionally because of their lack of knowledge about the plagiarism concept.

Plagiarism can occur due to several factors. In addition to the technological development, many students are lazy, under pressure to get high grades, or they feel they do not have enough time to complete assignments so they choose the alternative by stealing someone else's work and claiming it is theirs. Students commit the act of plagiarism consciously even though they know that it is a disgraceful act. Even though the lecturer has warned students not to plagiarize, the fear that students will get low grades or fail makes the practice of plagiarism continue. Much of the plagiarism is caused by student confusion over academic discourse standards and how to cite properly. Lecturers will be more successful in overcoming this problem by helping and

teaching students how to avoid plagiarism during writing lessons in class, but plagiarism remains a problem that continues to occur because the causal factors are not only about writing problems and how to cite (Wilhoit, 1994).

In Indonesia, there are still many universities that ignore the problem of plagiarism, where lecturers do not consider this a serious problem. Even though there are still many students who have poor academic skills in terms of literature search and citations. To reduce cases of plagiarism, efforts and support from various parties are needed, such as the academic community, lecturers, and the students themselves. Lack of control over the practice of plagiarism makes students more flexible in committing this academic dishonesty (Patak et al., 2021).

Regarding the issue of plagiarism, many studies have been conducted. Several studies mostly aimed to find out how students' perceptions of plagiarism like the study conducted by Amiri and Razmjoo (2016), Alimorand (2018), Khoii and Atefi (2019), Fitria (2020), which focus on students' perception and exploring factor influencing the plagiarism without including the solution to prevent the plagiarism itself. The studies about teachers' perception have done by Hu & Sun (2016) and Hu & Shen (2020) in Chinese university context. Both studies were focusing on teachers' perception and knowledge towards students' plagiarism. Other researches were done by Nugraha et al. (2020), Patak et al. (2020), and Amelia (2020) which are discussed about the solutions to prevent students' plagiarism. Based on the previous research mentioned above, researchers found a gap that required research that investigates plagiarism

specifically regarding the factors that influence students in committing plagiarism and the strategies they applied to avoid plagiarism, that focuses on students' perspectives and experiences.

English Education Study Program of UIN Antasari Banjarmasin implementing plagiarism checking using the Turnitin application for students who want to submit a thesis proposal. The maximum plagiarism rate is 25 percent and students who exceed the maximum limit are required to revise their proposals before continuing to the next steps. This is an effort to minimize plagiarism in writing thesis. Therefore, researcher wanted to know what factors that cause students to commit plagiarism, whether intentionally or unintentionally, and what strategies they apply to avoid plagiarism.

This research was conducted on students of English Education Study Program at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin, who were working on a thesis proposal and this research used qualitative methods and collected the data through questionnaire and interview.

B. Research Questions

Based on the background of study above, the questions of this study would be discussed are as follows:

1. What are the factors that influence the students in committing plagiarism?
2. What are the strategies applied by the students to avoid plagiarism?

C. Objectives of Study

The aim for this study as follows:

1. To identify the factors that influence the students in committing plagiarism.
2. To find out the strategies applied by students to avoid plagiarism.

D. Significance of Study

This research is hoped can bring benefits for researcher, EFL lecturers, and the students. The significance of this study as follow:

1. This research is expected to be a reference and provide useful information for future research in the same field.
2. For lecturers, this study is hoped can give new information about students' plagiarism and can provide the new strategies to prevent plagiarism in the future.
3. For students, this study is hoped can help students to increase their knowledge and awareness about plagiarism and decrease their plagiarism level in writing.

E. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding in this research, the definition of key terms as follows:

1. Influence

Influence is a force that can come from objects, people, or actions that have an effect on the occurrence of something. In this research, influence is something that causes plagiarism to occur.

2. Factors

The factors in this research are the circumstances or reason that make students to commit plagiarism. Factors can include difficulties experienced by students in working on their thesis proposals, which can lead them to plagiarism.

3. Strategies

The strategy referred to in this research is the efforts that students have made to avoid plagiarism so that they can pass the Turnitin plagiarism test. Strategies can be in the form of unique ways or methods that students use in writing to avoid plagiarism.

4. Plagiarism

According to Park (2003), plagiarism is defined as the act of adopting someone's work without giving credit to the original author.