

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

There are many languages used for communication in the world, so it is important to learn other languages in order to make the same understanding when they communicate each other. It is related with the Holy Qur'an:

كُمِّنْ لِّتَعَارَفُوا أَقْبَابَ لِّ شُعُوبًا وَجَعَلْتَكُمْ وَأَنْتَى ذَكَرٍ مِّنْ خَلَقْتَكُمْ إِنَّا النَّاسُ يُتَأَمُّونَ

﴿١٣﴾ خَبِيرٌ عَلِيمٌ إِنَّ اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ عِنْدَ أَكْرَمِ

English is considered as the first foreign language that must be taught in Indonesia. It is learned at Elementary School, Junior High School, Senior High School, and University. English is also fixed as compulsory subject. English has function as a means to develop their knowledge skills and attitudes in the area of science, technology, art and culture. They are expected to participate in the development of our nation.

English is a foreign language which has four language skills that should be developed and mastered by English of foreign language learners. The skills are listening, speaking, reading and writing. All of

those skills have their own way to master them; Alexander (1975), in his book “*Practice and Progress*” states that the students must be trained adequately in all four basic languages.

The ability to write is important to teach the writing can be a tool to convey opinion, ideas, and messages to the reader with a specific purpose. Besides, writing can explain and describe something that can't explain in oral situation.

Writing activities can be a medium or a tool for learning language component. In writing skills student asked to apply knowledge of grammar, sentence structure, idioms and vocabulary. Also, students are given the opportunity to explore the language they are studying.

Writing is regarded as the most difficult skill for foreign language learners to master because it involves several components which need to be considered while the learners are writing, such as content, organization and vocabulary, language use and punctuation. So it depends on the teacher how the way and design to motivate and make their student interested in teaching and learning writing. Through writing poetry is one of the ways to improve writing skill.

Some people think that writing poetry is the difficult activity in writing activity. For some students, it needs extra potential and extra thinking in writing poem. It is not simple to combine some words into a beautiful sentence with large meaning. Poem is a piece of writing in

which the words are chosen for their beauty and sound. Through poetry student express the feels imaginatively.

Related to development of writing poetry skill. Usage of poetry devises is one of important factors to write a poetry, a part of poetry devise discussed in this thesis is diction choice . Lennon (1996,p. 223) assumes that poetry tends to use word intensively, not simply intensive, and poetic diction for all its richnesses is in some way more constrained than other diction. And Whitworth (2006, p. 30) states that the poetry are not made out of ideas, they made out of words – the truest saying about poetry and the most useful to know. Many bad poetry have come about because the writer did not know it.

In reality, many students still have difficulties in understanding poetry written by English poets, even more in understanding diction and theme. This problem usually caused by some factors, suck aslack of vocabulary and less understand about literatures knowledge.

Based on the reasons above the writer's interested in this problem and want conduct a research at fourth semester of English Department of Antasari State Institute of Islamic Studies Banjarmasin which take Literature as a subject of lessonentitle: THE STUDENTS' ABILITY IN UNDERSTANDING DICTION OF POETRY AT FOURTH SEMESTER OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT OF ANTASARI STATE INSTITUTE FORISLAMIC STUDIES BANJARMASIN.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Base on the central problem that serves as starting of research, the writer will investigate how the student's ability in understanding diction of poetry at fourth semester of English Department of Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin Academic Year 2012/2013?

1.3 Objective of Study

Regarding the question above, the purpose of this research is to know the student's ability in understanding diction of poetry at fourth semester of English Department of Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin Academic Year 2012/2013.

1.4 The significance of The Research

The result of this research is expected to contribute to the field as follows:

1. Giving information and knowledge for the English lectures of English Department of Antasari State Institute of Islamic Studies Banjarmasin to increase the quality of teaching learning process.

2. A valuable information for the student's to increase their ability in understanding diction of poetry writing.
3. Giving information and knowledge regarding the importance of mastering material.
4. To enrich knowledge for researcher and other readers.
5. Enrich references of IAIN Antasari library.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misinterpretation with regarding the title, the writer's think it is essential to properly clarify it as follow:

1. Ability

Ability means the quality or skill that you have which makes possible to do something (CCD, 2006). The writer means in this research is power or skill to understand the poetry.

2. Understanding

In form of understand, means the ability to understand something (comprehension) (OED, 2010).

3. Diction

Diction or word choice term signifies the type of word, phrases, and sentence structure, and sometimes of figurative language that constitute any work of literature (Abrams, 1999, p. 228).

4. Poetry

Poetry is a form of communication that uses sound and rhyme to express an idea or emotion. It is usually compact writing and often employs figurative language (Connie, 2005, p. 5)

1.6 Organization of The Contents

This research is divided into five chapters as follow:

Chapter I contain of introduction, which is consisting background of study, the statement of research problem, the objective of study, the significance of the research, the definition of key terms, and organization of the content.

Chapter II contains of theoretical review of research, which is consisting of the definition of the poetry, poetry devices, poetry diction,

patterns of poetry diction, and some factors which influence the students' difficulties in understanding diction of poetry writing.

Chapter III contains of methodology of research, which is consisting of population and sample of the research, data, source of data, technique of data collecting, basic framework of research, research design, techniques of data processing, analysis, and research procedure.

Chapter IV contains of report of research result, which is consisting of general description about the object of study, data presentation, and data analysis.

Chapter V contains of conclusion and suggestion.