

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Language as a media of communication, there are many nations and tribes in the world, which require a communication to know one other.

As Allah said in the Holy Qur'an at the Al-Hujurat, Verse 13:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا ۚ إِنَّ

أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتَقَىٰكُمْ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ ﴿١٣﴾

The above verse indicates that Allah creates human, men and women, and then makes them nations and tribes in order to know each other. From this verse, it is known that Allah gives a language to every nation and tribe which is used to communicate among them.

English is considered as one of compulsory subjects at junior and senior high schools. It is not only considered as the first foreign language but also have an important position in determining whether or not the students go on to the next level. Even, it also determines whether the students pass the final exam or not. The students have to master the materials based on the curriculum to pass their final exam. As the compulsory subject, it is taught from the first grade of junior high school up

to third grade of senior high school. The students of junior and senior high school are required to have enough competence in English because it becomes a subject tested at nation final examination.

In learning English, students have to deal with four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) and this learning is supported by language components such as grammar, vocabulary, and spelling. Those four skills are related to one another. As a productive skill, writing is an important language skill which is used for a medium of communication, especially indirect communication. Writing is a part of learning process that has to be mastered by all students in Indonesia. It is supported by Harmer (1988:31) who states that writing is one of compulsory skills that determined in part of syllabus in teaching of English. Meanwhile, according Chastain (1976:364) writing helps to acquire of vocabulary and structure of the lesson.

Because of the importance of writing, in the Holy Qur'an of surah Al-Qalam, Allah the almighty explained the command of writing and the importance of writing :

بِ الْقَلَمِ وَمَا يَسْطُرُونَ ﴿١﴾

These verse explain to people that Allah expresses the high honor to words, pen and scientific writing. It means that Allah also orders to increase their faith, knowledge and so on, especially in writing.

Based on an observation of students at MA Thalabul Irsyad Sei Tatas Pulau Petak Kapuas Regency, the cause of the problem was recognized. The strategy used in teaching writing was monotonous. The teacher just asked the students to write some text without some strategies. Regarding this problems, there need this research proposed “clustering technique” to the teacher and the teacher agreed.

Related to the above matters, the researcher is interested in studying the effectiveness of clustering technique in teaching writing. According to Oshima and Hogue (1997:48) Clustering is a prewriting technique used by writers to produce ideas. The process of clustering is very useful to help students to generate and organize ideas into a good composition of writing, so the product of writing can ease the reader in understanding the composition coherently. Also, clustering is adaptable for all ages of students. Based on Langan (2008: 30), Clustering Technique is also known as diagramming or *mapping*, is another strategy that can be used to generate material for an essay. In clustering, the writer uses lines, boxes, arrows, and circles to show relationships among the ideas and details that occur to the writer. In other definition, from Proett and Gill in Richards et. al. (2002: 316), students form words related to a stimulus supplied by the teacher. The words are circled and then linked by lines to show discernible clusters. Clustering is a simple yet powerful strategy: “Its visual character seems to stimulate the flow of association and is particularly good for students who know what they want to say but just cannot say it”.

By using Clustering Technique, students are expected to be more easy in learning writing. They are able to share their ideas in a piece of writing. There are various ways to organize the sentence in a piece of writing. One of various ways is an analytical exposition text. According to Marsudiono (2011: 90) an analytical exposition text is one of the genre which presents arguments. So, by using this technique students are able to indicate the writer's position or give opinion by the writer's mind, and students can also give arguments of his/her opinion.

MA Thalabul Irsyad Sei Tatas Pulau Petak Kapuas Regency is a representative school in generalizing other schools which pioneered to help students from rural area. Most of students in this school use Banjarese as their first language and Bahasa Indonesia as the second language of their communication. Hence, the students are unmotivated in learning English as their compulsory subject in this school especially in writing process. Therefore, the English teacher needs creative techniques especially in teaching writing.

Moreover, one type of genre taught in senior high school is analytical exposition. Writing analytical exposition is placed in senior high school curriculum that delivered in second semester of eleventh year. Students should understand and able to produce analytical exposition. This material is quite difficult for them. In many schools, the students always get difficulty to begin writing. Besides about the vocabulary, they are confused by the idea, topic or what content they should write. Even if they have decided the

topic, it is still difficult for them to generate their ideas, from where they should generate the ideas they have got.

Writing is a process, and it has to be done little by little, not instantly. Sometime, we are as a teacher still face a little bit difficult in starting writing. So, it is also still very difficult for our students as a beginner. Writing a paragraph or genre, we have to get the keywords or main idea first. As we know that in the process of writing we have some stages or steps to produce final text, one of them is through clustering technique. It is the first step to generate our ideas by making such cluster after we got our keywords for the paragraph.

There are two experts that gave similar description of analytical exposition. Djuharia (2007:31) defined analytical exposition as argumentative text because writer providing readers or listeners with point of view, ideas, or thoughts of a topic or issue or problem needs to get attention or explanation with no appeared efforts to persuade readers. In additional, Siahaan and Shinoda (2008:51) argued that analytical exposition is a genre of text which aims to expose the reality to the readers or listeners so that they will believe that it is the fact. Based on the definitions, analytical exposition is a kind of text presenting ideas and arguments in order to convince readers that something is the truth or reality.

Analytical exposition text is one of a text which is important in daily life. The students need to know a lot about it. Because they can find many

things around them. In the students daily life they can write an analytical exposition, because the compositions of this text are designed to explain, analyze, interpret, speculate, evaluate, persuade, or reflect. So the researcher focuses on writing analytical exposition text. While the researcher thinks to use clustering technique to make an analytical exposition text, because this technique will give easiness for the students to make an analytical exposition text. Students can use this text to explain of arguments that come out of the students' mind.

Thinking about that problem, the researcher also heard from some students of a senior high school in the hometown which is the only one state senior high school in the village facing the same problem gets difficulty in producing analytical exposition, the school is MA Thalabul Irsyad. Based on the previous observation about the students result in writing analytical exposition, the researcher conclude that they still get a crucial difficulty in understanding the analytical exposition text or even producing a text. Realizing the case that analytical is quite difficult for the students; the researcher to find out a certain technique in make easier this material.

Teaching analytical exposition is not an easy case. As a teacher, we should try to find out the most appropriate way to teach well and make our students master well the material we've delivered to them. The students have to master well first about analytical exposition and then able to produce text. At least, they are able to identify well the generic structure and

the key words of each part, It needs a deep understanding about this material.

Here are some previous studies related this problem. The first research entitled “*The Effectiveness of Using Clustering Technique in Teaching Writing Narrative Text (a Pre Experimental Research at the Tenth Grade Students of MA Datul Falah Cluwak Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014)*” by Zakiyyah (2013) at Muria Kudus University, this was previous study has similar with this problem. In previous study the researcher talked about the effectiveness of using clustering technique in teaching writing narrative text, but the researcher only focused on teaching writing narrative text at *MA Datul Falah Cluwak Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014* is good category with The mean of post-test is significant difference between the ability of the tenth grade students

The second research entitled “*The Effectiveness of Using Clustering Technique in Teaching Writing Recount Text*” by Aryanty (2013). This previous study also has similar with this problem, the researcher used a written test and analytic writing rubric was used to score the students’ writing on the pre and post-test. The result of this study states the statistical hypothesis testing by using independent sample t-test found that on degree of significance there was positive effect of using clustering technique in students’ writing recount text.

The researcher was conducted this research in MA Thalabul Irsyad Sei Tatas Kecamatan Pulau Petak Kapuas Regency. This school is chosen by the researcher because the students have difficulties in writing skill. Based on the descriptions above, the researchers chose MA Thalabul Irsyad Sei Tatas Kecamatan Pulau Petak Kapuas Regency as a research location. The title selected in this study is **"THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CLUSTERING TECHNIQUE TO IMPROVE STUDENTS' ABILITY IN WRITING ANALYTICAL EXPOSITION"**.

B. Statement of The Problems

Based on the previous explanation, the researcher focused on three problems, there are:

1. How is the effectiveness of clustering technique to improve students' ability in writing analytical expositions in experiment class?
2. How is the effectiveness of teaching writing which taught without using clustering technique to improve students' ability in writing analytical expositions in control class?
3. Is there significant difference in using clustering technique between experiment class and control class.?

C. Research objective

The objectives of this research suitable with the statement of problems are:

1. To identify the effectiveness of clustering technique to improve students' ability in writing analytical expositions.
2. To identify the effectiveness of teaching writing which taught without using clustering technique to improve students' ability in writing analytical expositions
3. To describe the students' ability in writing analytical expositions between experiment class by using clustering technique in writing analytical expositions and control class without using of clustering technique.

D. Hypothesis

The statement of hypothesis can be stated on the following hypothesis:

1. Alternative Hypothesis (H_a) :

There is significant difference in the effectiveness of clustering technique in writing analytical expositions in experiment class and control class. H_a is accepted.

2. Null Hypothesis (H_o) :

There is no significant difference in the effectiveness of clustering technique in writing analytical expositions in experiment class and control class. H_0 is rejected.

E. Significance of Study

It is expected that the research finding on the study can give contribution for the researcher, the teacher, and the students.

1. For the researcher

This research is important research because it gives some experience and knowledge to the researcher. This study gives a new input and experience for the researcher to improve their strategy in learning English. This research also help the next researcher to be information and comparison.

2. For the English teacher

This research is expected to be able to help the teacher to solve the difficulties in teaching English, especially in teaching and learning writing analytical expositions and also to support and encourage the English teacher in teaching and learning effectively in the classroom.

3. for the school

In this study, there are strategies that can be used when the school find difficulties in learning writing and how to overcome those problems.

F. Definition of key terms

To avoid any misinterpretation towards the title, the writer will explain the terms use as follows:

1. **Effectiveness** is something that is able to achieve a desired outcome or end result. Category of the effectiveness in teaching and learning are cultivate thinking skills, stimulate interest in the subject, and motivate students to learn.
2. **Clustering Technique** is a brainstorming activity that generates ideas, images and feelings around a topic or stimulus word. Clustering technique is similar with brainstorming activity that we can use to generate ideas.
3. **Ability** is the mental or physical capacity, power or skill required to do something. The quality or state of being able especially physical, mental or legal to perform, competence in doing.
4. **Writing** is the representations of language in a textual medium through the use of a set of signs or symbols.
5. **Analytical Expositions** is type of spoken or written text that is intended to persuade the listeners or readers that something is the case. To make the persuasion stronger, the speaker or writer gives some arguments as the fundamental reasons why something in the case.