

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the background of the study that explains the reason for conducting this research, and the research questions that would answer this research to know the perception of students writing problems. The objective of the study that presents the purpose, significances of the study and scope of the study are also provided.

A. Background

Language is one of the most important things in communication and it is used as a tool of communication among nations all over the world. Through language, people will be able to argue and express their thought and feeling with each other's regards to certain ideas or concepts presented. As an international language, English is very important and has many interrelationships with various aspects of life owned by a human being. Proficiency in the English language is determined by the learners' motivation and attitude in learning the language. Learning English includes the four skills that are important for mastery of language. The four skills are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. One skill is connected with each other and they cannot be separated in a language.

Writing is one of the language skills and always is taught to students from elementary school up to the university level. It is very important to learn due to its usefulness in everyday life. The ability to write has never been separated from human life. Writing as a thinking process. To organize their knowledge and belief into convincing arguments, and to convey meaning through well-constructed text. In its most advanced form, written expression can be as clear as a work of art. Writing develops from the first simple sentences to elaborate stories and essays. Spelling, vocabulary, grammar, and organization come together and grow together to help the student demonstrate more advanced writing skills. The writing productions are in the form of readable texts which should be meaningful to everyone who read the writing. According to Jantsch (2012), there are many benefits to writing. First, writing makes a people better thinker. Second, writing makes people a better listener. Third, writing makes people a better speaker. Fourth, writing keeps people focused on learning. Last, writing allows people to create bigger ideas. Precise and viable language use is a fundamental ability for students.

One of the skills that are as the most difficult and complicated to be learned is writing because writing needs hard thinking to produce their ideas into the written form. Writing is very important for education because it helps students to think critically. What we want to write should have meaning to convey. The difficulty in developing an idea is a major influence on the outcome of writing that finally is less qualified in writing. The writing skills of the students are very weak and substandard. In fact, many students can't write very well due to their lack of awareness of writing.

Some students are not interested to learn how to writing. Students can become very frustrated when they just do not have the words or the grammar they need to express themselves in writing (Hidayati, 2018). Another study by Al-Mukdad (2019) found out that the students have difficulties in revising their own writing pieces as they can hardly detect their mistakes. Additionally, grammatical features form another problem that cannot be overlooked and students proved to pay more attention to the language rather than the content. Writing stimulates students to focus on appropriate language use, they can write through what they know in their mind or even consult the dictionary, grammar book, and another reference. It means that writing is not just about an idea but more complex in choosing vocabulary, and the using of appropriate structure.

Based on the background above, it encouraged the researcher to do research about students writing problems in writing. The researcher chose this topic of writing the subject as the thesis because it was interesting to investigate and to know the problems that they faced in writing. The researcher chose Universitas Kristen Indonesia as the research because the researcher wants to know the problems of writing in the researcher's college. After did observation at Universitas Kristen Indonesia, the researcher asked for some students, they said that they are had problems in writing. According to Habibi, Wachyuni, and Husni (2017), there are some classifications of writing problems: poor organization/illogical sequence, the problem of word choice, grammatical error, spelling problem, confused on supporting ideas, punctuation problem, and capitalization. They found that the students faced

problems in writing the problem of word choice and poor organization/illogical sequence. The purpose of this study, the researcher want to know what the students' perception of the writing problems. It was very important to know the causes of the difficulties as well. So, the researcher could tell them how to write well.

B. Research Question

Based on the background, the question is “What is the students' perception of writing problems?”

C. Objective of the Study

The goal of this study is to find out the students' perception of writing problems.

D. Significance of the Study

The result of this study are expected to be useful and contribute:

1. To Lecturers, will know the students' perception of writing problems and how to solve them.
2. To another researcher, the result of this study hopes this research can be useful.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Study

Participants of this study were limited only to students of EED UKI batches 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018. In addition, the data was collected using questionnaire only. These limitations made the results of this study cannot be generalized to other population.