CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

People are aware of how important the language is. Language means of communication, which helps people to interect, express, and communicate their ideas with other people. The use of language cannot be separated from human life because it is a tool that is used by people in speaking or writing.

Writing is an activity of expressing messages, ideas, and information in written form. It can also be said that writing ia an activity of producing written products or as the writers or learners' effort to transfer their thoughs into words in written form. The difficulty lies not only in generaying and organizating ideas, but also in translating in ideas into readable text. L.2 students have to pay attention to higher level skills of planning and organizing as well as lower lern skills of spelling, punctuation, word choice, and soon.

When the learners write, they should think at the topic that they are going to write. Thinking about the topic it is not easy, it requires a lot of time to get topic. After getting the topic, they need to think about supporting idea. They also have to think about the content of the writing, grammatical competence, the unity of paragraph, the ideas, background of knowledge, information, and all the composition in written form to get a good writing. The last, they have to review

and revise what they have just written. It was the reason why writing becomes the most difficult skill to be learnt, it is complicated and needs hard thinking.

On the other hand, writing process is easier than speaking process because people who write something have time to think the idea and find out the right words than expressed it into writing. It means that the students should choose suitable words to be arranged into sentences and determine the right verb that is suitable to the tense. It also means that the students have to time to prepare their writing.

Talking about writingrelated to its kind, such as descriptive, narrative, and recount text. And the ability to write descriptive text is one of the requirements of students. From the three kinds, the researcher focus on writing skill, especially in writing paragraph descriptive. So, it is a must for the students to be able write a descriptive text.

In the process of writing English paragraph, students often do some errors especially with grammar, some students think that it is boring subject and when they learn English they try to avoid the grammar because it is such confusing rules and hard so it's inflected into apllying grammar rules leaning language. In fact, there were many students who still made many errors in writing English paragraph and found difficulties in applying tense, structure, syntax, semantic, lexical meaning, and phonology in sentence.

Therefore, error analysis has an important role to help the teacher to reveal what kind of error that mostly the students do in writing and the cause of the error

they make. By knowing the errors, the teacher could improve their method in teaching and would avoid the errors by giving the extensive materials about the errors writing. The students also would have better understanding of what thet were leaning and would be able to write correctly and awarded with their previous errros.

The researcher conducts this research at SMK Taruna Masmur Pekanbaru that located at Jalan Soekarno-Hatta Number 14 (beside Perumahan Sidomulyo), Kel. Maharatu and Kec. Marpoyan Damai. The researcher only takes the data in two classes, there are X TJK and X Akutansi. The students in SMK Taruna Masmur Pekanbaru have a lack of time to study English at the school especially in classroom, and they are a lack of motivation in learning process English subject because they think English is not enjoyable and boring.

Those were the reasons why researcher is interested in analyzing students' descriptive writing by title "An Analysis On Writing Descriptive Text Errors At First Year Class Of SMK Taruna Masmur Pekanbaru" because the researcher wants to know how far the students' ability in learning English, especially in writing skill and to know students' ability in writing English teks with grammatically.

Mistakes and errors are unavoidable in the learning process of English as foreign language. The problem which is pften found in writing skill. Writing is a challenge for some students. Most of students consider writing is more difficult skill than others. Therefore, the students should have an extensive knowledge if

they want to write anything because it will support their writing. And the problem which is often found in writing descriptive text is the students forget about the generic structure of descriptive text. They are straight to describe the thing that they want to describe. And there are still many other errors that occur in writing English paragraph.

So, it will the reasons why the researcher doing this research that related with students' ability in writing text, especially in descriptive text because there are many students doing errors and mistake that tyhey don't realize during write English paragraph even though they have been about grammar start from primary school until senior high school.

To support the text above, Heaton assumes that "writing skills are complex and sometimes difficult to teach, not only requiring mastery of grammatical and rhetorical devices but also conceptual and judgemental elements". In other words, we could say that writing is really hard and takes long time to master.

Finally, from all of the explanation above, gthe researcher is interest to analyzing students' ability in writing skill with title is "An Analysis On Writing Descriptive Text Errors At First Year Class of SMK Taruna Masmur Pekanbaru".

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Based on background of study above, there are some problems faced by students in writing descriptive text such as : the students often forget the generic structure of descriptive. However, the crucial problem is in grammar which consists of singular-plural, word-choice, spelling, verb tense, etc. so that the

researcher tries to identify the problem related to the students' errors in writing English paragraph based on Betty's book, there are:

1. *singular-plural* (A singular names one person, one place, one thing, while a plural names more than one person, place, or thing)

2. *word form* (the unit of language that can identify)

3. *word choice* (refers to a writer's selection word or called by diction)

4. *verb tense* (uses to tell what a person did something or when something existed or happened.)

5. *addition* (a form that does not appear in a well-form utterance)

6. *omission* (the sentences or phrase lack of element, such as the object in sentence "I [am] tired". The example above is omission of copula*be* in the utterance)

7. *word order* (a sentence standard word order based on grammatically)

8. *incomplete sentence* (a complete sentence muist have two essential parts; a subject and verb/predicate. If either of these two essential parts is missing, the sentence is incomplete)

9. *spelling* (the forming of words from letters according to accepted usage)

10. *punctuation* (the sign or mark to more understanding the text for the readers)

11. *capitalization* (the action of writing or printing in capital letters or with an initial capital.)

12. *article* (a word used to modify a noun, which is a person, place, object, or idea.)

13. *meaning not clear* (the meaning of the text cannot understand by the reader.)

14. *and run on sentence* (the one sentence does not related with other sentence.)

So, the researcher finds the types of errors, and puts into table errors classification and error correction.

1.3 Focus of the Problem

The researcher focuses on the students' errors in writing of descriptive text at SMK Taruna Masmur Pekanbaru. To make this research deeper and easier. The problem is limited on analyzing the students' errors on descriptive paragraph writing by using Betty S. Azzar's errors classification:

1. *singular-plural* (A singular names one person, one place, one thing, while a plural names more than one person, place, or thing)

2. *word form* (the unit of language that can identify)

3. *word choice* (refers to a writer's selection word or called by diction)

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1.4 Research Questions

Based on the background presented above, the researcher plans to do an error analysis of students' writing of descriptive text at the First Year Students of SMK Taruna Masmur Pekanbaru. The formulation of the problem in this study as follows :

1. What types of errors made by students in writing of descriptive text?

2. What is dominant type of error made by students in writing of descriptive text?

1.5 Objective of the Research

The objective the research is to find out the types of errors of students' writing of descriptive text made by the First Year Students' of SMK Taruna

Masmur Pekanbaru and find out the dominant types of errors that they made in writing descriptive text.

1.6 Significance of the Research

Significance of this study is expected to be useful for the students, especially for the First Year Students of SMK Taruna Masmur Pekanbaru. This result is also expected to be useful for the teachers of English Language, so they know their students' ability and proficiency in writing descriptive text.

In addition, hopefully, the result of the study would anticipate the readers of making errors in their writing, can motivate them to make a good writing, and also will give some inputs for the writer, they can identify which part of the language structure are found difficult in writing, so that they could inprove their methods and techniques in teaching English.

1.7 Definition of the Key Terms

1. Analysis : a detailed examination of anything complex in order to understand its nature or to determine its essential features (Merriam-Webster 1828)

2. Error : a form of grammatical that a native speaker seems unacceptable its inappropriate use (Klassen, 1991)

3. Writing : a medium of human communication that represents language and emoticon with signs and symbols (Wikipedia)

4. Descriptive Text : text which says what a person or a thing is like

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