

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research.

Writing skill is one of important English skills for the students. There are some reasons why writing is considered as an important skill. Firstly, writing is one of ways to communication. When the students are not able to deliver the idea or information directly or in spoken way, they can write it in the written form. The ability of writing will help the students to do assignment (Indra, 2014:1). Writing is the ability to put pen and paper to express idea through symbols. Representations on the paper will have meaning and content that could be communicated to other people by the writer (Klein in Tan, 2009). Defines that writing is the process of thinking to invent ideas, thinking about how to express them into good writing, and arranging the ideas into statement and paragraph that are able to be understood by the readers (Nunan, 2004: 88)

Writing is an important skill to express ideas. Communications through the written words, on the other hand and demand the real proficiency of the writer. The students learning a foreign language follow a series of steps in developing the writing skill. The mechanics, vocabulary, spelling, and grammar must be mastered before the students can show their precision of expression, fluency, and style (Ghani, 2017: 2).

Summarizing is an abstract that expresses the main ideas of a text through original words that used to communicate what someone else said, think or

believe, and relating to paraphrasing. It has to be shorter than the original text, contain the main idea of the text, and when necessary, reported speech was obligatory used (Arif, 2018: 3). According to Leo (2013: 156) summarizing is the short sentence that it is only explaining the essence or main points of the text, not the details.

The benefit of summarizing is to support the students to understand the content of the text with make it shorter by the original text (Leo, 2013:156). The goal of summarizing is to offer as accurately as possible the full sense of the original, but in a more condensed form.

The ability in summarizing becomes an important life skill in written form. They will learn about grammar, improve their vocabulary and they also can develop their language skill especially in writing skill.

B. Reason for Choosing the Topic

There are some reasons for choosing the topic of this thesis. They are:

1. Writing is one of the four language skills which are necessary to be learned and developed by the students.
2. Summarizing is one important part of writing that should be mastered by the students in written form.
3. The writer wants to discuss more about students' ability in summarizing in written form.

C. Problem Research

The problems of the research which are formulated by the writer are as follows:

1. How good is the students' ability in summarizing articles?
2. What are the students' common problems in summarizing articles?

D. Aims of the Research

Based on the problems above, the aims of this research are:

1. To find out about the ability of the fourth semester students of English Language Education Study Program of Muhammadiyah University of Purwokerto in summarizing articles.
2. To find out the common problems that mostly faced by the students in summarizing articles.

E. Clarification of the Terms

1. Students' Ability

Students are people who study in school, university or other. Whereas, the word' ability means a capacity or power to do something. Therefore, students' ability is a student's power to do something related to study.

2. Summarizing

Summarizing is the process of drawing conclusions or a summary of a text simply by quoting the important points. Summarizing must be concise, complete, and objective by carefully reading the parts to produce a good summary.

3. Article

Articles are complete factual essays made specifically for online and print media (through newspapers, magazines, newsletters, etc.) and support discussions about facts that can be convincing, educational, and entertaining.

F. Contribution of the Research

The result of this research is expected to be beneficial for several sides as follow:

1. For the English Lectures

The English lectures especially for them teaching reading and writing or summarizing will get the information on their students summarizing ability. Moreover, they will be able to know about the problems of their students in conducting summarizing English Article.

2. For the Next Researcher

Hopefully, the result of this research will be beneficial for the next researcher in which they can get basic information on the students' summarizing English Article ability especially the ability of the fourth semester students of English Language Education Study Program in the University of Muhammadiyah Purwokerto in Academic Year 2018/2019.