

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Study

English is an International language, used in many countries either as native or as second language. It is taught at the schools in almost every country in this world. English become a vital part of International society, culture and economy of this world, likewise in Indonesia. Studying English is not a new thing for the students of senior high school in Indonesia. Although it is not a new thing for senior high school, in fact they still have many difficulties in studying English.

Basically English consists of four skills that should be mastered, namely writing, listening, reading and speaking. Listening and reading belong to receptive skills which the language users require the skill to receive spoken and written language, while speaking and writing belong to productive skills in which the language users require the skill to produce language both spoken and written, (Harmer, 1983: 44). These four language skills are integrated and related to each other. Writing skill, which belongs to productive skill, is a personal act in which writers take ideas or prompts and transform them into self-initiated topics (Hamp-Lyons in O'Malley and Pierce, 1996: 136). As writing is one of the four basic skills in learning English, it becomes so important. Many students assume that English is difficult to learn. Among the skills, writing is the main problem in learning English. Writing is an activity to express their experience or ideas which is part of communication. Most

people spend fair amount of the time at work communicating via the written words. Through writing we send information to the world such as giving an announcement that is really dangerous when there is no written announcement, so for the students who have problem in writing, the teacher should find out the solution to lead them, to stimulate and make them interested in writing based on the teacher instructions.

In this case the writer wants to focus on one skill that is wittings skill. Based on the writer's experience in Senior high school it was found that students have many difficulties in writing especially when they make an article, in word choice, spelling, grammar and punctuation. And most of them still have no idea about what will be conveyed in write an article. They could not warm up their imagination and creativity. Even some students don't have any ideas, experience, through how to produce a correct sentence so the reader could not get what the writer mean.

Based on that problem the teacher should have an effective technique to train the students in writing skills. Send a problem is one of techniques from cooperative learning; it is an aokivity which the students practice in a series of a problem solving round, and evaluate alternative solutions offered by different group. Send a problem means that the teacher sends some problems in the form of pictures or sentences and the students have to solve the problem in form of writing. Students work in a group consisting of two or five students to make a sentence or a paragraph based on the pictures which given by the teacher and the teacher give the role and instruction to send the envelope to other group orally. Send a problem lead the students to be active

and creatively in order to interact with other students to find a solution in expressing their ideas and each group should give a different idea.

From those assumptions above, the writer choose the title “A study On The Effectiveness of A Send - Problem Technique to Teach Writing at Second Grade Students of SMP N 2 Karangmoncol, Kec. Karangmoncol, Kab. Purbalingga, as the tesis.

B. The reason for choosing the topic

There are some reasons why the writer chooses this topic:

1. Writing is one of skills that will help the students to evocative the learning materials memories or new vocabulary, by read or just scanning the material which the students ever wrote, their brain will automatically recall, even if they almost forget it.
2. Send A Problem is one of Teaching techniques which help the students work actively by interact with other students so they will produce their own ideas end expression based on their own experience in real life.

C. The problem of the study

The problem proposed in this research:

“Is A Send-Problem techniques effective to be used in teaching writing to the second grade students?”

D. The Aim of the study

The aim of the study is to find out whether teaching writing using A Send-Problem technique is effective for the second grade students.

E. Contribution of the research

The writer hopes this research will be useful for

1. The teacher

- a) The teacher can use it as a reference in teaching writing.
- b) As a contribution to use of send a problem technique in teaching English .

2. The students

- a) The students will get true experience in practicing their writing through send a problem technique.
- b) To make the students be able to express their own ideas

3. The reader

For the reader especially students in English Departement of Muhammadiyah Purwokerto, writer hopes this research give the information and knowledge in teaching writing using Send A Provlm Technique.

F. Clarification of the key terms

In order to give a good understanding for the reader by the meaning the writer toward the main variables in this research. It s to define clearly the technical term that will appear frequently in most part of study. The following points are some definition of the terms in this study.

1) Effectiveness

In the Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary it's stated that the word "effective" means; having an effect; able to bring about the result intended; making a striking impression; actual or exciting. Fit for service (Hornby: 1989:386)

2) Send a problem

Send a problem is one of techniques to treat writing skill. Send a problem is an activity which is the student teams participate in series problem solving rounds, and evaluate alternative solution offered by different groups. Students work in cooperative group consist of two or more students to make a sentence or paragraph based on the picture that given by teacher in envelope.

3) Writing

According to Byne (1997:1) writing is an act of forming graphic symbols or making marks on flat surface. Graphic symbols here include letters or combinations of letters that relate to the sound people make when they speak. The graphic symbols are arranged to form words, sentences, and paragraph. There was a lot of definition of writing, but it can be concluded that writing is a personal act that connects the writer and the reader in which the writer takes systematically thought ideas and transfers them into graphic symbols on a paper by using appropriate conventions including content, organization, vocabulary, language use (grammar), and mechanics.