

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

English as an international language is very important to follow the developments in this era of globalization. In learning English, the students have to be able to achieve the four Language skills such as: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Writing as those four skills should be mastered by students. Writing also has always formed part of the syllabus in the teaching of English.

As generally known that writing is the process of using symbols (letters of the alphabet, punctuation, and spaces) to communicate thoughts and ideas in a readable form. In other words, writing is a form of communication that allows students to put their feelings and ideas on paper, to organize their knowledge and to convey meaning through well constructed text. In the other explanation, writing is a linguistic competence that is expressed in written form. It is a medium of communication that represents language through the inscription of sign and symbols. Ideas must be transferred well by the writer to the readers, because the writers' doesn't face the readers directly, so being a good writer requires competency in writing. Any mistakes or structural errors will bring the readers to a different understanding and if it is happen to ideas of the writer cannot be transferred well.

Based on phenomenon where the researcher did observation to students in MAS YP Raudhatul Akmal Batang Kuis, the researcher found that the students still have difficulties in writing especially in narrative paragraph. They cannot express their idea and feelings. Moreover, the English teacher said that the students found it hard to organized their ideas in a coherent composition. They were still confused in making ideas

of paragraph. The students also do not know how to use punctuation, spelling, and grammar correctly. It can be seen from their mistakes in task. Realizing that writing paragraph is not easy, the teacher should try to find some ways to make it interesting, enjoyable, and fun. The writers believe that writing is a difficult task but the ability in writing can be improved. To improve the students writing, a teacher should use the methods, approaches, techniques and strategies during teaching and learning process.

In this study the writer intends to conduct the study on the application of SWELL method. SWELL is the acronym of Social-interactive Writing for English Language Learners; it is a method that is applied to improve students ability in writing, particularly in writing narrative paragraph. This method was introduced by Teo. By using this method was expected that students' ability in writing can be improved, because SWELL method provide "wh" question as the guidance for the students to get ideas, in which a students will ask this question to their friend and their friend will gave the answer and they will discuss it together interactively. By applying SWELL method, students can more active because they will learn more through a process of constructing and creating, working in group and sharing knowledge. So they can enjoy the learning process and improve their writing skill especially in narrative paragraph.

Besides for students, this method also help teacher very well, because every steps guide the students improve their own idea to write so the teacher just guide them a little and in the end the teacher will give review, it make teacher easy to work.

Based on the background above, the researcher would like to take a research study under the title: " The Effect of SWELL (Social-interactive Writing for English Language Learners) Method on Students' Achievement in Writing Narrative Paragraph.

B. Identification of The Problems

Based on the background of study, the identification of the problem involve:

1. The students' have studied about narrative paragraph but their ability in writing still low
2. The students are not able to express their ideas in narrative paragraph well
3. The students do not know how to use punctuation, spelling, and grammar correctly
4. The students' do not have enough vocabulary to develop their ideas while writing narrative paragraph

C. The Limitation of Problem

Based on identification of study above, the problem is focused on the effect of using SWELL method and without SWELL method on students' in writing narrative paragraph

D. Formulation of The Problem

- a. Does the use of SWELL method significantly affect the students' achievement in writing narrative paragraph?

E. Objectives of The Study

The aims of this study are:

1. To know the effect of SWELL method on students' achievement in writing narrative paragraph

F. The Significances of the Study

Findings of the study were expected to be useful for:

- a. The students to improve their writing, especially in writing narrative.
- b. To give a better solution for the teachers in applying a better way in teaching especially teaching writing narrative.
- c. To increase the readers' knowledge who wants to know about SWELL method and narrative writing especially for English Education's students.