

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter presents the background of the research, the research question, the purpose of the research, the scope of the research, the significance of the research, the clarification of terms, and the organizations of the paper.

#### **1.1 Background**

There are four skills of English that have been identified by researchers and practitioners in English language teaching, those are listening, speaking, reading and writing (Brown, 2001, p. 232). From those skills, writing is one of production skills in learning English that requires a learner to produce a work, which is a written language. According to Harmer (2007, p. 265), writing is one of the productive skills where the students have a requirement to produce the language by themselves. It is considered as one of the most difficult skills and involves a complex process since the writer should concern to several aspects of writing, such as the use of words in appropriate context, grammatical rules, and the use of quotation. The writer also has to arrange the words to be coherent sentences and meaningful text. According to Rabideau (1993), writing is a communicative act with an intended purpose that allows learning opportunities to experiment with the language.

In writing, mostly the students find difficulties in developing the ideas from their thought into a written language. Furthermore, in writing the students need to focus on the text and abstract thought in their brain. There are no interesting media to help them to stimulate their ideas. Certainly, interesting media will help the students to be more creative in thinking so that the ideas are easy to come. In this case, the

teacher should create a good atmosphere in the classroom to make an interesting teaching and learning process. The teacher has to facilitate the students to develop their writing skills and to help the problems that might be found by the students in interpreting the ideas. In line with this statement, according to Savignon (1983), the teacher should provide a good atmosphere in which the students can get involved actively in the teaching-learning process. Therefore, the teachers should apply various interesting methods in teaching in the classroom.

In discussing interesting media, visual aid is one of the most popular media in the teaching and learning method. The teacher can use an interesting media which help the students to develop their ideas and to get more information about the topic in writing class. As stated by Sudjana and Rivai (2010) “most people are visually oriented and a visual message is effective to clarify information”. However, photograph is one of visual aids that can be used in the language teaching and learning. According to Sieber & Hatcher (2012) the teacher can enhance their curriculum by incorporating photographs that can be used for the studies in language and other subject areas, such as; history, community, culture, art, math, and science. Since the development of social media that requires the users to post photos as a lifestyle of societies includes students, photography has a wider area in Indonesia.

In this study, the researcher uses photograph as a visual aid in the teaching and learning process. Furthermore, the use of photograph in teaching and learning process has a role in improving the students’ language abilities, this argument is based on Sudjana and Rivai’s theory. Sudjana & Rivai (2010, p. 70) stated that “photography helps the students to improve language ability, art activities, creative argument in telling a story, the dramatization of the picture as interpretation of care and sensitive taste toward students’ around, creative questions in writing, painting, and drawing, as well as help them to interpret and recall the information from textbook”.

Based on that phenomenon, the researcher analyzes how photograph as a visual aid is applied by the teacher in teaching report text writing. The researcher combines the use of photograph with report text based on the teaching purposes. The definition of photograph in this context means the photo which was taken by someone with a camera based on the facts and real occurrences Sieber & Hatcher (2012, p. 19). However, this statement is appropriate with the definition of report text. According to Emilia (2012, p. 87), report text functions to give factual information about certain topics, she also adds that report text classifies and describes phenomena in the environment.

In this research, the researcher focuses on the use of photograph in English classroom. Based on the background above, this study aims to provide an outline of how the use of photograph as a visual aid helps the teacher in teaching report text writing in English Foreign Language Classroom at a Junior High School in Bandung, West Java. The researcher explores the process of the use of photograph in the teaching, include how the teacher is designing the lesson plan, selecting the photograph, the teaching process, and the result of the use of photograph in teaching report text writing.

## **1.2 Research Question**

The study will be conducted to answer the problem formulated in the following question:

How does the teacher use photograph as a visual aid in teaching report text writing?

### **1.3 Purpose of the Research**

Based on the research question formulated above, the aim of this study is as follows:

To explore the use of photograph as a visual aid by the teacher in teaching report text writing.

### **1.4 Scope of the Research**

In this study, the researcher focuses on the use of photograph as a visual aid in the teaching to help the teacher in delivering the information of writing report text in the EFL Classroom. This study was limited in a Junior High School in Bandung. The participants involved in this study were an English teacher as the main participant in this study and also a class consisted of 35 students (the ninth grade students of Junior High School).

### **1.5 Significance of the Research**

The findings of the study are expected to give contributions and some benefits in the case of theoretical benefits, practical benefits, and professional benefits.

1. Theoretical benefits

This study is expected to be useful in the education field in order to improve the educator or the learner's abilities through photograph as a visual aid. This research is expected to be useful to enrich the literature about interesting media in teaching.

2. Practical benefits

Practically, this study is expected to be beneficial for the teachers, the students and the education institute. For the teachers and the education institute, this study gives sources to create various interesting and modern teaching method through photograph as a visual aid. This study will help the teachers to develop their teaching skills and also improve their professionalism in education. Besides, this research is also useful for the learners who are looking for interesting media in learning English that can improve their writing skill, especially writing report text.

### 3. Professional benefits

In professional perspective, this study is expected to develop the teachers' integrity in teaching English as Foreign Language. The teacher can improve their integrity in teaching in proportion to the improvement of their students' ability as well as the improvement of good atmosphere in the classroom. Furthermore, this research also supports the information for similar studies in the future.

## 1.6 Clarification of Terms

In order to avoid misunderstanding and ambiguity, the terms used in this study are clarified as follows:

### 1. Photography

The word "photography" comes from the Greek word "*Fos*" and "*Grafo*", *fos* means light and *grafos* means drawing. Therefore, photography means drawing with light or getting the picture through a camera as a medium with light helping. (Sulaeman, 1981, p.94). In addition, according to Cambridge Advance Learner's

Dictionary 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, photography is the activity or job of taking photographs or films.

## 2. Writing

Writing is the ability to put the ideas down on paper transform thoughts into words, to sharpen the main ideas, to give them structure and coherent organization (Brown, 2001, p.336). Besides, writing according to Oluwadiya (1992, cited in Burton 2005) is a communicative act in order to inform something on paper to the readers, so writing is more than just producing words or sentences. He further states that writing is producing “a sequence of sentences arranged in a particular order and linked together in certain ways.

## 3. Report Text

According to Gerot and Wignell (1994), report text functions to describe the way things are, with reference to a range of natural, man-made, or social phenomena in our environment. In addition, report text presents general information about something in brief (Emilia, 2012, p. 87).

### **1.7 Organizations of the Paper**

This research will be organized in five chapters. Each chapter is subdivided into subtopics that elaborated the given issue. The chapter is organized as follows:

#### 1. Chapter I. Introduction

This chapter presents the information on the background of the study, the research question, the purpose of the research, the scope of the research, the significance of the research, the clarification of terms, and the organizations of the paper.

## 2. Chapter II. Literature Review

This chapter provides the overview, the theories relevant to the research that are elaborated in details which are relevant to be used in conducting the study. Besides, this chapter also consists of previous studies which are relevant to the research.

## 3. Chapter III – Research Methodology

This chapter focuses on the research methodology in conducting this research. It includes the purpose of the study, site and participants of the study, research design and method, data collection technique, and data analysis.

## 4. Chapter IV – Findings and Discussions

This chapter displays all results of data analysis. The research question find the answers in this chapter and the researcher also conveys the discussions of the findings.

## 5. Chapter V – Conclusion and Recommendation

This is the end of the paper which is described conclusion and gives the recommendation.

### **1.8 Concluding Remarks**

This chapter explains the background of the research that has been conducted. It covers background, research question, purpose of the research, scope of the research, significance of the research, clarification of terms, and organization of the paper. The

next chapter describes the overview, theories and the literature relevant to the research.