

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of The Study

People who want to survive in the society need communication. Language has an essential role as a medium for communication. Language as the system of communication in speech and writing that is used by people of a particular country (Hornby, 2000, p.662). The function of communication is for delivery ideas, information, feeling, and anything else to other people. English, as an international language enables people all around the world to cope with other and to create harmonious life.

In Indonesia, English is very important and given special attention by taking it as a compulsory subject of school. Therefore, English is taught in formal schools from kindergarten until university level. The main aim of teaching English at school is to make this language as an easy language to learn and so that they can use it other than Indonesian for communication

In the school, English teachers though four major skills such as listening, speaking, reading and writing. Writing is one way to communicate in English by expressing the ideas through organizing our thought into good arrangement of written text. Writing as an act of communication suggests an interactive process which takes place between the writer and the reader via text (Celce-Murcia, 2001, p.207).

According to the statement above, it is said that a written text is able to present an act of communication which can be easily understood and involved the writer and the readers. English writing skill should be taught in order to produce a high quality written text which can convey the content through informal literacy such as short functional text, monologue, and an essay in the form of text such as procedure, descriptive, recount, narrative, report, news item, analytical exposition, hortatory exposition, spoof, explanation, discussion, review, and public speaking. To improve and develop students' writing skill, English teachers should provide recommended materials that are appropriate with the curriculum. While teaching writing skills, the teachers are also encouraged to use appropriate technique to increase the success of the learning.

According to school-based curriculum (KTSP) there are five kinds of text taught in the tenth grade of senior high school that are: recount, procedure, narrative, descriptive, and news item. Gerot (1995, p.200) provided some definition of genre based text, for example recount is a genre that has social function to retell event for the purpose of informing or entertaining. Procedure is a writing genre that which has social function to describe how something is accomplished through a sequence of actions or steps. Narrative is a genre, which has social function to amuse, entertain and to deal with actual or vicarious experience. Description is a genre which has social function to describe a particular person, place or thing. In addition, news item is define as a text that has function to informs the reader, listeners, or viewers about events of the day which are considered newsworthy or important (Gerot, 1995, p. 200).

In this research, the writer only focuses on writing skills and particularly on news item text. The researcher will observe about news item text in several aspects of generic structure, social function and language feature which are produced by the tenth grade students of senior high school in their writing result. The researcher chooses news item text for this research, because the other type of writing such as descriptive, narrative, and anything else have been taught in junior high school. Besides, many researchers have already done experiment about that.

Using a variety of teaching aids is kind of method which can help teachers in giving explanation and engage students to cope with the learning activity. Teaching aids can be used to stimulate students' concentration, sensation, attention and desire. Besides that, teaching aids can help the achievement of learning success (Danim, 1995, p. 1)

In this research, the researcher proposed new technique, namely mind mapping technique, for English learner to compose news item text more easily. Buzan (2004, p.69) argued that mind mapping technique is one of way memory strategies that use picture, line, color, and key word. Memory sensory has important value in understanding tenses. The students need to balance in the usage of left and right brain. Whole brains are needed by the students to think perfectly. Brown (2007, p.125) shows that "left-brain is for logical and rational, right brain is for creativity and visualization". Student should to balance while use their brain that for they can maximal in study. Mind mapping combines both and become whole-brained. Buzan (2004, p.66-67) prove that radiant thinking is the most

natural way for brain to function, while mind mapping is the best visualization tool to reflect radiant thinking of brain and maximize brain potential.

From the background, the researcher wants to research about the new technique that called mind mapping. The researcher hopes that mind mapping in this study also succeed to make student more easily to compose the news item text. The aim of this research is to help teachers to give a new technique that maybe appropriate to teach English, especially for writing news item text, that is by using mind mapping technique.

## **1.2 Statement of The Problem**

Due to the background of the study above, it is interesting to question about method of English learning. Therefore, the statement of the problem proposed in this study is:

- Will the use of mind mapping technique to improve the students' news item writing skill in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade of SMAN 1 Sooko Mojokerto?

## **1.3 Hypotheses**

H<sub>0</sub>: the use of mind mapping technique will not improve the students' news item writing skill in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade of SMAN 1 Sooko Mojokerto

H<sub>a</sub>: the use of mind mapping technique will improve the students' news item writing skill in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade of SMAN 1 Sooko Mojokerto

#### **1.4 Objective of The Study**

Regarding the question posed above, the objective that intended to be achieve in this study is to find out whether using the mind-mapping technique will improve the students' news item writing skill in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade of SMAN 1 Sooko Mojokerto

#### **1.5 Significance of the study**

The researcher hopes that this research can give advantage for some practices. Firstly, especially for theoretic, the result of this research is hoped to enrich the theory of mind mapping for TEFL in senior high school to teach writing in Indonesia. Secondly is for English-language teacher this research gives them new method in teach writing. Use mind map, they can taught easily to teach writing of news item text. The next is for students this research can help facilitate to organize and construct the idea in write news item text that usually can find it in second semester of 10<sup>th</sup> grade in senior high school and they can get a good score in writing news item text if they applicant mind mapping technique.

Besides for theoretic, teacher and students, this research also will give advantage for researcher, this research will indirectly enlarge her knowledge and get experience by doing this study. Beside that this research also to be term for graduate from college and be previous research for the next researcher. The last, these research for developmentally is expected to be a stimulus for further study in

the use of mind mapping technique to improve writing skills in other genre (narrative, recount, report, and descriptive) as well as improving other language skills: reading, listening, and speaking.

### **1.6 Scope and limitation**

There is much text that taught in 10<sup>th</sup> grade of senior high school in second semester. In this research, the researcher only focuses in news item text. It is because this text is one of material in final exam of senior high school. Therefore, students must to master with this material, but in fact, this material only taught in one semester. Besides that, this material is very important if some students want to be the journalist.

There are some strategies to teach writing in news item text. This research only focuses to use mind-mapping technique to teach how to write news item text. The researcher chooses this method because most of them still have low ability in writing. The limitation is on writes news item text.

### **1.7 Definition of key terms**

In order to avoid misunderstanding of the terms used throughout this study, the definitions of the terms are provided as follows:

1. *Teaching strategies* is specific method of approaching problem or task to teach student in order to make students be understand more easily (Brown, 2007, p.118)

2. *News item text* is a text that informs readers about events of the day. The events are considering newsworthy or important (Gerot, 1995, p.195)

3. *Mind mapping* is a creative note-taking method use only key words and pictures to make the ability of remembering better and the revision of knowledge much better (Buzan, 2004, p.69).