CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

Language is a communication tool used in everyday life. The language will bring the human being to identify and develop the mind. The language will be used in the form of expressing oneself in a certain activity. According to Marsudi (2009: 138), language is a tool for conveying ideas, thoughts, concepts, or feelings. Language is the discourse and means of cultural communication of a nation. Language will lead humans to understand the events that occur in the surrounding environment, and it is very clear that language has a very important role. According to Sudaryanto (1990), language basically has a very important means of communication between people. Language is also a differentiator between humans and other creatures, and this is because humans have a wide range of thinking power so that they can develop their imagination.

English is a foreign language that is currently used in the world. The important role of the English language contains all aspects, such as educational aspects, economic, social, cultural, and political aspects. One of them is in the aspect of education, which is currently developing more rapidly due to the very high information technology revolution. One of its roles is to create an advanced generation to compete in globalization and improve the quality of human resources.

In addition, English is also able to improve students' skills and student creativity in the world of education, especially communication. English has four aspects of skills, namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing (Indonesian National Ministry, 2006). Of the four aspects, writing is the most difficult thing for students to do.

Writing is one aspect that must be understood by students. According to Bryne (2004), writing skills are a transformation of a person's thinking in the form of language. Whereas according to Rimes (2003), writing is the skill of expressing the idea of feelings and thoughts that regulate the structure of words, sentences, and paragraphs by relying on the eyes, brain, and hands. Writing is a way to share ideas derived from personal experience whose meaning is advisable to support the strengths of the individual on a topic. This means that writing is a way for a person to convey information and give direction. A person who is going to write certainly has ideas that will be expressed in the form of systematic writing. Writing arises from personal ideas, which are developed and becomes a topic. With this writing, a person has the creativity to write, which will later become writing based on various genres.

Genre as a type of text that serves as a reference so that a text can be made more effective (Mahsun 2014). There are several kinds of text genres, one of which is exposition text. Exposition text is a type of writing that explains knowledge or information based on facts to convince the audience or interlocutor. The exposition text tells of events or events derived from the

questions of what, why, when, as well as how. An expositional text is a paragraph that contains an exposure to something that intends to inform and aims to explain something (Alwasilah, 2007:51). The written form of the exposition text is very diverse, and this is because there is a purpose in writing an exposition text that leads to informing, describing and explaining an event that actually occurred.

In the exposition text, there are three important aspects in its writing. The first is the thesis, which contains the issues to be raised and contains opinions. The second is that the explanation of the information contains the opinions presented by the author. The third is a reiteration or conclusion, which means that it contains the author's suggestions or criticisms of the problem at hand. Exposition texts can tell events such as traffic jams, environmental cleanliness, body health, etc. In the preparation of the text, students certainly have different obstacles in each individual. This is because there are several factors that affect it. The factor that affects the ability to write student exposition texts is learning motivation. Students who are interested in something usually have a strong motivation to do actively and do activities that can satisfy their desires. (Salikhin, Bin-Tahir, Kusumaninputri and Yuliandari, 2017). In addition, internal and external factors will also affect students in writing. Internal factors in the form of self-confidence. In this case, students will feel insecure about their own writing. External factors such as the atmosphere of the classroom, the state of the teacher, the state of the environment, etc.

Based on the observations that have been made in grade 11th MIPA 3 SMA Negeri Punung, external factors greatly influence the learning process, such as problems arising from the atmosphere of the classroom and the state of the teacher. The lack of methods used by the teacher will create a boring atmosphere, and students will find it difficult to understand the material. In addition, it was found that students lacked in applying writing skills, especially in basic things in writing, such as (1) difficulties in content. Content is the main aspect of writing. The beauty of writing can be seen in the content. So, the writer must make the content of the writing interesting. (2) organization or how students structure writing. It is a writing step that refers to an arrangement that follows a pattern. Organization can be done by writing the main idea and continuing to write the branches that become supporting ideas. (3) grammar is the rule of language use. Grammar is a pattern structure that regulates the criteria for using the rules of the language used. The use of grammar will make it easier for readers to understand the author's intent. (4) vocabulary is all words used in writing. Vocabulary is an important aspect of writing. Without vocabulary, the author cannot express the contents of his thoughts in writing. So the author must pay attention to the word to be used because many words can represent different meanings. (5) mechanical is an aspect of writing related to capitalization, spelling, and punctuation. In writing, you must pay attention to these aspects. With capitalization, spelling, and punctuation, the reader will more easily understand the content of the writing.

Something interesting should be brought into the classroom to improve the atmosphere of the classroom and the focus of the students in learning. The students have different characteristics, so they are easily disturbed. The perfect position for students to study is a comfortable and pleasant situation. If it does not happen, then the student will have low abilities, especially in writing activities. So, the teacher must create a comfortable situation and atmosphere for students to learn. The teacher must also control the active students in the classroom. Teachers need a variety of activities to keep students' interests and attention alive (Brown, 2001). There are different ways to create fun classroom activities and restore students' learning focus. One of them is the use of games.

Games in learning can help students explore creativity and a fun learning process. According to Sihombing (2019), the benefits of using games in learning will not only change the atmosphere of the classroom but will also restore students, meaning that it will make it easier for students to learn vocabulary and help the brain to think more effectively. To improve understanding of writing skills, the use of a Mime Game is one of the effective ways. According to Roth in his quote (Fadirsair et al., 2021), Mime is a game that uses non-verbal techniques that explain character, mood, idea, or narrative through gestures. Mime Game is one of the games that guesses a picture or guesses a word or sentence. The students use their gestures to express ideas or fit in an already written form, including those that do not

speak. According to Lamdin (2015, 15), mime is a creative instrument that everyone has.

Some researchers have applied Mime Game to learning. Previous research by (Eni Purnama, 2017) found that Mime Game can improve students' vocabulary and increase participation and student interest in learning in the learning process. Other research (Maya Puspitasari & Akeu Akhmaliah, 2019) showed that the use of Mime games in teaching present continuous tense for students is more effective, and students' penchant for being present in learning using Mime Game. Another study (Marisa N.Kolopita, Sanerita T. Olli, Rinny Rorimpandey, 2022) found that mime games can improve vocabulary mastery. With Mime Game, students can memorize more vocabulary. The results of previous studies showed that the average pre-test and post-test results, the post-test value was higher than the pre-test value. So it shows that mime games manage to improve vocabulary in writing descriptive texts. Mime Game is a very important technique in learning.

The results of previous research using Mime Game can prove an improvement in writing skills. So the mime game method will be used in this study. The difference with previous research is the application of the mime game method, where the use of mime games is more focused on students doing body movements. This study uses text genres, namely exposition texts, that will be taught to students.

In this study, researchers will ask students to create exposition texts. Exposition text is a text that re-describes information or events/ events so that

the events can be conveyed to the reader with facts. Students who are in the high school class are able to write expositional texts. Therefore, the exposition text is very important for eleventh-grade senior high school students. In accordance with the character and personality of the student, the researcher will use the Mime Game in the learning of exposition texts.

Based on the problems in the learning above, the researcher designed the Class Action Research (CAR). Classroom Action Research is used with the intention of improving the learning process and increasing student stability in learning. Researchers used Mime Game as a method to teach expositional texts to eleventh graders. Mime Game will increase students' creativity in building and exploring a sentence. It will also make students more creative and innovative. In addition, the researcher also argues that the Mime Game is an effective and fun way of teaching expositional texts. So, the researcher argues that Mime Game will have a positive impact on the teaching of expositional texts.

B. **Formulation of the Research**

Based on the background of the research, the formulation of the research are:

1. Can the mime game improve students' writing skills in exposition text for eleventh graders of MIPA 3 SMA Negeri Punung in the academic year of 2022/2023 by using mime games?

2. How are the students' responses in using the mime game to teach exposition text for eleventh graders of MIPA 3 SMA Negeri Punung in the academic year of 2022/2023?

3. What are the difficulties faced by students in writing exposition text for eleventh graders of MIPA 3 SMA Negeri Punung in the academic year of 2022/2023?

C. Objectives of the Research

Based on the formulation of the research, the objectives of the research are:

1. To reveal whether the mime game improves students' writing skills in exposition text for eleventh graders of MIPA 3 SMA Negeri Punung in the academic year of 2022/2023.

2. To reveal students' responses in using mime game implementation in writing exposition text for eleventh graders of MIPA 3 SMA Negeri Punung in the academic year of 2022/2023.

3. To know the difficulties faced by students in writing exposition text for eleventh graders of MIPA 3 SMA Negeri Punung in the academic year of 2022/2023.

F. Significances of the Research

1. Theoretically

The results of this research are expected to contribute to the development of science in the field of education. This research is expected to be a reference in conducting similar research on the use of mime games.

2. Practical

   a. English teacher

For English teachers, the results of this study can be used as a reference for learning types of text genres, one of which is text exposure. In addition, it also helps teachers to apply proper learning and use effective methods.

b. Students

The research is also beneficial to students. This research is intended to create and develop students' skills in learning text genres, one of which is text exposure. And students will also know their weaknesses in writing text genres.

c. School

This research is expected to be a source of information for schools about teaching alternatives to learning English.

d. Further researchers

The results of this study are expected to be a reference for subsequent researchers related to the subject matter, namely the use of mime games to improve students' skills in writing.