CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher discusses some important aspects related to the area of the research. Those are the background of the study, identification of the problems, limitation of the problems, objectives of the research, and significance of the research.

A. Background of the Study

Learning is about a change: the change brought about by developing a new skill, understanding a scientific law, changing an attitude (Sequeira, 2012). It is the main key and basic needs in education. It needs all elements in the education field to increase education quality. It consists of explaining, understanding, drilling, practicing, and evaluating material. This activity aims to make a change in students' ability, knowledge, skill, and understanding of the new thing. Learning takes an important role in continuing education, determining students thinking, changing students' ability and attitude. Learning has its model and effectiveness, every learning model has each aim to make education programs succeed.

Online learning is one of the learning models applied in this era. In this learning, the teachers and students cannot meet in a place. Electronic devices and the internet support students and teachers in the learning activities. This learning model includes distance learning in which separated by distance but learning activity still holds. There are many devices support online learning such computer, laptop, smartphone, tablet, etc. Besides,

online learning activity also needs good networking during a learning activity.

Realizing online learning in Indonesia, the government applied online learning for all learning activities from the middle of March 2020. It is because the condition in this era makes students and teachers not able to meet directly. This learning model had through long consideration before applying it. Besides, this condition forbids gathering activity or invokes many people at the same places. It makes students and teachers do all the learning activities from home until unpredictable times. However, applying online learning in the pandemic era is the proper choice to avoid the spreading of viruses and makes learning activity still hold particularly in English lesson.

On the other hand, online learning in English lessons makes the students worried about English learning. Then, they also feel difficult to adapt in a new learning model. It triggers students have different difficulties in English covery as organization, content, grammar, vocabulary, mechanics, and word choice. The materials of English as a foreign language are not only focused on theoretical. Some of the materials in English uses practical during learning activity. Students need more learning and understanding about this lesson. There are many challenges in English lessons such as how adapting to the foreign language, learning new vocabulary, using different languages during a learning activity, and mastery of English skills. Learning English is not only learning about

knowledge but there are four skills such listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The delivering material in online learning can determine students' ability on writing skill. There are two possibilities, students' writing skills increase or decrease.

Writing skill is the ability to combine a word becomes a sentence, paragraph, or text. Writing skill is not only learning about written skill but the ability to elaborate knowledge, organization of the sentence, and content on written text. Writing skill needs more mastery on organization, content, grammar, vocabulary, mechanics, and word choice clearly. To mastery the writing skill needs more practice. Practicing writing skills not only once or twice but they should be practiced continually every day.

Learning writing skills should be systematic, particularly in descriptive text. Not all students master well about descriptive text, it is because there are some requirements of descriptive text such: organization, content, grammar, vocabulary, mechanics, and word choice. Besides, learning activity on descriptive text is applied by online learning. It can cause some problems on students during understanding material. Many factors can influence students understanding on learning activity suca as the material itself, delivering material, supporting devices, environment, and the limit of time.

Descriptive text creates a word picture of persons, places, objects, and emotions using selected details to make a specific impression on the reader (Tamba, Situmorang, & Ginting, 2020). The main point of descriptive text

describes the characteristic of object that appears or looks clearly. The student is indirectly introduced to something but it makes them know the specific characteristic of an object described. The descriptive text also makes students can increase social ability such as exploring around, communicating by language, critical thinking, and delivering ideas or opinions. It is an important skill and ability for the student to elaborate.

There are many ways to support students in the learning process on writing skills of descriptive text, particularly in online learning during the pandemic era. The use of technology can make students easier to understand the material being taught properly. In the reality, this condition does not guarantee that the learning process will hold well because of some problems that appear in the middle of the process such as lack of communication, networking problem, feel isolated, and the other factors that influence directly.

From the observations conducted by the researcher at X IPS 2 SMA Negeri Tulakan, there are some problems that suffered by the students during online learning particularly in descriptive text. In English learning, the teacher gives material by using WhatsApp in text and using a textbook from the school. It is difficult to understand clearly because the students limited on source book. When they want to find the other references, they should find it in internet, sometimes the internet connection does not support their activities.

However, learning on writing of descriptive text should focus and need high concentration. The teacher should know about students' difficulties, the development of students' ability, students' skills, and abilities level. Besides, the teacher should understand and adapt to the classroom condition. Some considerations above should be conveyed by the teacher to make learning activity better. If there are some points missed in the learning process, it will disturb the other understanding on writing skills of descriptive text. In this era, technology develops significantly. It can help students' mastery descriptive text but it does not guarantee that students' mastery in descriptive text well. When the teacher holds online learning the time which provided was large but it is limited in process. In this research, the researcher proves that online learning in pandemic era influence students' ability on writing skill on descriptive text. Further, the researcher wants to purpose the problem solving for the case.

B.   Identification of the Problems

Based on the background above, there are some important points to identify. Online learning was held for more than one semester in the English lesson particularly in class of X IPS 2 SMA Negeri Tulakan. The ability of students in writing skills in descriptive text should be concerned. Besides that, online learning also influences students' enthusiasm on following learning activity. This condition happens because of the different learning model and need more adaptation in new condition. Then, online learning particularly in English influences students' psychology. There are many

problems that appear during online learning particularly in English lesson. These problem influence on students' learning activity directly or indirectly in class of X IPS 2 SMA Negeri Tulakan.

C. **Limitation of the Problems**

Based on the identification of the problem, the researcher focuses on analyzing students' ability on writing skills in the descriptive text during online learning on students of X IPS 2 SMA N Tulakan. The research conducts on students of X IPS 2 SMA N Tulakan academic year 2020/2021.

D. **Formulation of the Problems**

Based on the limitation of the problem, the researcher formulates the problem as follows:

1. How are the writing skills in the descriptive text of students' X IPS 2 SMA N Tulakan academic year 2020/2021 during online learning?

2. What is the most difficult writing skill indicators faced by the students of class X IPS 2 SMA N Tulakan academic year 2020/2021 in writing descriptive text during online learning?

3. How is the cases viewed from the sources of the problem?

4. How is the solution to overcome the problem during the online learning process in the class X IPS 2 SMA N Tulakan academic year 2020/2021 considering teacher strategy?

E. **Objectives of the Problems**

Based on some problems above, the objective of the research is:

1. To collect the data about students' ability in writing skill of descriptive text during online learning of X IPS 2 SMA N Tulakan academic year 2020/2021.

2. To analyze the difficulties that faced by students of X IPS 2 SMA N Tulakan academic year 2020/2021 in writing skill during online learning.

3. To analyze the most cases viewed from the source in students of X IPS 2 SMA N Tulakan academic year 2020/2021 in writing on descriptive text

4. To recommend solution to the problem considering teacher strategy during English online learning.

F.   Significances of the Problems

The research can be significant for:

1. Teacher

   This research can help the teacher to create and evaluate classroom activity. The teacher can create new learning activities in a cooperative way and concern about students' needs in the class. Itl helps them to plan learning model which have different shape before. At this time, online learning is holding until the unpredictable time, it can help the teacher to overcome the problems that appear in the online learning activity. Besides, this research can be a note for evaluating class activity for the teacher.

2. Researcher

This research can be a gap analysis for other researchers. It also can be a reference to other researchers and help them to elaborate on the other research but still have a topic in learning writing skills during online learning. It can be a reference to the next research which discusses the learning of writing skills. This research also can develop into large research. Besides, this research becomes important to research for the researcher because it includes the new issue recently.

3. Students

The students know about their ability particularly in writing descriptive text. It can motivate them to increase their abilty. Besides, it also makes the students more focus during follow online learning activity in writing descriptive text. By this research, the students can evaluate and count their ability in writing descriptive text.