

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Reading, listening, speaking, and writing were the four skills taught in English education. One of the most crucial skills in English instruction was writing. Because writing was so prevalent in the industry and in higher education, it was crucial. One of the useful abilities that should be developed when using a language was writing ability. The reason for this was that writing ability plays a significant role in enhancing a language learner's communicative skills. Writing was a crucial component of language acquisition since it offers a very effective way to practice vocabulary, spelling, and sentence structure. At a higher level, it becomes a crucial component of students' expressiveness (Hods & Eaching, 2008).

Students pick up language through both spoken and written means in order to increase their communication proficiency. Students should ideally be aware of the principles for communicating with others, obtaining information, and communicating about the language itself. When students comprehend the language, it demonstrates their proficiency in the language (Cakrawati, 2012). The most crucial component of teaching writing was also learning media. There was a lot we can find and create for teaching writing in this day and age. Students can now write their essays on a laptop, net book, tablet, iPad, or other electronic device

instead of the traditional paper and pen they used to use for in-class writing assignments. Because of this, it was essential that the education of English, and notably the instruction of writing, be interactive in order to make learning more challenging and relevant for the students (Cequena, 2013).

Based on the result of preliminary observation that the researcher found at Grade ninth in SMPN 10 Tanjungpinang. When conducting interviews with English teacher about the extent to which students were interested in writing skills. The English teacher said that the students' interest in learning English was low, especially in writing skill. Which makes students' uninterested due to lack of motivation to learn, lack of motivation to learn from the environment and parents, and mastery of materials, especially writing skills. Most of the students' lack mastery in vocabulary. The English teacher said that students' were more interested in learning media such as ppt, YouTube video, etc. Students' can focus on learning if they use interesting media.

Referring to the issues above, the researcher thought teacher must make attractive learning media as possible so that students' learn with focus and interest in the learning process with the aim of making students interested in learning English, especially writing skills. The media created must be in accordance with the material to be studied, and the media created must be creative. So here, the teacher played an active role in making learning media. (Mahendra, 2010) stated that alternative media that can used in packaging ICT learning to be more

interesting were: internet-based learning media, one of the applications was media in the form of blog. The use of blogs as learning media can help students understand the subject matter well.

Based on the issues above, the researcher interested and tried to developing learning media for teaching students' writing skill using blog with the research title "Developing Blog for teaching writing skill at grade ninth in SMPN 10 Tanjungpinang". It hoped that teachers and students could use the blog as a learning media.

1.2 Identification of The Problem

Based on the background of the study, the researcher identifies some problem as follow:

1. The students' uninterested due to lack of motivation to learn.
2. The students' interest in learning English was low, especially in writing skills.
3. Most of the students' lack mastery in vocabulary.
4. The students' can not focus on learning, because the teachers using uninteresting media.

1.3 Research Question

Based on the identification of the problem above, the research question can be formulated as follows:

“How was the blog for teaching writing skill at grade ninth in SMPN 10 Tanjungpinang developed?”

1.4 Purpose of Study

This study aimed to develop a blog for teaching writing skill at grade ninth in SMPN 10 Tanjungpinang.

1.5 Specification of Product

1. The blog for teaching writing skill was developed in the blogger website.
2. The blog for teaching writing skill was developed in online and offline learning.
3. The blog for teaching writing skill was developed focusing on procedure text.
4. The blog for teaching writing skills was used for the teachers and students.

1.6 Significances of Study

This study tried to developing blog for teaching writing skill at grade ninth in SMPN 10 Tanjungpinang. The finding of this study expected to give a contribution as follows:

1. Theoretical Significance

The theoretical significance of this study was hoped to give benefit for teachers and students' with developing blog for teaching writing skill at grade ninth in SMPN 10 Tanjungpinang.

2. Practical Significance

a. Students

This study was useful for students, especially for grade ninth. The students' can used blog as learning media and created blog to students' creativity and increase student interested in learning writing skill.

b. Teachers

This study was useful for teacher, especially English teacher. They can used blog for teaching writing when they teach writing skill.

c. Other researchers

For other researchers, it can be used as additional knowledge in further research in the same development.

1.7 Assumption and Limitation

The assumption from the developing blog for teaching writing skill at grade ninth in SMPN 10 Tanjungpinang could help teachers made the learning process more creative and interesting. It was also hoped to made students interested in learning writing skill. Furthermore, the blog for teaching writing skill development was limited in procedure text based on the lesson plan at grade ninth in SMPN 10 Tanjungpinang.

1.8 Definition of Key Term

To avoid misunderstandings, a classification of some key terms needs to be established. They were as follows:

1. Blog

A blog (short for “weblog”) is an online journal or informational website run by an individual, group, or corporation that offers regularly updated content (blog post) about a topic.

2. Procedure Text

Procedure Text is a text that was designed to describe how something was achieved through a sequence of actions or steps.

3. Writing skill

Writing skills are specific abilities, which help writers, put their thoughts into words in a meaningful form and to mentally interact with the message.