

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In the first chapter the writer present information about basic part of research such as; research context, research focus, research objective, significant of study, definition of key term and previous study. Those that will be presented clearly without any doubt based on phenomenon happened and theory applied.

A. Research Context

Writing is a language communication activity that uses language as its medium. The writing consists of a series of meaningful letters with all the completeness of the written symbols.¹ Writing is also interpreted as an activity carried out by everyone to express their ideas and thoughts by taking notes on a medium which is usually paper and by writing we can also convey information, so that the author's intentions can be known to many people (readers) through written writing.

The definition of writing is lowering or painting graphic symbols that describe a language that is understood by someone, so that other people can read the graphic symbols if they understand the language and the graphic image.² Writing is done by arranging letters in a written order verbally and meaningfully, a person can be said to be writing if he understands the written letters. With writing activities there is also indirect communication, because

¹ Anwar Efendi, dkk, *Bahasa dan Sastra dalam Berbagai Perspektif* (Yogyakarta: Tiara Wacana, 2008), 327.

² Muchlisoh, dkk, *Materi Pokok Pendidikan Bahasa Indonesia 3* (Universitas Terbuka, 1995), 254.

there is no need to go through face-to-face between the writer and the reader. So writing is an activity to convey information or written messages to readers.

In writing we also need to be careful in writing words, letters, and punctuation marks so that the writing procedures are easy to read and comfortable to put the words in. Therefore, awareness of the importance of paying attention to the use of punctuation and capital letters is very important to avoid misinterpreting the meaning of the writing. In writing, punctuation and capital letters will make the sentences we write easy to read and easy to understand. The use of punctuation and writing capital letters should not be arbitrary, because their functions are different so that our writing becomes neater and not difficult to understand.

In terms of writing, there are various types of essays, one of which is descriptive text. The word description comes from the Latin “decribere” which means to describe or give something. In terms of terms, description is a form of essay that describes something according to the actual situation, so that the reader can imagine (hear, see, smell, and feel) what is described in accordance with the author's description. That is, the author wants to convey an impression about something, with its nature and motion.³

From the description above, it can be concluded that descriptive text is a text that describes or explains an object, whether it is about a picture, a person, a place, or an object, and others in detail. The descriptive text is in the form of an essay by the author to be read by both the reader and the listener, so that the reader and those who hear it are as if they were at the scene, feel, hear and see

³ Dian Ekasari, “Kemampuan Menulis Teks Deskripsi Siswa Kelas VII SMP Negeri 1 Sindue Melalui Metode Mind Mapping,” *Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra* 5, no. 3 (2020): 19.

for themselves the event and it really happened even though it had never happened before. to readers and listeners. Usually the author writes based on experience and from the results of his observations.

In addition, writing skills are an activities that cannot be separated from teaching and learning activities for students at school. Writing activities make students active in learning activities and stimulate students' ability to compose words, but in practice many students have difficulty getting students to learning to write. The reason is an error in teaching that is too rigid so, that it seems that writing is difficult. Not many teachers can present the subject matter appropriately and interestingly. Therefore, it is natural that students are ultimately unable and do not like writing lessons.⁴

The use of punctuation and capital letters is very important for students to have but, in reality there are still many who often ignore the use capital letters and the use of proper and correct according to the applicable linguistic rules. This lack of interest in learning this is one of the causes of frequent language errors. We often encounter students who experience learning errors, especially in terms of using punctuation and writing capital letters, especially when writing descriptive texts.⁵ They do not pay attention and even ignore in using punctuation and capitalization, especially for class X-B students who are not very interested in English learning, there are even some students who do not know about punctuation.⁶ So that further research is needed to state these conclusions and there is a need for research on errors in the use of punctuation

⁴ Syaiful Bahri dan Anwar Zain, *Strategi Belajar Mengajar* (Jakarta: Dekdiknas, 2006), 13.

⁵ Observation during PPL in MAN Sumenep.

⁶ Interview with Lestari Diniyah the student of X-B Class, on 12, September, 2022 at 16.28 p.m.

and capitalization in writing descriptive texts for students that appropriate action can be taken so that students' learning errors can be resolved.

B. Research Focus

Based on Sugiyono, research focus is the question in a research project that will be answered through data collection.⁷ So the research focus of this study is:

1. What are the types of students' errors in using punctuation and capitalization in writing descriptive text at tenth grade in MAN Sumenep?
2. How are the errors made by the students' in using punctuation and capitalization in writing descriptive text at tenth grade in MAN Sumenep?

C. Research Objective

Based on the research problem, the researcher determines this research as means:

1. To know the types of students' errors in using punctuation and capitalization in writing descriptive text at tenth grade in MAN Sumenep.
2. To know the errors made by the students' in using punctuation and capitalization in writing descriptive text at tenth grade in MAN Sumenep.

⁷ Sugiyono, *Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif Kualitatif dan R&D* (Bandung: Alfabeta, 2009), 35.

D. Significance of Study

Significance of study is describing the usefulness or urgency of the research, either scientific use (theoretical) as well as social use (practical).⁸ So significance of study is an explanation that explain the benefits of research, especially the benefit for education, students and researcher itself. The researcher establish significances of study which consist of the aspects as follows:

1. Theoretically

The results of this study can be used as a reference to provide knowledge about errors in the use of punctuation and capitalization in writing descriptive texts and can also find out information on errors in the use of punctuation and capitalization in writing descriptive text so that these errors can be minimized.

2. Practically

a. For Researcher

The purpose of this study was to find out the errors regarding the use of punctuation and capitalization made by tenth grade at MAN Sumenep in their descriptive text writing and to find out why they made these errors.

b. For Teacher

This research will help teachers to improve their learning, be more careful in providing material on the use of punctuation and capital letters in writing descriptive texts, and provide opportunities for students to

⁸ *Pedoman Karya Tulis Ilmiah*, Institut Agama Islam Negeri Madura (Pamekasan: IAIN Madura, 2020), 19.

always practice writing descriptive texts using appropriate punctuation and capital letters in learning. So that the writing of the descriptive text becomes a good and correct sentence.

c. For Student

This research will help students to be more careful when writing descriptive text by using good and correct punctuation and capitalization.

E. Definition of Key Term

1. Error is the result of incorrect rule learning; language has been stored in the brain in correctly.
2. Writing descriptive text is describing something from the author's experience through careful choice of words and expressions, so that it makes it seem real.
3. Punctuation is the use of symbols as a tool to understand, determine intonation, read written and printed sentences correctly.
4. Capitalization is a letter that has a special size and shape (larger than ordinary letters).

F. Previous Study

There are two previous studies, for the first one is from Saidatunnur entitled "Improving Student's Ability in Writing Descriptive Text Using Personal Photograph at The Second Grade of SMP IT Al-Hijrah Deli Serdang in Academic Year 2019/2020".⁹ This study describes the improvement of students' ability to write descriptive text through personal photos, where using

⁹ Saidatunnur, "Improving Student's Ability in Writing Descriptive Text Using Personal Photograph at The Second Grade of SMP IT Al-Hijrah Deli Serdang in Academic Year 2019/2020" (Skripsi, State Islamic University of North Sumatera Medan, Medan, 2019).

personal photos can motivate them to write descriptive texts, using personal photos as media. The similarity of this research with the research that will be conducted by the researcher is about writing descriptive text. While the difference, the researcher wants to focus on errors in the use of punctuation and capital letters in writing descriptive text, while Saidatunnur's research focuses on improving students' ability in writing descriptive texts by using personal photos. Another difference is that the subjects of this study were students of SMP IT Al-Hijrah Deli Serdang, while the research subjects were students of tenth grade in MAN Sumenep. The results of data analysis showed that there was an increase in students' ability in writing descriptive texts from each cycle. The data obtained were carried out in two cycles carried out in four meetings.

The second previous study is from Herni Tri Handayani under the title "Error Analysis of Students' in Spelling, Capitalization, and Punctuation Marks in Writing Descriptive Text Encountered at Lintasan Imajinasi Bahasa Mahasiswa (LIBAM) of IAIN Parepare".¹⁰ In this study discussed focused on analyzing the types of errors of students in writing descriptive texts, and the difference between the analysis of students' errors in the English Education Program and the Non-English Education Program. The similarities from previous studies with researchers are analyzing student errors in using capitalization and punctuation. The difference is that the object of this research is the student (LIBAM) of IAIN Parepare, while the object of research is the students at tenth grade in MAN Sumenep and does not analyze spelling errors.

¹⁰ Herni Tri Handayani, "Error Analysis of Students' in Spelling Capitalization, and Punctuation Marks in Writing Descriptive Text Encountered at LintasanImajinasi Bahasa Mahasiswa (LIBAM) of IAIN Parepare" (Thesis, State Islamic Institute Parepare, Parepare, 2021).

The results of previous studies show that the errors made by students of the English education program and non-English education programs are spelling, use of capitalization, and punctuation and the difference between the total errors of the students of the English Education Program is lower than that of the students of the Non-English Education Program.