

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the study, delimitation, research question, purpose of the research, significance of the study, definition definition of keyterms.

A. Background of The Study

Writing is a complex thing compared to the other three skills. Nurfidoh & Kareviati (2021) suggest that one way for students to express themselves is by writing, where they write down their knowledge, ideas, feelings, thoughts, and arguments on paper. Writing down ideas allows us to convey our thoughts in a way that is easy for others to understand. Moreover, people prefer to write when they get information. Hammer (2015) states that writing is a very important skill for students. They should know how to write reports, letters, and certain conversational techniques, such as proper punctuation, and paragraphing. It is important to convey ideas with writing that has the right structure and language elements.

In junior high school, often face difficulties so they do not master these skills well. Several studies have resolved the problems faced by students in previous writing. Only a few students get good grades in writing exercises. Students cannot write their ideas with proper grammar, words, and punctuation. When students search for the main idea, they may use incorrect words and sentence structure incorrectly. Therefore they face

difficulty in combining sentences into paragraphs.

In teaching writing itself, there are several approaches that teachers must take to improve students' English writing skills, and teachers must find the right approach. One of them is problem-based learning (PBL). Problem-based learning is a technique used by the author in this research to improve understanding of English writing. The role of the teacher during learning is not only as an intermediary but conveys concepts related to the subject to improve students' skills in solving problems. Problem-solving is obtained through learning steps to think and find solutions to problems. Problem-solving is an important component in learning English, as a curriculum and learning requirement (Widiawati et al, 2018). Teachers must be more selective in choosing learning techniques that will be used in the learning process.

The purpose of this study is to determine the effect of problem-based learning on writing skills using flashcard media for junior high school students. This research uses a problem-based learning method. The results of previous research were not optimal because they required re-identification to get maximum results in future research. It is hoped that this research can provide a solution for teachers, especially in junior high schools, in developing students' writing skills that focus on descriptive text using flashcard media and using problem-based learning methods to obtain good scores and results. Similarities with previous research suggest identifying things that have been missed, especially for problem-based learning methods

applied to junior high school students.

Based on the explanation above, the teaching techniques chosen by teachers greatly influence the development of student's writing skills and abilities. One method that can improve students' writing skills is problem-based learning because it can identify the problems students face and provide insight into these problems. Using flashcards as a learning medium in this technique can increase students' interest in developing ideas in writing. Therefore, this research is entitled "The Use of Problem-Based Learning Techniques and Flashcard Media to Teach Writing Skills to Seventh-Grade Students".

B. Delimitation of The Study

This study focuses on writing ability. Based on the research background, the researcher chose a solution to teach writing using Problem Based Learning (PBL) using Flashcard media in schools. This study was conducted in English subjects for junior high schools.

C. Research Questions

In this research, researcher need to conduct descriptive research with flashcard media to teach writing. The problem which are intended to be analyzed by this study are:

1. How is the use of problem based learning and flashcard media to teach writing ?
2. What is the problem found in teaching using problem based learning

techniques and flashcard media ?

3. What is the solution given in teaching use of problem-based learning techniques and flashcard media ?

D. Purpose of The Study

In relation to the research questions, the objectives of this research are:

1. To explain the use of problem-based learning and flashcards for teaching writing to Seventh-grade students.
2. To explain the problems found in the use of problem-based learning and flashcards for teaching writing to Seventh-grade students.
3. To explain the solution to the problem found in the use of problem-based learning and flashcards for teaching writing to Seventh-grade students.

E. Significance of The Study

The results of this research can provide several benefits, including:

1. For English Teachers

The research results can be a reference for understanding english teacher how to teach English to students in a new way by utilizing flashcard media.

2. For Students

Researcher hope that this research can be used as learning material so that students can develop writing skills and perhaps motivate students to study actively.

3. For Researcher

This research can be useful for future researcher to continue research or as a basis for research and as a reference.

F. Definition of Key Terms

The title of this study is "The Use Problem-Based Learning Techniques and Flashcard Media to Teach Writing Skills for Students". Researcher use several key terms used in this study. To avoid mistakes during the research, the researcher use key terms that are used to explain several definitions related to this learning. The key terms explained in this study are writing skills, problem-based learning and flashcard media.

1. Writing

Writing is the process of expressing ideas and communicating with other people's opinions, information, and knowledge. Thus, it is considered as a communication tool. Composing, and writing letters, stories, novels, and others are all forms of writing that allow others to know the author's intentions through their notes.

2. Problem-based learning

Problem based learning techniques can be interpreted as finding problems in learning to write English. Problem based is also used to find out what solutions can be given to minimize errors in writing.

3. Flashcard Media

Flashcards are small picture cards consisting of text or symbols that make students remember something related to the picture. According

to Husnah (2022), Flashcards are cards that contain pictures and notes. With flashcard media, students can express ideas in the writing process. This media can motivate students to study learning material.