

Chapter One

Introduction

This chapter presents the introduction of the study. There are several important points mentioned in this chapter. It provides background of the study, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, research question, the objectives of the study, and significances of the study. In the last part of this chapter, the researcher mentions the outline of this study.

Background of the Study

Writing is one of the important skills in academic performance. Good writing skill can help students to communicate their ideas in the form of written. Pineteh (2014) stated that students' intellectual may be accomplished not only by interacting with people but also by encountering the writing of others. From the statement mentioned, it is proved that the students do not only need to have a good interaction with others but also they have to transform ideas in the form of writing.

In addition, writing is a must on academic performance because on academic field, the students should make a lot of writing text which requires the writing skill. According to Fadda(2012), writing is an absolute process of determining and managing opinions, putting them on paper, and revising them. From that statement, the researcher can obtain the writing in the complex process because it involves some processes started from organizing someone' ideas, putting them on the paper, and revising them.

. Norris (2016) stated that the students who have good grammatical knowledge, they can easily arrange the words to write on the paper well. That way, writing is not an easy skill which the students can do especially for beginner students. For the reasons, when students write something on the paper, they should have good grammatical knowledge, and they also should set their ideas on their writing properly.

There are many types in academic writing such as essay writing, reflective writing, and reporting writing. In essay writing, it is usually written in a discursive style while bringing together ideas, evidence, and arguments to address a specific problem or question (Fadda, 2012). In reflective writing, Norris (2016) stated that reflective writing is one of the most common methods used to assess work-based learning. The students may be asked to write a reflective essay, and they learn log or portfolio to reflect upon your experiences and assess what they have learned in learning process. Besides, reporting writing is concise and has a formal structure. Fadda (2012) asserted that reporting writing uses clear and concise language which can differ considerably from essay writing, and it is often used to communicate the results or findings of a project. Hence, this research focuses on essay writing.

An essay is a kind of writing which must meet certain standard in terms of structure and formal language use. According to Fadda (2012), the academic essay consists of an introductory paragraph, body paragraphs, and concluding paragraph. In the introductory paragraph, the writers introduce the topic which they are going to write in their essay and introduce the content of the essay. For the important aspect in writing the essay, the writers should pay attention to provide clear topic sentence, so the readers will understand on what essay is going to discuss.

Identification of the Problem

In this research, the researcher finds several problems in writing essay faced by the students, especially new English department students at a private university in Yogyakarta. Based on the experience of the researcher, the students also has found difficulties at the beginning of the study at the college especially in writing. Besides, the students have faced difficulties in writing. For example, the students did not understand the rules in writing essay,

and they had less awareness in essay writing. Based on the researcher's observation, there are several problems which students faced in writing essay such as deciding the topic, inadequacy of ideas, inadequacy of vocabularies, inadequacy of grammar, and inadequacy of reading other researchs.

The problem that often faced by students in writing essay , they find it difficult to find unfamiliar vocabulary. Another problem are they feel confusing to write essay with correct grammar, mostly students don't pay attention to the teacher in grammar class and this what makes it difficult for them to write essays correctly. Besides, the teacher also faces problems in teaching essay, sometimes when the teacher teach how to use grammar correctly, teach how to start in writing essay and give new vocabularies they don't listen well.

Writing essay is familiar for every student at ELED because every assignment should be done through writing the essays. In writing essay, the students sometimes find some difficulties which make them feel hard and difficult to write the essays. Therefore, one of the reasons why the researcher chooses the research entitled "English Language Education Department Students' Problems in Writing Essay" is aimed to investigate the problems faced by ELED of a private university students in writing essay.

Limitation of the Research

This research focuses only on investigtng the students' problems in writing essays and the students' strategies to overcome the problems when they write an academic essay. Thus, this research focuses only on finding challenges faced by ELED students and strategies how to overcome the problem in writing essays.

Research Question

This research is intended to answer the following questions:

1. What are the challenges in writing essay faced by ELED students?
2. What are the strategies to overcome the challenges in writing essay faced by ELED students?

Objectives of the Study

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

1. To investigate the challenges in writing essay faced by ELED students.
2. To investigate the strategies to overcome the challenges in writing essay faced by ELED students.

Significances of the Study

The research has several advantages and positive contributions for some parties such as teachers, students, and other researchers.

For the teachers. From this research, it known the data about the challenges in writing the essay. Regarding the research results, to be more focused and give more time to teach grammar and give more new vocabularies to the students. This can be a path for the teachers to improve ELED students' writing skills. After knowing the strategies provided in this research and can be as a method guide to improve method. Besides, this research can be useful for the teachers or researchers as a reflection to their teaching.

For the students. This research opened the students' mind about the interesting of writing by knowing how important the essay challenges and strategies in developing their writing skill. From this research, the students can improve and encourage their writing interest as daily activity inside the class. Also, it will show the writing activity which can be main activity for the students. By knowing the challenges and strategies in writing the essay, the students can improve their writing skill and overcome the challenges in writing essays.

For other researchers. This research will be used for other researchers to support their research particularly about writing essays. Besides, this research can give a sight on how

to conduct the research. In addition, the other researchers can use the findings of this research as the theoretical overview of further research on the same topic and might become recommendation of further research. Therefore, by conducting this research, it can also encourage other researchers to conduct the researches related to the same area of this research. Also, it provides other sources for the other researchers who want to conduct the research with similar topic

Outline of the Study

The study consists of five chapters. Every chapter has different explanations. The first chapter presents the introduction. In introduction, there are six parts namely background of the study, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, research question, objective of the research, significances of the study and outline of the study.

Chapter two discusses about literature review. This chapter highlights the framework of this research and some theories based on the other researches related to this research. Moreover by identifying every keyword in this research, the researcher will explain about Writing Essay, Students' Challenges in writing essay, and Students' Strategies in writing essay. Those reviews can support the researcher's opinions. Hence, the following of chapter two includes the review of related study and conceptual framework

In chapter three, it discusses about research methodology. This chapter gives clear illustration of how this research will be conducted and how the data will be collected. Besides, this chapter three consists six parts of methodology namely research design, research setting, research participant, research setting, data collection method, and data analysis.

In chapter four, it discusses the research finding and discussion. This chapter provides the detailed information about the data gathering from the conducted research and analysis of the data. Besides, the researcher also relates the finding to the relevant literature reviews or theories provided in this research to be the discussion of the research.

Chapter five includes the conclusion and suggestion. In this chapter, researcher presents the conclusion of the research finding related to the research problems. In addition, this chapter contains the suggestion for some parties related to this research.