

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 The Background of the Study**

The inclusion of English as a required subject in public schools serves to advance science, technology, and culture. The purpose of teaching English language at school is to develop the student's language ability. The basic ability of English are usually taught in an integrated way, They are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students need to master these ability to be able to write and communicate with others well. Writing ability become an important ability in developing a written product. Because writing can help students to think critically and deeply to build good sentence.

According to Harmer (2004:31) says that writing is a way to produce language and express idea, feeling and opinion. Also, Abbas (2006:125), writing skills is the ability to express ideas, opinions, and feelings to other parties through written language. In addition, Tarigan (2008:3) defines that writing skills are one of the productive and expressive language skills used to communicate indirectly and not in a manner face to face with other parties. Also, Troyka in Lauri (2011:12) states that writing is a way of communicating a message to a reader for a purpose. The purposes of writing are to express one self, to provide information to persuade, and to create a literary work Furthermore, according to Suparno and Yunus (2008:1), writing is delivering messages (communication) using written language as media or tool. In written communication there are at least there the

four elements involved: (1) the author as the messenger, (2) the contents writing or message, (3) channel or media in the form of writing and (4) readers as the recipient of the message. It is a tool for communication with other people.

Students' low interest and lack ability in expressing their ideas logically, using the appropriate words and producing accurate spelling and correct punctuation are some indicators showing that the unsuccessful of teaching writing. Besides, during writing class, it was identified that: (1) students get bored with the monotonous strategy of teaching; (2) teacher does not use interesting media in teaching writing; and (3) students do not like English subject especially writing skill because they think it is a difficult one.

English language consists of four ability, name : speaking, reading, writing, and listening. The other elements name : grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation, these elements are expected to enable students to master the language quickly. Writing is as a part of competence is very important because it is a medium of learning especially in English learning. Automatically, the writing skill the students can know about grammar and structure of sentences. Writing is an activity to produce the graphic symbols, not just a speech. Writing is one of the most difficult ability.

Dictation is a useful activity for students as well like write down something that what teacher say or read out as it is being said and also dictation can give students many experiences dealing with writing. Dictation as a tool for language learning has been around for very long time.

Dictation is a useful and flexible activity, the researcher can use it to introduce a new structure, to present the first paragraph of a text, to revise an area of vocabulary, to provide a summary of a reading or listening exercise and to provide practice in writing skill. By using dictation method students can help to diagnose and correct these kinds of students to pay attention to the class. Using dictation method to ensure attentive, using this method make the student pay more attention to the teacher and write the material what the teacher dictated Brown (2001:247).

Sometimes the teacher needs taking time to make students able to expressing themselves. They need real condition in learning and have proudness after learning something. They need fun interactions and interactive media to express their imagination. The lack of practice is also considered as the problem in their writing. The teacher does not give enough writing practices both in the classroom and outside the classroom.

In reality, there are still many students who experience obstacles in learning English, especially in learning to write. One of the problems is that students have insufficient vocabulary or students have low vocabulary mastery. Therefore, students have difficulty in composing paragraphs. They have difficulty organizing ideas and have difficulty making sentences related to the topic. English is fundamentally different from Indonesian in terms of structure, pronunciation and vocabulary. In addition, students tend to forget the meaning of words that have been taught or trained previously. Unfortunately, in various fields of work,

most students cannot express their thoughts and opinions well because they are not used to speaking.

Generally this is caused by limited vocabulary. Vocabulary is basic English knowledge that students need to learn first. This will help students learn English well. Apart from that, we often face problems where students know the meaning of the word, but they cannot guess how the word is spelled or the correct spelling of the word. The most effective words taught in spelling lessons, ranked by frequency of use in the language. The importance of spelling rules must be conveyed through examples, if they are fulfilled in writing the words to be studied. Words dictated in a normal conversational voice force students to think about what they are doing and apply the rules they have learned. The author obtained information about the process of learning to write in classes X OTKP 1 and X OTKP 2.

They admitted that they felt lazy and lacked motivation to learn to write. Another problem concerns the method. Researchers found that teachers did not provide interesting methods for students in teaching writing. Students feel bored with the methods used by teachers. Apart from that, this does not help students in learning English, especially writing. Responding to several problems faced by students, teaching methods are needed by teachers in the teaching and learning process in order to make students interested in the material provided. By using the right methods, teachers are able to work well so that the teaching and learning results are satisfactory. One of the methods offered is dictation. Dictation is expected to be useful in making it easier for students to develop their writing

achievements. Dictation is the activity of writing down something that someone says or reads when it is spoken. Dictation as a writing teaching method has recently been widely used to improve students' writing ability. Dictation can train students to be able to distinguish grammar, spelling and punctuation errors that occur in their writing. In other words, dictation is a good exercise to help students who differ from their mother tongue to reproduce spoken speech in written form accurately (Alkire, 2002).

The dictation method can help students organize, set goals, and write letters using the dictation method. This simple method can be interesting and useful for students, students can make a letter with their respective writing abilities to match how well they understand what the teacher dictates. They can focus on the teacher and class so they don't get distracted by things that help them concentrate. The act of writing also helps students process and remember what sentences the teacher dictates independently.

Considering the issues above, it is necessary to conduct a research study to improve students' writing ability to the students of Grade X SMK PAB 2 Helvetia by using dictation method can give the contribution to improve students' writing ability by stimulating the students in gaining ideas, building vocabularies, and increasing students' interest in writing.

From the definition above, the researcher can conclude that 'Dictation' is a process when the teacher dictates a sentence and the student write on a paper what the teacher dictates, then the teacher gives three times repetitions and the students check their written and correcting the error made by the student. Dictation can

give student many experiences and they can evaluate their writing ability. It means that the student do the dictation, they must pay attention to write down what the teacher dictates. If they focus on the teacher, they will able write down. Based on the reason above, the researcher is interested to find **The Effect of Dictation Method on Students' Writing Ability in English for Office.**

### **1.2 The Problem of The Study**

Based on the background above, the problem of this research can be formulated as follows: “Is there any significant effect of dictation method on students' writing ability in English for Office ?”

### **1.3 The Objective of The Study**

The objective of the study is to find out the effect of dictation method on writing ability at the Grade X Students of SMK PAB 2 Helvetia.

### **1.4 The Scope of The Study**

There are many techniques that can be used for the purposes of increasing students' achievement in writing using dictation method. In this study the researcher focuses on the use of dictation method on students' achievement in writing ability.

### **1.5 The Significance of the Study**

The result of this study hopefully can be useful for many people and his study are expected giving contribute to the development of science, and education, especially the process of teaching and learning in the classroom. The significance of the study are as follows:

1. For teachers, hopefully this study can foster teachers' insight in creating creative teaching to make student more active in their teaching learning process.
2. For students, the result of the study is expected can give a lot of benefit to all the students to increasing their writing ability.
3. For other researchers, the result of the study will be beneficial as the reference to examine the effect of writing ability by using dictation method.