

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

Textbook is a book which contains some materials of a certain subject to be learned by students in school. It is used as a main component to deliver the material frameworks designed in the curriculum. In studying English, a textbook is one of the best sources in education. Teachers must have a textbook to teach their students and the students also must have books to acquire knowledge. Harmer (2001) states that good textbooks are attractively presented and they are prepared with a good structure that offers a coherent syllabus. Furthermore, many students like textbooks because they feel that they have achieved something when they finish it chapter by chapter, to the end of the whole book, because progress encourages them in a positive way. Richard (2001) emphasizes that using textbooks saves the teacher a great deal of time. Teachers can use the time for teaching instead of producing materials themselves.

A textbook helps teachers and students in some ways. For teachers, the textbook helps them in preparing and developing the teaching material that are going to be taught. As for the students, it helps them to maintain and trace back their input in learning. According to Cunnigsworth (1995) textbook is an effective resource for self-directed learning an effective source for presentational material, a source of idea activities, a reference source for students, a syllabus where they reflect pre-determined learning objectives, and support for less experienced teachers who are yet to gain confidences. Without textbooks, teaching and learning process will not have impacts, thus, they provide the standards in instruction.

There are a few rules to follow while evaluating a textbook: First, the textbook should be tailored to the needs of the students. They should be in line with the language learning program's goals and objectives. Second, the textbook should include present or feature that students will use to interpret the language. Choose textbooks that will assist students in properly using language for their aims. The foundation of any learning or teaching program should be a clear understanding of what pupils need to acquire in order to effectively utilize the language in personal, professional, academic, or other situations. Third, textbooks should consider the needs of students as learners and make the learning process easier for them. A textbook can assist students in a variety of ways. They choose the topics to be studied (grammar, function, skill, etc). Fourth, textbooks, like teachers, should play an important role in learning by mediating between the target language and the student.

According to Grant (1987), there is no such thing as a perfect book. It indicates that even if a textbook is produced by a reputable publisher, it may include flaws. A review of the textbook used in the course is required. The decision is based on whether or not the textbook satisfies the curriculum's objectives, matches the learners' context, and other factors. Cunnigsworth (1995) states that teacher development benefit from textbook study and evaluation because it allows teachers to gain a better understanding of the material.

In textbooks, there are materials that the teacher wants to teach in class. And there are also tasks to train the students about materials that the teacher has given to the students. Task is an activity or piece of work which must be done students. Tasks are provided in order to help students become familiar with the topic or material. The function of the task for the students is to make it easier for the students

to understand. Lee (2000) states that a task 1. A classroom activity or exercise that has a.) an objective that can only be achieved through interaction among participants. b) a mechanism for structuring and sequencing interaction, and c) a focus on meaning exchange, and 2. A language learning endeavor that requires learners to comprehend, manipulate, and produce the target language while performing some set of work plans.

In this era, 2013 curriculum has been implemented by many schools, including Junior High School. Curriculum is a set of planning and setting objectives, contents, and material for the teaching and learning process that is used as a guideline in executing the teaching in order to reach the purpose of a certain education. Teachers of English who implement it must be well-versed in what to teach, how to teach, and how to assess students' abilities. Indonesia education is using 2013 curriculum which it is including Junior High School must use.

Scientific Approach consists of five main steps in the learning cycle, namely: observing, questioning, collecting information, associating and communicating. The aim of the classroom procedure is to develop the students' attitudes, to express their idea briefly but succinctly, and to develop their language skills.

Based on researcher's observation, the school is using textbook of 2013 curriculum in learning English. In English textbook, there are some tasks prepared to acquire students' knowledge about material that the teacher has given to students in learning process. Mileff (2009) states that tasks have some kinds of focus: skill focus, structure focus and notional focus. From the theory above, the researcher decided to find out focus of the tasks in English textbook of 2013 curriculum based on the school which implemented it as source of materials. The English textbooks

of 2013 curriculum have different writer and publisher. In this study, the researcher used four books of 2013 curriculum of grade VII Junior High School to find focus of the tasks. Using those books, the researcher wanted to look and found each books have same or different focus of the tasks for example, when the books of 2013 curriculum only have skill focus of the tasks. It meant that the writer who wrote the book only focused on skill focus such as listening, reading, speaking and writing for students. So, the other focus of tasks were not prepared by the writers who wrote the book. It would be better if tasks of the English textbooks had three focus of the tasks based on the theory above to acquire students' knowledge about materials in skill focus (listening, speaking, writing and reading), structure focus (vocabulary, syntactic, and morphological structure) and conceptual focus (the capacity to maintain a discourse in English or any other L2 about current events and popular themes. Preparing three focuses of the tasks above would be better to students and also to the teacher who taught students in learning process. Furthermore, Kemendikbud (2017) states that the objective of learning English is to develop the students' potential in interpersonal, transactional, and functional by using spoken and written English text and can be used practically in society.

Thus, the researcher needed to conduct a research based on the task in English textbooks of 2013 curriculum. Therefore, English textbooks of 2013 curriculum need to be analyzed to find out and describe focus of the tasks.

1.2 The Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, these are the problems:

1. What focus do the tasks in the English textbooks have?
2. Why do they focus the way they do?

1.3 The Objective of Study

Based on the problems of the study above, the objective of the study was to find out and describe focus of the tasks in English textbooks of 2013 curriculum.

1.4 The Scope of Study

The scope of the study was the English textbooks 2013 curriculum for first grade of Junior High School. According to Nunan's theory, there are six aspects of writing tasks, namely goal, input, procedure, teacher role and settings. But, in this study the researcher only focused on three aspects of writing task. There are goal, input and procedure.

1.5 The Significances of Study

1. For English Teachers

Based on the study, focus of the task is important thing. The finding of the study are expected to give benefit for English teacher who teach student using English textbooks of 2013 curriculum as sources of material in learning process.

2. For Other Researchers

The researcher findings are expected be useful for other researchers who want to do the research about English Textbook.