

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Writing is one of the essential language skills and one of the most difficult for English learners to master. Writing is also a beneficial skill to have when learning English, according to Spratt and his friends (2005). Writing is used to express feelings and ideas, recall information and ideas, and communicate with others. Nowadays, we use textual communication almost every day. Text messages, emails, blogs, and social media posts are examples of how written language is used in everyday life. According to Shokrpour and Fallahzadeh (2007), writing is both a complex social action and a cognitive activity. It reflects the writer's knowledge and communication skills.

English in vocational high school is now categorized as a compulsory subject. It means that vocational high school students must learn it and achieve the essential competencies listed according to the curriculum. English teaching aims to form student language skills. Spoken and written languages are the basis of learning the language, meaning the students must master it.

The curriculum in Indonesia has changed over time. In Indonesia, the government prioritized education development. According to PERMENDIKBUD No. 22/2016, a curriculum is a set of plans and rules about teaching and learning guidelines; the goal, content, and learning material used to achieve educational goals. The curriculum encompasses the entire course, including all activities and learning experiences. The curriculum is held inside and outside the classroom,

depending on the learning objective. The main priority to be considered when deciding on the media and strategy to be used in the learning process is the students' factors.

During the 2021 to 2022, the Ministry of Education and Culture made policies regarding the use of curriculum in education units, namely the 2013 curriculum, the emergency curriculum, and the Merdeka curriculum. Merdeka curriculum is socialized and implemented in all education to update the learning process constrained by the pandemic. The Merdeka curriculum provides flexibility for teachers to be able to freely choose, create, use, and develop lesson plan formats. Implementing the Merdeka curriculum certainly brings significant effects and changes to teachers and school educators regarding learning administration, learning strategies and approaches, learning methods, and even the learning evaluation process. Teaching materials are the most important element in the learning process. The students use the material as their source in the teaching-learning process, especially in writing subjects. Ideally, teaching materials will be tailored to the content in which they are being used, the students in whose class they are being used and the teacher.

Teaching material is a learning device or learning design based on the applied curriculum to achieve the competency standards that have been set.

Teaching material will be meaningful if students can easily use it. Teaching materials have a significant role in supporting teachers in designing learning. Therefore, making teaching material is a teacher's pedagogic competence that

needs to be developed so that teacher teaching techniques in the classroom are more effective and efficient and stay in the discussion of achievement indicators.

The material used in vocation high school Sekolah Menengah Kejuruan Negeri (SMKN) 1 Beringin is module learning material. This school is one of the activator schools. Activator schools have several programs designed to focus on developing student learning outcomes. The Activator School program focuses on developing student learning outcomes holistically, including competence (literacy and numeracy) and character, starting with excellent human resources (principals and teachers).

Teachers in SMKN 1 Beringin used module learning material to help the teaching and learning process. The researcher for preliminary research has analyzed the module. From the preliminary data analysis, the researcher found that the learning module used in SMKN 1 Beringin was separate from the student's major. Based on observations and interviews with teachers at the school stated that they have used literacy and numeracy skills. However, the available teaching material must still show literacy and numeracy skills.

The literacy and numeracy aspect are important for education. The Minister of Education and Culture (Mendikbud) Nadiem Makarim (2017) stated that the implementation of the National Examination was changed to (Assesmen Kompetensi Minimum or AKM) a Minimum Competency Assessment and a Character Survey, which consisted of reasoning abilities using reading (literacy), reasoning abilities using mathematics (numeracy), and strengthening character building.

The specific aim of AKM given at the middle level is to identify the needs of students in terms of mastery of the material so that, as a whole, it can improve the quality of national education and expect graduates with the best knowledge acquisition. At the same time, the notion of literacy and numeracy is the knowledge and ability and skill to use various kinds of numbers related to basic mathematics to solve both routine and non-routine problems in everyday life to produce a conclusion that can be presented in various forms of data and interpret the results of an analysis to predict and make decisions..

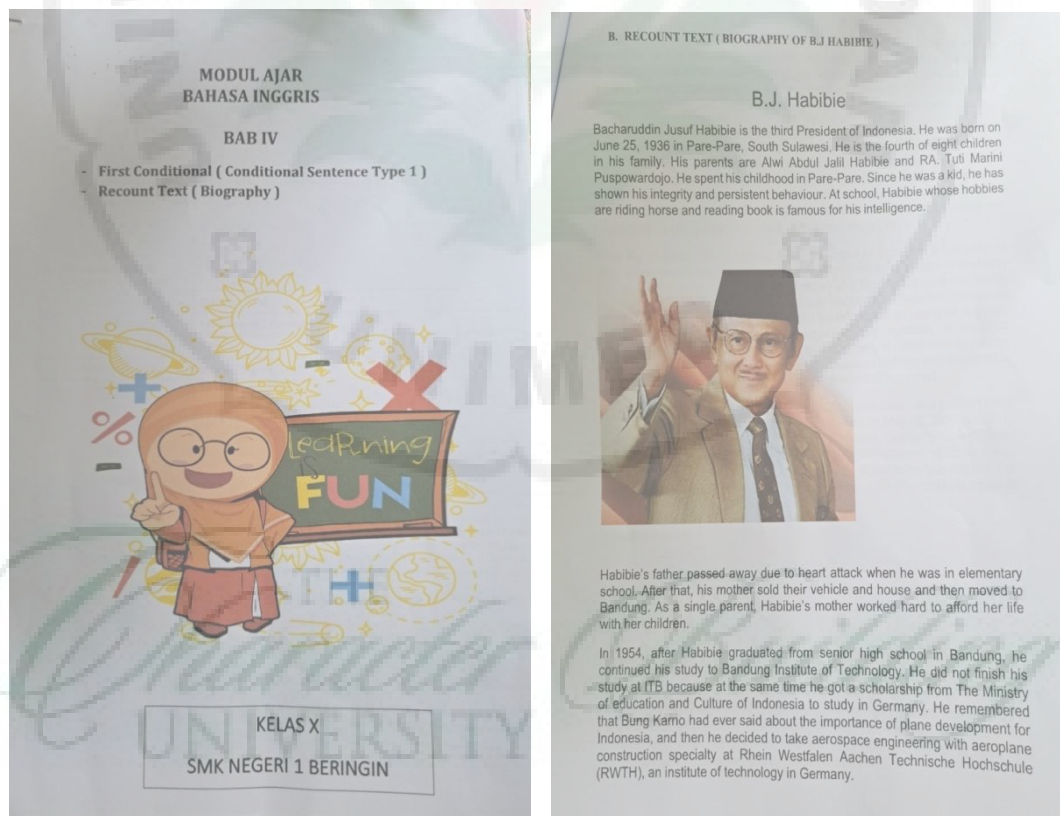


Figure 1.1 Preliminary Data – Module Teaching Material

This research found that the teaching materials in the school need more appropriate to their vocation especially in recount text. The researcher took the

recount text material because in the text book that used by the students only give example of recount text. The students who took a vocation of tourism service unit are using the teaching materials unsuitable for their majority in tourism. The topic in the module is "Biography of B.J Habibie." The recount text is general information. This text shows that the materials must be more appropriate for tourism students' needs. The students need a material that can help them to understand the subject more accessible. The material should make the students interested in reading it during the teaching-learning process. The topic should introduce tourism information that make the students easier to catch the subject exactly appropriate to their vocation, such as "Biography of Father of Tourism." Rezky et al. (2019) stated that teaching materials for the students by using material related to Tourism terms, like the dialogue using tourism terms to fulfill the learners' needs. The activities in the learning process need to be adjusted to students' needs, and the activities need to be able to explore students' English skills and require the students to be more active.

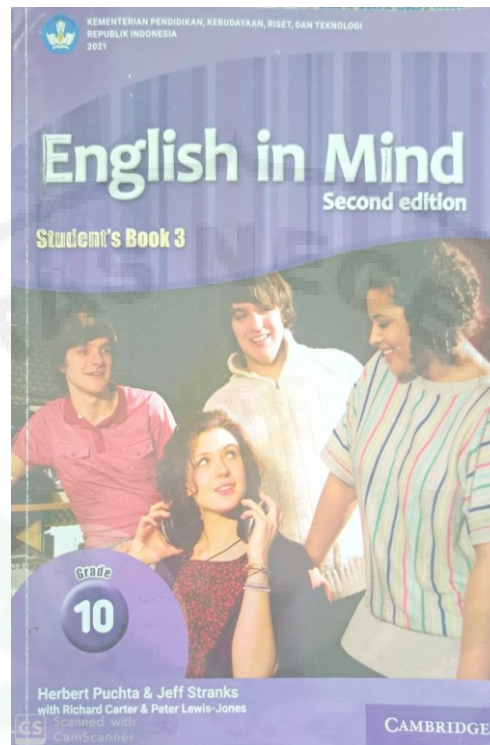


Figure 1.2 Preliminary Data – Textbook

Based on the preliminary research, the researcher found that student's needed the material appropriate to their vocation. To provide data for the pre-research, the researcher interviewed the student of SMKN 1 Beringin. The interview transcript will be discussed below.

R: (Researcher)

S: (Students)

R: what do you need when learning English?

S: I need more exciting teaching materials and teaching materials that contain paragraphs, pictures, and data or numbers

R: In your opinion, how important is knowledge about data or numbers?

S: knowledge about that is very important, and we still lack to understand

R: How does the teacher give the teaching materials?

S: The examples given in the teaching materials do not describe my major. We need teaching materials related to our majors

Endang and Joko (2020) stated that learning material must support the students in learning English specifically for students' major that can motivate the students to learn English. Therefore, it is necessary to develop teaching materials that refer to literacy and numeracy intending to help students to understand the role or use of literacy and numeracy in daily life as well as to use them.

B. The Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study, the problem of this research is formulated as “How is the developing of the teaching material based on literacy and numeracy?”

C. The Objective of the Study

Based on the research statement, the objective of this research is to develop teaching material based on literacy and numeracy.

D. The Scope of the Study

The scope of the study limited to fulfilling students' needs in developing writing recount text teaching material based on literacy and numeracy for students

of tenth grade of SMKN 1 Beringin. The materials are based on recount text and consist of two units.

E. The Significances of the Study

The significances of the study are divided into two parts. They are theoretically and practically. The description will be discussed below:

1. Theoretically

This research expect to enhance students' creativity in learning English, especially in developing writing skill and broaden grade tenth students' understanding of teaching-learning process. Furthermore, students are more interested in studying English.

2. Practically

a. Teacher

This research can be a reference and motivate teachers to develop writing teaching materials using strategies based on the needs of students. And also can be used as the additional source in teaching writing for Tenth Grade of SMKN 1 Beringin.

b. The students

Students are expected to use these materials to improve their writing skills.

c. Other researchers

This research is expected to be useful and can be referenced by other researchers in the future