

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1. 1 The Background of the Study

At present people are always try to find the better life. It is because of the globalisation of information and technology. People can compare the life in their own country to other countries. Because of that they would like to try their luck by leaving their country. On the other hand, working in overseas is not easy as they ever thought. Once should be provided with certain skills if they are going to be well come in other countries. One of the skills is English.

English is widely spoken all over the world. This is specifically true based on the advertisements in the newspaper or in the electronic media that to fulfill the available vacancies in certain job field requires English . It seems that it is a must for them who would like to seek for a job to master English well.

Moussa (2002:22) states that globalization of the market economy has accelerated the international movement of capital, technology, goods and services. Many countries remain dependent on migrant labor and professionals to fill the gaps in the job market, develop new areas of products or services and maintain labor intensive activity. As a result, an increase in the international movement of people has developed.

The migrant workforce often includes people who as a matter of survival feel compel to leave their homeland in the expectation of finding opportunities for social

and economic well-being in lands to which they seek migrate—often leaving family members behind for a better prospect of the future.

In the late of 1980's and early 90's, with the expansion of the economies of Malaysia, Thailand, Korea and Japan foreign workers have filled the gaps in domestic sources of labour. Malaysia and Thailand have been sources of migrant labour to other Asian countries, Australia and North America. The main 'sending' countries have been the Philippines, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The main 'receiving' countries have been the Gulf Cooperation Council States, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei (Moussa, 2002:25).

It is estimated (Moussa, 2002:35) that today one billion people are crossing national borders as migrant workers. Thirteen million are from Asia and 72% of these workers are women. International migration flows from Indonesia will continue to increase in the future due to the limited job opportunity in the country, the increasing average level of education in Indonesia, proliferation of mass media, easy and cheap access to overseas countries and development in national and global transportation systems.

The Departement of Labor and Transmigration, particularly the Directorate of Overseas Workers Services (Direktur Jendral Pembinaan dan Penempatan Tenaga Kerja Luar Negeri:P2TKLN) states that the total number of Indonesian migrants during the years 1999 to 2001 was 968,260 (NakertransNet, 2001:8). And it was estimated that 387,304 workers would be sent overseas every year. The percentage of the Indonesian migrants who work in the ASEAN countries is about 47,16,34,50% in

the middle East, 17,52% in the Asia Pacific, 0,76% in Europe and America and),06% in other countries. Meanwhile, the percentage of female workers is 71,39 of the total number. It was also reported that 56,45% of the total number (968,260 Indonesian migrants) worked in the formal sector, such as manufacturing, plantations and constructions and 43,55% worked in the formal sector for example domestic workers, shop assistant and other services.

As migration might solve high number of unemployment in Indonesia (which is approximately 47 million in 2004), it is a requirement that to be a successful worker, one is expected to fulfil some of the requirements as proposed by the recipient, country. It also considers the education and language are two main factors required in working. One with high education cannot be guaranteed to have a good job unless one has the ability to communicate in English language. It is a fact that most job vacancies advertised in the newspapers, magazines and others will include the requirement that applicants should be fluent in spoken as well as written English.

Indonesia is one of the countries that sends in a big amount of workers overseas every year. The workers can be classified as having low qualification. For example, nurses in Indonesia cannot work in other countries because they cannot communicate using English as an international language.

Based on the 1999 Curriculum for Nurses, education for nurses has its main goal to be able to educate professional nurses in order to apply for the various learning experience in the health services.

Supriadi (2003:2) states that the goal of health education is producing qualified and professional nurses and can be used nationally and in a global setting. It means that a professional organization for nurses committed to the promotion of high standard of nursing practice in the areas of health promotion and prevention of illness.

To achieve this goal, nurses should provide themselves not only with good education but also provide themselves with English language. It is a fact that their destination countries actually use English as their language in daily conversation or as a second language.

Supriadi (2003:2) also states that the ability of nurses in Indonesia to fulfill the global market is still low. It is because of the shortage of communicative competence among nurses in Indonesia who cannot speak English as a medium of communication. Based on this condition it is the right time for nurses in Indonesia to provide themselves with the other skill, that is English.

This study deals with one of the areas of that is English for Specific Purposes (ESP), that is English for Occupational Purposes (EOP). Since the market of the nurses become larger and the role of English become very essential in global area, it is necessary to discuss Communicative Skills and ESP Materials for Nurses.

1.2 Problems of the Study

After reading the background of the study that has been mentioned previously, it is seen that learning ESP is difficult. It is because of the terms used might be different from General English. But it is very important to be mastered especially for the nurses who want to seek job overseas. In relation to that, the writer assumed to formulate problems as follows :

1. What language skills are required of the nurses to work overseas?
2. What teaching materials should be provided to fulfill the nurses' needs?

1.3 The Objectives of the Study

The primary objectives of the study are to answer the problems mentioned in the research problem. The problem are actually dealing with language skills that should be mastered by the nurses in order to be able to perform their job well and providing teaching materials that can assist the nurses to achieve the goals needed by them. In relation to that, the objective of the study are formulated as follows :

1. Find out English skills required of the nurses.
2. Provide teaching materials for the nurses.

1.4 The Scope of the Study

ESP is a major activity around the world today. It is an enterprise involving education, training and practice, and drawing upon three major realms of knowledge: language, pedagogy and the participants specialist areas of interest.

ESP may be seen as pluralistic, because many approaches to it are concurrently being followed around the world today. The full form of ESP is generally given as English for Specific Purposes, and this would imply that what is specific and appropriate in one part of the globe may well not be elsewhere. Thus it is impossible to produce a universal application of ESP.

ESP is protean, as it is responsive to developments in all three realms of language, pedagogy and content studies. Changing interpretations of ESP over the years and in different parts of the world represent changing relationships between, and changing fashions in, these three realms of knowledge.

There are two types of ESP. The English for Academic Purposes (EAP) and English for Occupational Purposes (EOP). Realizing the importance of ESP today, the writer assumes that it is necessary to discuss EOP. In this study the writer doesn't intend to discuss ESP materials to all of medical faculties. It is mainly focused on the Nursing Academic.

1.5 Significance of the Study

A study which is designed to discover some intended results should have some significance. In this study, it is hoped that it will give some relevant contributions to :

- Nursing Academy that plan to send their students to work overseas as well as in hospitals.

- The Indonesian nurses who want to work overseas should provide themselves with good quality of English.
- The government especially for curriculum planner to increase English subjects in all vocational schools.
- Other writers or readers who are interested in ESP study so that every English course is designed for nurses.

