

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

There are two kinds of secondary school in Indonesia which are fundamentally differentiated based on the goals. They are general secondary school (SMA) and vocational secondary school (SMK). General secondary school focuses on knowledge expansion and skills improvement of students and preparing students for further education while Vocational secondary school focuses on the development of skills that apply to a certain specific occupation. Based on UU No. 23/2003 Vocational secondary school has specific study programs to prepare the students having a career or job based on the specific applied skills, to prepare the students become a productive human and professional. Actually, there are many kinds study programs in vocational secondary school, one of those is Accounting study program or in Indonesia called *Jurusan Akuntansi*. General secondary school and vocational secondary school should be having different materials based on the goals.

English is learned in vocational high school. There are four basic skills of the English namely reading, listening, speaking, and writing. One way that can be used to find out students' knowledge about English is by analyzing the students' writing. The students need to learn writing in order to be able to express their ideas, thoughts, and feelings. Riddel (2003:130) states that there are two reasons as the bases of why writing should be mastered by the students. First, the effective communication can

take place through the medium of writing. It means that writing can be a mean of communication. Second, the academic writing is emphasized on much greater accuracy and formal language that can be used by the students to reach their informational level.

English subject in vocational high school aims to develop students' ability in communication by using the target language, both in oral and written. But in the real implementation students who are taught in English subject in the classroom, have failed to use the target language properly in their real situation. The aim is easy to be said rather than to be done. There are some various factors that influenced them; such as students' interest in learning English has been low, the teacher mostly dominated the teaching learning process by tutoring, the teaching media has not supported the teaching learning process, and the major factor is the students' course book is not appropriate.

The interview has been done by the researcher with the English teacher of Accounting study program of eleventh grade students at Teladan vocational high school on July 07th 2017. Some information found by the researcher about the existing curriculum, syllabus, text book and also the students' problems in learning English. Based on the interview it was found the school use KTSP 2006 (Kurikulum Tingkat Satuan Pendidikan). The syllabus is not suitable and focuses to the accounting study program. The English textbook which is written "English for Elementary Level Vocational School", but the contents and topics of the writing

materials especially for procedure text are not specific with their study program. The writing materials like: “Make solar energy experiment and How to make a shelf” do not relate to the students need and major. The problems of the students in doing learning are they have low motivation, lack of vocabularies and the materials the teacher used in teaching is not appropriate with the students major.

Material is an important part of teaching and learning English. Tomlinson (2011) state that materials are anything that used to help language learners to learn. According to Richards (in Ampa et al 2013) material in language teaching have roles as a resource for presentation of materials either spoken or written, as a source of activities for learners’ practice and communicative interaction, as a references source for learners on grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, as a source of stimulation and ideas for classroom activities. Materials need to improve students’ writing ability. The evaluation of English writing material is needed to provide the relevant and reliable learning material. Suitability of materials refers to the materials that meet the needs of students. Those materials will give a direct impact to the teaching and learning process. It will make the students understand what they learn in English and encourage the students to improve their ability in writing. In other words, by providing the suitable materials can help students to get more exposure in English as well as learn something new they have not known.

The study is concerned with the English material for accounting study program, especially English writing material development. It is necessary to provide suitable

and interesting materials for students of the eleventh grade of SMK 1 Teladan Sumatera Utara based on their need to encourage them in practice writing.

B. The Problems of the Study

Based on the background of the problems above, the problem of the study to be formulated as the following

1. What the writing materials are appropriate to the needs of the eleventh grade students of Accounting Study Program at Teladan vocational high school?
2. How the appropriate English writing material is designed based on the students' needs of accounting study program for eleventh grade at Teladan vocational high school?

C. The Objectives of the Study

According to the problem that has been mentioned, the objectives of the study are:

- 1) to investigate the writing materials those are appropriate to the needs of students.
- 2) to develop the appropriate English writing materials based on the students' need for eleventh grade students of accounting study program at Teladan vocational high school.

D. The Scope of the Study

This study only focus on developing writing material especially procedure text based genre. The materials applied for Accounting study program of eleventh grade students at Teladan Vocational High School in the first semester.

E. The Significances of the Study

The findings of this study are expected to be relevant and useful theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the findings of the study are expected to be useful to enrich knowledge about the materials of procedure text which related to accounting study program.

Practically, the finding of this study will be useful for:

1. The English teacher- the learning material can be used as the reference for the English teacher to develop English writing materials.
2. The students- the learning material can be used encouraging students to develop their writing ability.
3. The other researchers- the learning material to be a relevant reference to develop their research.