CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the area of the research that will be covered in some headings (1) background, (2) statements of the problems, (3) objective of the research (4) significance of the research, (5) scope and limitation (6) definition of key terms. In addition, the background describes the reasons why the researcher intends to conduct the research. Then, the problem is formulated along with the objective of the research. This is followed by the significance of the research to inform how the results will be useful. Some limitation about what is included or not in this research is given in the scope of the research. Finally, the last part is the definition of key term.

A. Background of the Research

In education, based on Bernhardt College students need to write across three levels of cognitive processing, which are writing to inform, to convince, and writing to persuade the reader. College students' writing may have the clear content and purpose. There is some information in their writing which can convince and persuade the reader.

Thus, products of the cognitive processing are argumentative essay, editorial, article, and academic essay¹. Based on this, the researcher will focus on one of the product of the cognitive processing, it is argumentative essay. The reason is argumentative writing claims as the process of written which will do in

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¹ Sara Chusing Weigle. Assessing Writing, ... 12

university². It indicates that argumentative writing is closely related with students at university. Therefore, the researcher will analyze the argumentative writing skill of students English Education Department of UINSA.

In addition, Aristotle identified three basic sources of appeal which is combining into an effective argument. There are logos (claim, fact, belief, and value), ethos (arguer's character), and pathos (audience for the argument)³. It is similar with the criteria of writing for publication. In line with L.R. Baskoro that to write an opinion on newspaper needs strength argument, and knowing the audience⁴. The writers need those considerations before they decide to publish their writing. The clear argument and knowing audience will help the writer make a good opinion. Then, the researcher can conclude that argumentative writing is one of public writing. Both argumentative writing and public writing have same criteria for some terms. Therefore, the researcher wants to know the argumentative writing of students who ever wrote on newspaper.

However, Muhammad Nuh stated, that the writing skills of Indonesian students are still low⁵. In line with Alvi Puspita stated, that writing skill of

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² Online Writing Lab. Argumentative essay. (http://www.aims.edu/student/online-writing-lab/assignments/argument accessed on May 4, 2015)

³Fahnestock Jeanne and Secor Marie. *A Rhetoric of Argument third edition*. (New York: McGraw Hill, 2004), 19

⁴ BaskoroL.R. *Jurnalis mecara menulis opini*. https://catatanbaskoro.wordpress.com/2013/10/13/jurnalisme-cara-menulis-opini/accessed on May 4, 2015)

Muhammad Nuh. *Mendikbud: Publikasi jurnal ilmiah jalan terus.* (http://dikti.go.id/blog/2012/02/13/mendikbud-publikasi-di-jurnal-ilmiah-jalan-terus/ accessed on September 14th, 2015)

Indonesian is needed to improve⁶. Thus, based on the research conducted by Ismawati stated that university students of English Education Department UIN Surabaya 2013 are still low to produce readable argumentative writing. The next is research about writing conducted by Tuti Purwati. This research mainly discusses about the problem in students' writing and analyzes the writing with linguistic category taxonomy. Based on this, the researcher noted that mostly university students of Jenderal Soedirman University Purwokerto got error about noun phrase. Then, the research comes from Columbia University concludes that underprepared university student is low in aspect cohesion of paragraph.

The previous studies above indicate that university students are still low to write argumentative writing. There are some weakness students got such us noun phrase, cohesion of paragraph, and readable sentence. In this case, students need to know the way to increase their writing argumentative skill. One of the ways is students can learn from the other students who is better in argumentative writing. Therefore, today the researcher conducts a research about argumentative writing of students who have written on newspaper. The purpose is extend previous research on argumentative writing, checking the way of college student to apply their argumentative writing skill, and know the effect of argumentative writing skill for students' writing on newspaper.

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⁶ Alvi Puspita. *Mahasiswa dan menulis*. (https://rubrikbahasa.wordpress.com/2015/09/06/mahasiswadan-menulis/ accessed on September 14th, 2015)

Thus, this research will conduct in English Education Teacher Department (EETD) of UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. The researcher has two reasons for doing this research. Firstly, this department has a big attention on English's development in UINSA. This department has provided good facilities to support student in learning English well especially library. They have a major library that helps students to access English book easily. Secondly, argumentative essay was taught at fourth semester in English Education Teacher Department (EETD). The subjects are called argumentative writing class. The purpose is to equip the students mastering the technique of argumentative writing and being able to write a well structured argumentative essay in English⁷. Knowing those facts, the researcher is interested to know the argumentative writing skill of the students as the product of this department.

In this research, the researcher focuses on students from seventh semester of EETD of UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya 2015. Thus, based on preliminary research in EETD, the researcher finds participants who got argumentative essay materials and has published their writing. There are some students of seventh semester. This fact can support the researcher to achieve the purpose of this research.

By conducting this research, the researcher expects that she can share the way to write on media supported argumentative writing skill of students that they got in writing class. Thus, after the students know the result, they will be increasingly motivated to improve their argumentative skill.

⁷Diah Kamilasari Putri, S.Pd, M.Pd, *Basic course outline 2015*, (accessed on 17th of March 2015)

B. Research Question

Based on the background of the study above, the problems of the research can be formulated as follow:

- 1. How does the argumentative writing skill of students who ever wrote argument in newspaper?
- 2. What factors which influence the students' achievement in writing an argument for newspaper?

C. Objective of the research

According to the problem of the study, the researcher has some purposes.

- 1. To describe the argumentative writing skill of seventh semester students who ever wrote in newspaper.
- 2. To know the factors that influence students' achievement in writing an argument for newspaper.

D. Significance of the Research

In general, through this research, the writer expects that the result can share contribution for the following people:

1. For the Lecturer of English Education Teacher Department

The result of the research is expected to be able to provide information about the students' skill in writing argumentative essay. It may also be consideration to decide materials needed in teaching argumentative writing class.

 For the students of English Teacher Education Department of UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya

The research can be able to give information about the role of argumentative writing skill to support their writing on media.

3. For the researcher

By conducting this research, the researcher can find out the argumentative skill of seventh semester students who wrote on newspaper.

4. For other researcher

To be the source of information for other researchers who are also investigating about writing particularly argumentative writing.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Research

This research focuses on:

- 1. This research involved the seventh semester of English Education Teacher

 Department of UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya who wrote on media. It focuses
 on them because they have achievement in writing. Thus, the other students
 need to get useful thing from those students.
- Achievement for this research means the students have argument writing that published in newspaper. The arguments are both Indonesia or English language.
- 3. To know the argumentative writing skill of seventh semester students in writing who wrote opinion on newspaper, the research focuses on three

elements. There are introduction, claim, and conclusion. It does not have correlation with the number of sentence, the number of words, and number of syllables.

4. In this research, the researcher would not observe about the process of teaching writing in classroom. In contrast, the researcher just focuses on the way of students to write on media using argumentative skill they got. To know about it, the researcher will focuses on some terms such as students' argumentative essay, students' interest on writing, writing background, students' opinion about their argumentative skill, and students' opinion about their writing on media.

F. Definition of Key Terms

Some terms would be defined to eliminate the doubt in comprehending the title of the research, including the terms argumentative essay, argumentative skill, and writing on media. Thus, the following terminology is used in order to avoid misunderstanding and readers will have the same interpretation in understanding the research.

1. Writing skill is one of language skills that used for medium of communication, especially indirect communication⁸. For this research, writing skill related to the students strategy in writing introduction, claim, and conclusion of argumentative essay.

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 $^{^{8}}$ Donn Bryne. Teaching Writing Skill, (Hongkong: Longman Group Ltd, 1988), 47.

2. Argumentative essay is writing that seeks agreement about a point through the use of reasonable evidence⁹. In addition, the argumentative essay is students' own writing about a topic that consists of their opinion to ask the reader agreement.

3. Argumentative skill

In addition argumentative is mature reasoning¹⁰. It means an opinion to convince someone with clear reasons. The reasons must be developed with evidence like specific facts and examples. Then, skill is an attitude that it built on the idea¹¹.

4. Writing on media

Writing on media means write to newspaper, for Web site and then for television or radio¹². This writing will help the readers, listener, and viewer recognize culture trends. For this research, it means students' writing published on newspaper.

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⁹ Katherine J Mayberry, *Everyday Arguments third edition*, (New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2009), 5.

¹⁰ Timothy W. Crusius and Carolyn E. Channel. *The Aims of Argument fifth edition.* (New York: McGraw Hill, 2005), 3-4.

¹¹ John Langan. College Writing Skll sixth Edition.. (New York: McGraw Hill, 2004), 12.

¹² Michael Ryan and James W. Tankard JR. Writing for Print and digital media. (New York: McGraw Hill, 2004), 28.

5. Achievement

Achievement is raising expectations for valuable, higher order skills like critical thinking and innovation¹³. For this research, it means students capable to write for publication.



¹³ Minister' Students Advisory Council Representatives. *Achieving excellence*. McKinsey & Company