

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher presents six topics related to this research, included background of the research, formulation of research questions, purpose of the study, significance of the research, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Research

Education is one of important aspect on human's life. Everybody needs education to make their life better and easier. Education has the meaning as the efforts which are done by someone or a group of people in order to be adult people or get better life or higher life (Sadirman, 1992:4). People need to educate themselves and develop their knowledge, skill, moral, character, and also attitude. Education can't be separated from the teaching and learning process. Education can be conducted in formal or informal situation. People can get education everywhere. It can be gotten from school, family, environment, etc. Education has a crucial contribution to make a better life among people around the world. It also gives many benefits in improving skill, and ability especially for the learners.

As the effort in creating the intellectual, creative, competent, independent, and also responsible generation, the government states that the implementation of the curriculum will make the situation of teaching learning process more conducive, and it makes the learners develop their competency actively. The law

of the government puts forward the needs of the learners as the important aspect of education program.

To maximize the potential of the learners, in this global era, the government needs to develop the education system. This system will be done as the demand of the century. Now, we are living in 21st century era. Directorate of High School Coaching, General Directorate of Primary and Secondary Education, the Ministry of Education and Culture of Indonesia (2017:3) stated that 21st century is a century that is based on the knowledge and technology, so it demands the civilization of the country can be a master in creativities include the creativity of critical thinking and problem solving about problems that have been increased. Beside, in mastering knowledge and technology, language is an important aspect to understand it.

In this case, the language that the researcher wants to study is English. Nowadays, English is a universal language that has to be mastered by the learners. In formal education, starting from kindergarten until university, English is subject that has to be learned. In mastering knowledge and technology, learners need to understand the English well. In this era, English is an international language that almost all countries in this world use it as a tool for international communication. English is also used in developing knowledge and technology all around the world. By mastering English, learners will be expected to increase their knowledge and understand the development of technology easily.

For the 21st century curriculum development, there are some kinds of class that are provided in the school. One of them is Semester Credit System (SKS). It is the newest policy from the government in case to develop the education system, especially for curriculum 2013. Directorate of High School Coaching (2017:1) stated that Semester Credit System is a form of education in an educational unit that is designed to provide educational services that enable for the learners to complete their learning based on their talents, interests, competencies, and speed time of their learning.

SKS is applied because the competencies of the learners and the speed of their learning are different. There are three kinds of speed learning such as quick, normal, and slow. In this case, UU SISDIKNAS pasal 12 ayat 1 point f stated that learners can complete their educational program based on their own learning speed and do not deviate from the time limit. Directorate of High School Coaching (2015:2) stated that, based on the Ministry of Education and Culture of Indonesia Number 158 year 2014, SKS can be applied in junior high school or senior high school. In SKS, learners in same ability can pass or finish their study not in the normal time (three years). But, they can finish their study only in two years or four semesters.

Semester Credit System (SKS) is the newest policy from the government and it is different from the other education system. In SKS, students can choose their own time to finish their study based on their ability of course. If a student feels she/he can finish all credits quickly, so she/he can finish the study only in four semesters. But, if the students get many difficulties to pass their credits, they

may finish their study in eight semesters or four years. There are some education systems that make the students can finish their study not in normal time. One of them is acceleration. Same with SKS, in acceleration class, students also can finish their study only in two years. However, acceleration and SKS are different. In acceleration, the students who can pass this class and finish their study in four semesters must be a smart student. Students who are included in this class should join the test before entering the class. Acceleration students should be smart because in acceleration, the schedule and study time are same with the normal class. So, the acceleration students should follow the lesson quickly to finish all material in two years. Beside, in school that applies Semester Credit System, all students have same opportunity to finish their study only in two years. There is no special class like acceleration. All classes are same, but students in every class can finish their study in two years or four semesters if they can finish the credit quicker. Here, teachers who teach in school that apply this system should give personal treatment to service the uniqueness of each student, so the students can be divided into three speed group automatically, and they can motivate themselves to finish the study in 4 semesters or two years (quick), 6 semesters or 3 years (normal), or in 8 semester or 4 years (low). In Semester Credit System (SKS) teaching learning proses uses Unit Kegiatan Belajar Mandiri (UKBM) as translated as Independent Learning Activity Unit as the guidance for teacher and student to achieve and finish the Basic Competency and also students' credits.

Nowadays, senior high school students have lost their responsibility. In general, the learners do not know how to complete and how to continue their

study. Based on this phenomenon, the researcher thinks that the students who study in a school which applies SKS by using UKBM do their learning especially in English with many difficulties. As we know, in Indonesian curriculum, there are so many subjects or lessons that have to be learned by the students. There are around fourteen subjects per year. In SKS, all classes should be followed by the students to pass their credit quickly. The students will get tired. In this case, the students of course get many difficulties to get effective strategies, for arranging their time to study, and it makes the students lost their focus, their concentration, and also their motivation for study in the classroom. Motivation is very important aspect to make the students feel good for studying their subjects, and they can understand the lesson or the knowledge from their teacher easily.

Here, the researcher curious about the teacher practices in teaching English also giving motivation at 4th semester class students. The researcher wants to know how the teacher teaches the students that include in the school which applies Semester Credit System as a 21st century learning by using UKBM, so there are students who can finish the study only in 4 semesters or two years and how the students face their era that is 21st century era.

SMAN 2 Blitar is one school in Blitar that has been applied Semester Credit System (SKS). SMAN 2 Blitar, applied Semester Credit System, because SMAN 2 Blitar is referral school that has to apply this system as the example for another schools in Blitar, Kediri, Tulungagung, and Trenggalek. As a policy from the government, so SMAN 2 Blitar applied this system since academic year 2014/2015. There are three kinds of students in SKS: quick speed students,

normal speed students, and low speed students. For quick speed class students, of course, they need to get more intensive class for finishing their study in four semesters. They need to arrange their time study and they need to increase their motivation for finishing study. By this, this research tries to describe the implementation of UKBM especially for the 4th semester class that include in school that applies Semester Credit System (SKS) and integrate it with 21st century skills to face students' era, from the way how the teacher develops the strategies and how the teacher develop the quality of motivating in order to improve the learners' skill about English. From the explanation above, the researcher wants to conduct research by title "The Implementation of UKBM in Applying Semester Credit System (SKS) as a 21st Century Learning at 4th Semester Class at SMAN 2 Blitar in The Academic year of 2018/2019 for Mastering English".

B. Formulation of Research Problem

Based on the background of the study, the research problems of the study are formulated as follows:

1. How is the implementation of Independent Learning Activity Unit (UKBM) in Semester Credit System (SKS) as a 21st Century Learning at 4th Semester Class at SMAN 2 Blitar in the Academic year of 2018/2019 for Mastering English?

C. Objective of the Research

The research objective related to the research problems are:

1. To know the implementation of Independent Learning Activity Unit (UKBM) in Semester Credit System as a 21st Century Learning at 4th Semester Class at SMAN 2 Blitar in the Academic year of 2018/2019 for Mastering English.

D. Significance of the Research

The researcher hopes that this research will give some benefits and contribution for the readers. For the English teachers, it can be used for the reference and knowledge how to teach and motivate the students that include in school which applies Semester Credit System (SKS) and integrated with 21st century skill. For students, this research will give explanation about the newest curriculum in education system so students can motivate themselves to face their era and increase their motivation in mastering their English. The last is for the other researchers, it can be used as a reference or useful information for conducting the other research.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Research

To avoid misunderstanding upon what the researcher has explained, the researcher limits the scope of the study in order to make it more detail and focus. Here, some limitations proposed are as the following

1. The object of the study limited on the implementation of UKBM in applying SKS as a 21st century learning at 4th Semester Class at SMAN 2 Blitar.

2. The subjects of this study are English teacher and students of 4th semester class at SMAN 2 Blitar.
3. This study observed the implementation of UKBM in applying SKS as a 21st century learning at 4th Semester Class at SMAN 2 Blitar. It focuses on “teaching” activity only.

F. Definition of Key Terms

Definition of key terms are important to be given in order to avoid misinterpretation and misunderstanding. Referring to the topic discussed in this study some terms used that need to be defined as follows:

1. The Implementation of UKBM

The implementation of UKBM is UKBM used as guidance of teaching and learning process to achieve students' *Mastery Learning*. By implementing UKBM in teaching process it is expected that learners would be able to be great generation and accustomed to be critical thinking, creative, collaborative, and communicative with god characteristics. Beside 21st century skills, students have to be accompanied by development of character education (PPK) and good in literacy to increase their knowledge. Students need to get teaching learning process with HOTS (High Order Thinking Skills), to make the accustomed with problems around them.

2. Semester Credit System and 21st Century Learning

Semester Credit System is a form of education in an educational unit that is designed to provide educational services that enable for the learners to complete their learning based on their talents, interests, competencies, and speed time of their learning (Directorate of High School Coaching, 2017:1).

Education of 21st century era is learning process that integrated with literation competence, knowledge skills, creativity, attitude, and also mastering in technology (Directorate of High School Coaching, General Directorate of Primary and Secondary Education, the Ministry of Education and Culture of Indonesia: 2017). Those competencies can be developed by applying many kinds of learning methods which are based on activities that appropriate with characteristics of competencies and materials. There are some competencies (4C) such as critical thinking and problem solving, communication skills, creativity and innovation, and collaboration.

3. Mastering English

Mastering English language combines a systematic, detailed and lively approach that will stimulate, clarify, and where necessary, simplify many essential matters relating to the English language (S.H. Burton, J.A Humphries, 1992:224).