

## **CHAPTER 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter presents the Background of the Study, Formulation of Research Question, Purpose of the Study, Significance of the Study, Scope and Limitation of the Study, and Definition of Key Term.

#### **A. Background of the Study**

Writing skill is a certain ability that enables writers to put their ideas into words in a meaningful form of message. Writing skills assist the learner gain independence, comprehensibility, fluency, and creativeness in writing. Writing skills serve as the core of communication (Naveed & Bhowmik, 2016). Based on the definition above, writing skills are important to learn because to express the feelings and to communicate with others. Writing is an fundamental language that enhances skill and an essential ability because it becomes a means of learning, discovering, developing, and refining language ability. Particularly, writing is a crucial skills to be improved in any language because it enables communication and interaction, as well as, is part of everyday activities.

Students have challenging in writing. In addition, Rasyidah and Antoni (2014) reported that the students have difficulties in developing the ideas and paragraphs along with the diction problems. There have been some studies reveal that Indonesian students face difficulties learning English in writing skills. Persada (2016) investigated that university students face difficulties in writing essays in term of grammar, content,

vocabulary, organization, and the mechanism including the spelling and punctuation. According to Nanik Sri Rahayu (2010), there are 3 problems that caused in writing for students, they don't know they are going to write, they don't master the grammar, and they don't have sufficient vocabulary. Ariyanti (2016), the phenomena that student have difficulties in writing skills are caused by some relevance problems such as student's habit in learning in term of the seriousness of academic writing class and reading-writing culture in Indonesia.

In writing text students' sometimes make a mistake or error. Error is when a learner produces incorrect writing because they do not have enough knowledge about it. Gass and Selinker (2008), stated that learners produced an error as a signal that the learners were having difficulty with a particular structure. Error made by learners sometimes are caused by their habits when they use their first language, errors are often found when learners use English for a second language or English for foreign language. Therefore, learners' error in using English is a natural thing, it is an important part of the process of learning English. Some errors that are often encountered are from: 1). Errors in using verb group, 2). Error in agreement between subject and verb, 3). Errors in the use of preposition, 4). Errors in pluralization, 5). Errors in the use of pronoun and 6). Error in the use of conjunction.

Considering the obvious difficulties in improving writing skills, students need to develop the skill through different approaches and strategy.

To overcome the problem above students can learn right well using internet based media. Internet based media include application and social media. Application is a software that can be used to execute commands from the user. There are various application which are available based on their function. One of them is to connect with other people called social media.

Nowadays social media has become a part of young people. Young's people spend a lot of their time on social media. Social media is a place of great potential for learning especially English skills. They may share their understanding from journals online to other students. Furthermore, learning English using social media can help student to build stimulation and regardless of student, learning in social media also can help students upgrade their understanding. Rejecting the popularity of social media and refusing to utilize social networks are incompatible, because it is credible for giving students the best experience of learning. For this, social media interests students. Thus, social media can be obtained in a very valuable way for education.

There are so many social media that can be used as a tool to improve English skills such as Twitter. Twitter can encourage collaborative writing in class and provoke ideas among multiple users. Twitter is a social networking and microblogging online service that permits users to send and earn text-based messages or posts of up to 140 characters named "tweets". According to Khaerunnisa Syafitri et al., (2020) describes one of the twitter features as an auto-menfess account. Auto menfess is from Menfess or

Mention Confess. Auto menfess is feature on auto-based account that is considered alternative to makes it easier for users to search information. On twitter there is an auto-based accounts where users can send messages, search for information, and interact with others anonymously. This feature allows other Twitter users to send DM (Direct Messages) to the auto base account, and later the DM will be uploaded automatically into tweets from the auto base account (Syam & Maryani, 2019). One of the most popular auto-bases that students use to learn English is Englishfess. Englishfess account that has tweeted 49.8 thousand times and has 630 thousand followers since it was created in February 2021. In this account, users can ask anything related to English, send jokes, or discuss problems with used keyword “engask!” a user can send tweets in this account, but first the user must be followed back by this account.

There are research related to this research. (Dhir et al., 2013) research entitled “Tweeters on Campus: Twitter a Learning Tool in Classroom?” stated that Twitter has an impact on reading and writing skills, which encourages young students’ writing, comprehension, reading and even critical thinking. Students learn how to write effectively and properly address a huge number of people. Also, Aljasysyarin, Almathea Virdhausya (2022). Research entitled, The Use of Twitter auto-base Englishfess For Self Regulated Learning in Writing Skills: The Students’ Perception. This research stated that students felt positive perception from using auto based

accounts Englishfess. It was found that Englishfess can maintain motivation for students to keep sending question and interct with other students.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher would like to investigate college students at UIN Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah perception on the use of Englishfess as mediafor learning writing. The researcher hopes that after this research is made, the lecturer know the perception of college students at UIN Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah about the existence of Englishfess and could use the result of this study to develop EFL in college and know what students get when used automenfess in twitter.

## **B. Formulation of Research Question**

Based on the topic of this study, the researcher has identified the problems, which include:

1. How is the college students' at UIN Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah perception on the use of Twitter Open Base (English Menfess) to their writing skills?
2. What advantages do students' get when using Twitter Open Base (English Menfess) as a tool to improve their writing skills?

## **C. Objectives of The Study**

1. To know the perception of college students at UIN Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah when using Twitter Open Base (English Menfess) as media to learn writing
2. To identify the benefit of college students' get when using English Menfess as a tool to improve writing skills.

#### **D. Significance of the study**

This study has significances as written in the background, they are:

##### **1. For Students**

The researcher expects that this study can help students to find a new media to learning English especially in writing. Additionally, researchers determine that the results of this study can increase students' writing skills through twitter as a tool in learning so that they can proceed and improve English writing skills unassisted.

##### **2. For Teacher**

The researcher expect that this study can give an idea to the teacher in learning process strategy so that learning activities can be achieved effectively.

##### **3. For Other Researcher**

Hopefully other researchers use this research as a reference and comparison, also to develop this research to make it nicer.

#### **E. Scope and Limitation**

This research focuses on college students' at UIN Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah who follow Englishfess at twitter. Meanwhile the researcher is limiting respondents by conducting research on college students' which have 6 semesters and who follow Englishfess.

## **F. Definition of Key Terms**

1. Perception : A thought, belief, or opinion, often held by many people and based
2. Social Media : A computer-based technology that facilitates the sharing of ideas, thoughts, and information through virtual networks and communities.
3. Twitter: : Twitter is a social networking and microblogging online service that allows users to send and receive text-based messages or posts of up to 140 characters called tweets.
4. Auto-based : The account that tweets based on what was sent via DM (Direct Messages) to that account
5. English : English Menfess is one of auto-based accounts  
Menfess that is considered alternative to makes it easier for users to search and ask information about English on Twitter
6. Writing : Writing is ways to afford the students extended opportunities to think about, manipulate, and transform ideas and reflect on their existing knowledge, beliefs, and confusions in written form.