

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Vocational High School is one of education's levels which decide that English as compulsory subject. Teaching English in Vocational High School is different from other educational levels because it is more specific than teaching English in general. English Teachers who teach in Vocational High School need to prepare their students to use English in supporting their majoring subject and use it in the future.

The quality of students graduation can be influenced by teaching learning process. There are several factors that affect the quality of teaching learning process, like curriculum, teaching methods, teaching media, teaching materials, and so on (Depdiknas, 2006). Cunningsworth (1995) stated that the relevant materials is one of the important factor. The materials have function to facilitate the students to achieve the goal of teaching learning process. Unfortunately, the materials which are relevant or appropriate with the students' needs in Vocational High School are limited.

As an international language, English is needed for many specific purposes; that is why there is a term of ESP (English for Specific Purpose). In practice, there are variants of English use; depending on the specific purposes. This specification

of English use will help learners to master English as well as what they need in term of specific purpose that they have.

In education, ESP needs to be applied. Through ESP, students will find some teaching materials which are related to the majors that they have. Thus, it will be interesting for the students, and finally it will enrich the students' knowledge about their majors. In other words, by having ESP, students will learn English based on what they need.

In Indonesia, ESP is applied for fulfilling students' needs. ESP is essential to design teaching materials in knowing students' needs. Thus, when teaching English in Vocational High School, teachers should take notice of designing teaching materials based on students' needs related to the majors that the students focus on. If the process of English teaching in a Vocational High School does not apply ESP as an approach to meet students' needs, there will be a condition that the English taught to the students will be useless because of the gap between the English materials and what the students' needs.

SMK Sunan Giri Menganti is one of the Vocational High School which has a problem to find the appropriate English materials for their students' need in the future. The English teachers in SMK Sunan Giri Menganti only use worksheet (Lembar Kerja Siswa/LKS). Based on Tomlinson (2004), worksheets are not good for source of materials, but it good for exercises. It can show by the content of worksheet, from eight pages, the materials only take one to two pages and the rests are exercises. It is not enough materials for learning.

On the other hand, the worksheets which is developed from standart competence and basic competence in vocational school did not develop from what students' need. Most of the content of the worksheets adapted from general English course book. As a result, the worksheets contain of English in general and it is not appropriate with their majors. Based on the writer's analysis of English materials in SMK Sunan Giri, it was found that the English materials were not specified for any certain majors. In fact, students who take Office Administration (APK) major were taught by using English materials which were unrelated to their major. For example, APK students feel confuse when their productive subject teacher asks them to make offering letter in English because in their English subject, they only learn letter in general.

Many previous researchers develop appropriate English materials for Vocational Schools because they believe that it is important to fulfil the students' needs in learning English based on their majors. Yaniafari (2012) with the title "Developing Multimedia-Based Listening Materials for 1st Grade Students of SMK" found that the product was successful in making students interested in learning listening. Next journal come from Dedy (2013) with the title "Developing English Learning Materials For Grade Ten Students Of Culinary Arts Study Programme At SMK Muhammadiyah Wonosari In The Academic Year Of 2012-2013" found that the product generally met the standards of appropriate learning materials for vocational high school. The result of "Developing Reading Text Materials For Vocational School" by Septiyani (2014) found that reading text materials in form of procedure text which were developed

for vocational school will make the students not only study English but also enrich and activate their prior knowledge about culinary art. Apriliana (2014) in her journal with the title “Developing Interactive Listening Material Using Longtion Autorun Application for 10th Grade at SMA Muhammadiyah 8 Morowudi.” found that the students score significantly increased after using the product. It is indicated that the product is good and appropriate used to the students.

Based on the problem and some previous studies above, the researcher believe that developing appropriate English materials for APK students in SMK Sunan Giri Menganti is urgent to do. This study tries to develop the appropriate English materials which support the English teaching and learning process at SMK Sunan Giri Menganti.

1.2 Objective of the Study

The objective of study is to develop English materials for APK students at SMK Sunan Giri Menganti.

1.3 Significance of the Study

The result of this study is expected to give contributions theoretically and practically. For theoretical aspect, the result of this study is hoped to provide theory in designing the appropriate learning materials for specific major which are also in line with the curriculum.

In relation to practical side, it is also expected to give some contributions. First, for the teachers; the product of this study is hoped to be source of the

materials in teaching. Next, for the learners; the product of this study can improve students' English proficiency which relevant to their major. The last, for the future researchers; the product of this study can develop ideas to their study and also can be used as their review.

1.4 Scope and Limitation of the Study

With the intention of specifying the discussion of this study, the researcher limits this study only attempted to develop appropriate English learning materials for first grade of APK students especially in second semester.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

There are some key terms which are necessary to make this discussion more obvious. These are material development and APK major. Material development is a short of interchange between learning needs, language content and subject-matter content in order to create appropriateness. So, the specific meaning of developing is creating, improving and changing something to be better. On the other hand, APK major is one of majors in vocational high school which has main purpose to create the students be secretaries as the graduation.