

I. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Problem

In learning English, the students are expected to have skill in English, there are listening, speaking, reading and writing. Writing and speaking skills are productive skills that are very important for students to learn. However, the students do not master four English skills very well, especially in writing skill. This stands to reason because writing skills is the most complex language skill to master because writing skills involved knowledge of sentence structure, diction, organization of ideas, etc (Haris, 1979).

Based on School – based Curriculum (Depdiknas: 2006) the students must be able to communicate oral and written text, mainly in the narrative, recount, explanation, discussion, commentary, and review by stressing on the interpersonal complex meaning and variety textual meaning. Raimes (1983:76) says that writing is a skill in which we express the ideas, feelings, and thought arranged in words, sentences and paragraphs using eyes, brain and hand. But in fact, based on the researcher experienced during doing the research, this objective is very hard to achieve. The students often get the difficulties during the learning process, especially to express their ideas into words or sentences. Almost of the students are still confused about what will they write and how to write it.

The study done by Asnawati Tambunan (2010) sldo stted that the students also got some difficulties to write, especially to express their ideas in order to make a good paragraph in the form of effecitve composition. Here, the teacher should be creative in teaching the students, and finding the effective material and method for writing class.

In this case, based on implementing the KTSP it is suggested to apply Contextual Teaching and Learning to teach writing. Basically, CTL is a method of teaching and learning that helps teachers relate the subject matter content to real world situations and motivates students to make connection between knowledge and its application to their lives as family members, citizens, and workers. Owen states that Contextual teaching and learning is teaching that enables the students to reinforce, expand, and apply their academic knowledge and skill in variety of in-school and out-of-school settings in order to solve simulated or real world problems. Henceforth, it can be inferred that by CTL teacher creates a natural environment, so the students experience not just know the language but also know how to implement their knowledge in the real world. In the context of writing skills CTL provides the learners with systematic way of thinking, as well as in active learning.

Considering the background above the writer focused the research on the students' ability in writing by using CTL in order to improve the students' ability in writing recount text in teaching writing. This research is conducted at the second year of SMA Muhammadiyah 2 Bandar Lampung. And the writer assumed that by CTL the students of second year of SMA can learn English especially in recount text writing easily. And the students can improve their achievement in writing recount text

1.2. Formulation of the Problem

In reference to the background, previously stated, research question formulated is:

"Can Contextual Teaching and Learning (CTL) improve student's recount text writing ability?" To this question, the specific problem is can contextual teaching and learning improves students' ability in writing recount text in terms of *coherence*.

1.3. Objective of the Research

The objective of this research is to find out whether Contextual Teaching and Learning (CTL) improves student's recount text writing ability during teaching learning process in the classroom.

1.4.The Use of the Research

It is expected that the result of this research can have the following uses:

1. Theoretically, it may support theories that Contextual Teaching and Learning (CTL) can be applied in teaching English, especially in improving student's ability in recount text writing.
2. Practically, it may inform teachers that Contextual teaching and learning (CTL) can give some benefit as to increase the student's achievement particularly in recount text writing.

1.5.Scope of the Research

This research was conducted at SMA Muhammadiyah 2 Bandar Lampung. There were five classes of second year students. This class is considered to have learned, recount text model which requires knowledge of vocabulary, grammar, tenses, reading skills, etc. Two classes were taken as the samples which one class as control class while the other as experimental class. The classes were chosen randomly by lottery in order to avoid subjectivism in gathering the valid data. The treatment was conducted for three times in which the experimental class followed the teaching learning process through Contextual Teaching and Learning (CTL), whereas the control class followed the teaching learning process through ordinary technique.

Moreover, the writer evaluated the difference of student's ability in recount text writing achievement between students taught through CTL and those taught through ordinary

technique in order to see whether CTL was effective or not by giving both of classes pretest and post test.

1.6. Definition of the Terms

In the effort of avoid misunderstanding, there are some terms used in this study which are defined here:

1. Writing is one of language skill in which the students learn how to get ideas and expresses the ideas in written form by applying grammar, vocabulary, mechanics and organization.
2. Writing ability is a skill in which we can express ideas, feelings, and thoughts, which are arranged in words, sentences and paragraphs.
3. Text is any meaningful stretch of language either oral or written in the form of word, clause, and sentence.
4. Contextual Teaching and Learning (CTL) is a method in teaching and learning that relates subject matter content to real world situation and motivates students to make connection between knowledge and its application to their lives.
5. A technique is something that actually takes place in language teaching or learning in the classroom.
6. Method is a way of doing something.