

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Research Background**

Teachers hold the essential points in developing or enhancing students' activity. The teacher is responsible for the teaching and learning process to create an effective, creative, and innovative ecosystem in the classroom. Therefore, teachers can build an active situation in the school. To get the expected result in students' achievement, it needs a teacher with a set of competence can boost the students' potential. According to Fauth et al., (2019), teachers' professional competence matters for student development. Teachers must unleash their skills to complete the competence set by a nation.

In fulfilling the goals, the teacher not only demands to master the subject but also has the skill to manage educational activities. Teaching is challenging; teachers must keep aware of the changing times and remain relevant. Certain competencies cannot be obtained only with theory but through practical experience. The lecturer gives the students their knowledge to prepare the students to be great teachers. However, students need an exposure environment to get used to interacting and teaching in English on a daily basis. To get that exposure, students must be fully active in finding the right place to learn, including following the programs that have the purpose of developing and supporting leadership in people. Out of many programs existing, Universitas Tanjungpura has an organization called AIESEC.

AIESEC is an international organization focusing on youth leadership development and is present in more than 120 countries. The vision of Aiesec is "We strive to achieve Peace and Fulfillment of Humankind's Potential" by providing a cross-cultural exchange experience abroad. Gross (2014) stated that AIESEC was initially created to break down cultural barriers after World War II. AIESEC's mission is to develop leaders because that is the fundamental solution to achieving the vision by providing practical experience in challenging environments. Way before a teacher can be an example and a leader for their students, they need to work on their teaching skills. This exchange experience will help the participants increase and develop their teaching competencies by participating in real experiences provided by AIESEC that focus on leadership and social issues, more importantly, education.

AIESEC in Untan was established in 2013 and brought the Global Volunteer program to be a place to elevate the youths' potential. Global Volunteer is a volunteering program for 6-8 weeks abroad. The program aims to deliver a cross-cultural exchange experience to the youth or students at Universitas Tanjungpura by supporting seventeen points of the Sustainable Development Goals initiative by the United Nations. The requirement of Global Volunteer is youth aged 18 to 30 years old. The researcher chose Global Volunteer to discuss in this research because of the practical experience that the exchange participants get. Interacting and teaching students of different

nationalities must be given exchange participants unusual experiences that make it stand out from any other volunteer program.

The research topic is English Students' Teaching Experience Joining AIESEC Exchange Program in Practicing Teaching Competences, which provides practical experience in challenging environments. Go out of their comfort zone, such as meeting and dealing with new friends, living in another country, and observing the culture while doing volunteer activities following the schedule provided by Aiesec members. The researcher found three students from Universitas Tanjungpura who participated in the Global Volunteer program. The exchange participant chose the project in Malaysia supporting sustainable development goals, number four, Quality of Education, intending to help and teach students in Malaysia.

There has yet to be any previous research about teaching experience in practicing teacher competence related to AIESEC. Still, few kinds of research have been done on teaching experience and teacher competence. The researcher found research exploring the professional competence of English teachers by Amalia (2020). The study explained what it looks like to be an experienced English teacher and the challenges teachers face. Another study showed that teaching practice could impact the teacher's professional skills and development. From the previous studies, it can be concluded that the research has a similar topic about teaching experience and teacher competence.

This research discussed the experience of the exchange participant in practicing their teaching skills through the AIESEC program. These three participants already learn the basics of English Education and how to deliver material, but they haven't practiced their teaching skills. This research filled the gap by describing the exchange participants' journey in practicing their teaching skills. Hence, the researcher wanted to know how the exchange participants practiced their teaching skills, with the title English Students' Teaching Experience Joining AIESEC Exchange Program in Practicing Teacher Competences (A case study of exchange participants by AIESEC in the Untan year of 2018-2019).

### **1.2 Research Question**

Based on the background written above, the research question can be formulated as follow:

1. What teaching experiences have English students had in participating in the AIESEC program?

### **1.3 Research Purpose**

The purpose of this study is:

1. To describe the exchange participants' teaching experience in practicing teacher competencies through the AIESEC exchange program.

#### **1.4 Research Scope**

The scope of this research is that the researcher focused on the exchange participant's journey in one of the AIESEC programs called Global Volunteer. The researcher chose three Exchange Participants from English Department who went to Malaysia. The three of them were chosen because they went in 2018 – 2019. The researcher interviewed the exchange participant to collect the data.

#### **1.5 Research Significance**

As the completion of this study, the researcher hopes that it would be beneficial for the following group of people:

1. The students

Hopefully, the study results can provide helpful information about the program to help them increase their teacher competency development.

2. The lecturers

The researcher hopes this research can support or help the lecturers boost the students' energy or spirit by recommending the Global Volunteer program to develop students' competency as a teacher.

3. The University

The researcher hopes this research can encourage the university to share and support the program to develop students' competency as a teacher.

#### 4. The other researchers

The research result is expected to become a reference or source for other researchers who want further research on a similar problem.

### 1.6 Terminology

To avoid miss understanding unfamiliar terms in this research, the researcher attempts to list the specific terms as follows:

#### 1.6.1 AIESEC

AIESEC was founded in 1948 with an acronym for “ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES ÉTUDIANTS EN SCIENCES ÉCONOMIQUES ET COMMERCIALES,” but the acronym is no longer used because it is not relevant. Aiesec evolved as a non-governmental, non-political, independent, and not-for-profit organization run by youth from 18 to 30.

#### 1.6.2 Global Volunteer

Global Volunteer is a volunteering program for 6-8 weeks abroad. The program aims to deliver a cross-cultural exchange experience to the youth or students at Universitas Tanjungpura by supporting seventeen points of the Sustainable Development Goals initiative by the United Nations.

### 1.6.3 Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainable Development Goals have 17 points, initiated by The United Nations. The points are; No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well-being, Quality of Education, Gender Equality, Clear Water and Sanitation, Affordable and Clean Energy, Decent Work and Economic Growth, Industry Innovation, and Infrastructure, Reduce Inequalities, Sustainable Cities and Communities, Responsible Consumption and Production, Climate Action, Life Below Water, Life on Land, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, Partnerships For The Goals. In this study, the project focuses on supporting Sustainable Development Goals point four, Quality of Education. The exchange participant is expected to help the teacher by teaching English to students and being an ambassador from the exchange participant's home country.

### 1.6.4 Exchange Participant

The exchange Participant is the one who does the volunteer activity through AIESEC's program. Youth aged from 18 to 30 years old are eligible to participate in AIESEC's program.

#### 1.6.5 Competency

Competency is a set of capabilities to do, use, or apply something related to knowledge, skills, and abilities. Competency is required to perform the critical work or tasks needed in the work setting.

#### 1.6.6 Experience

Experience means knowledge gained by observation or participation in events. The experience could include practical knowledge, skill, or practice derived from a particular activity. Experience is the act or process of directly perceiving events or reality.