CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

There are four language skills that must be simultaneously achieved by the students in learning a language in English namely listening, speaking, reading and writing. The four language skills are very useful for the students whether they are testing foreign language abilities or other skills, especially on students' writing proficiency in order to measure their knowledge. It is wrong to say that writing is a waste of time. Actually, writing is a good way in developing ideas, but most of the students are still difficult to express their ideas in writing.

Writing is an important tool. The students can write throughout their life. The students use writing to express their feelings and ideas to communicate with others and also to help remembering the facts and details. Writing is the expression of language in the form of letters, symbol and word. Writing has always formed part of the syllabus in teaching English. Writing is use for a wide variety of purpose and it is produced in many different forms.

When writing, the students frequently need more time to think than to do oral activities. They can think something which they have known in their minds and find out the difficult words in the dictionary or other references. Writing encourages the students to focus on accurate language used. The students are not writing to become better writers, but they are writing to help them to learn better.

John (2001) stated that the students' writing in coursework and examination that assessor find out was to measure what the students know, how much the students understand, and how the quality of the students' thinking. So it depended not only on knowledge and understanding of subject, but also on how the students write well. In any subject, if two students had equal ability and intelligence, the one who was better able to convey thoughts effectively in writing, so he/she would get higher score than the one. Besides, the score of KKM (Passing Minimum Criteria) in SMP PAB 10 Medan was 70. So the score of the students was expected can reach the score.

Based on the writer's observation in junior High School in seventh grade, most of the students got bored and lost their interest in writing, especially in writing procedure text. They did not know what to write and how to write a text. The difficulties were faced by the students in writing process were caused by many factors, namely lack of knowledge, lack of vocabulary, lack of grammar, and lack of motivation to write. They were not confident to use their own language. Sometimes, they did not know how to develop their ideas when writing.

 Semester
 Criteria

 Reading
 Speaking
 Listening
 Writing

 I
 78
 72
 70
 58

 II
 80
 75
 75
 64

Table 1.1 The Score of Grade VII students

Related to the students' difficulties in writing, the teacher chose various technique, media or approach in teaching writing in order solve their problems.

Media is a tool for teaching in learning process. Media is communication medium in teaching learning process in form of hard ware and software to reach process and the result of instructional effectively and efficiently and the aim of instructional can be achieved easily. Media can support teaching learning process too. There are many kinds of media such as picture, diagram, chart, map, flashcards, and etc. One of them always uses flashcards as media in teaching procedure text.

One of the ways that can be applied to eliminate the students' difficulties was the application of Students flashcards media in teaching learning. Jhon(2001) used and applied this method in teaching writing. It showed the improvement for the students' ability in writing and made the students to be more active in studying. The students felt interested in writing. Because in flashcards media, the students are assigned to four-member learning teams that are mixed in performance level, gender and ethnicity. The teacher presents a lesson and then the student's work with their teams to make sure all the team members have mastered the lesson. Then, all the students take individual quizzes on the material, where they may not help one another. The main of idea flashcards media is to motivate the students to encourage and help each other master skill presented by the teacher. The students work together after the teacher's explanation. They may work in pairs and compare answer, discuss discrepancies, and help each other with many misunderstandings. They may discuss approaches to solve the problems and their strengths and weaknesses to help them succeed on the quizzes.

Because team score are based on student's improvement over their own past records, all the students have the chance to be team "star"

Therefore, the writer hopes used as flashcards in teaching learning can help the students improve their ability in writing procedure text.

B. The Problem of Study

Based on the background of the study given, the problem is formulated as the following does the application of using flashcards in teaching significantly improve the student's achievement in writing procedure text

C. The Objective of Study

This study is aimed to find out whether student's achievement in writing procedure text can improved the students writing achievement used flashcards media.

D. The Scope of the Study

This study is focused and limited on teaching how to write procedure text by using flashcards media.

E. The Significance of the Study

The finding of the students is expected to have both theoretical and practical importance in writing as a process and product especially the framework of writing.

 Theoretically, the finding can add horizons in the theories of language learning particularly in the learning of English in addition the finding can be references for further studies

- 2. Practically the finding can be of some use to.
 - (1). English teacher in refereeing technique of write.
 - (2). Sstudents in learning how to write procedure and.
 - (3). Ttext book writers improving text book for the SMP student

