

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Language is one of the most important things in communication and it is used as a tool of communication among the nations in all over the world. As an international language, English is very important and has many interrelationships with various aspects of life owned by human being. There are four important skills in English. They are reading, writing, listening and speaking. People need to learn writing English, for occupational or academic purposes. Writing is one of media communication. It purposes to express ideas, feelings, opinions, experiences, or information in form of writing language.

Writing is one of language skills in English that is very important to be mastered. Even though, most people think that writing is a difficult activity, both in mother tongue and in a foreign language, because the reader can't see the writer. In general, writing is complex and difficult among the language skills. It is a must for the language learners to master writing skill. Without having good knowledge in writing, it is so difficult to be able to convey the ideas to the readers. That is why writing is one of important things that must be taught to the students.

One of the genres that should be mastered by students in the process of learning English is descriptive text. In this study, the researcher only deals with writing descriptive text that purposed to describe thing, person, or place, so the

reader can imagine what the researcher wrote. Saragih (2010:20) claims that Descriptive text is a kind of text that has purpose to describe a particular person, thing, or place.

Harmer (2004) defines that writing is significantly different from speaking. The final product of writing is not nearly so instant, and as a result the writer has a chance to plan and modify what will finally appear as the finished product. Writing was not interesting to some students and they felt that this activity wasted time. One of the obstacles that writing teachers have to overcome is a reluctance on the part of their students to engage in writing activities with any enthusiasm.

Writing not only needs what to write the content of the writing but also needs the method or technique or procedure how to write what you want to write down. In other words, writing is a powerful instrument of thinking, because it provides students with a way of gaining control over their thoughts. Writing shapes their perceptions of themselves and the world. It aids in their personal growth and their affective change on the environment.

Based on the writer's observation at school SMA N 1 Binjai in teaching practice program. She found that students were not able to formulate their ideas and their vocabulary in writing a text. It is proven that most of the students can not write a simple writing, as the result they always get low score in writing.

Partner technique is believed to be able to enable the students' skill in writing because students can be more active and productive in groups and all the

members can exchange their opinion and idea in order to make a good and detailed description.

B. The Problem of the Study

In relation to the background of the study, the problem of this study is formulated as the following: “Is there any significant effect of partner technique on students’ achievement in descriptive text?”

C. The Scope of the Study

There are many technique that teachers can suggest to students for enhancing the quality and strenght of their writing. Beside it, there are some genres in writing. They are descriptive, narrative, recount, procedure, report, exposition, explanation, discussion, and news item. In this case, the writer limits this study on applying partner technique s to effect students’ achievement in writing descriptive.

D. The Objective of the Study

The objective of this study is to find out the effect of applying partner technique on students’ achievement in writing.

E. The Significance of the Study

Findings of the study are expected to be useful and relevant theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretically

This study will give additional contribution to the students and lectures.

They will know about writing to their learning process.

2. Practically

a. This study will add the literature for the reader to discover the ideas for writing

b. The readers are able to achievement writing which included the partner technique.