CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Understanding the meaning of certain language especially English that is not our own language is more difficult. People should understand one word to another word until they can find the meaning of one sentence and get the correct insight of that sentence. However, learning certain language by using several methods, techniques, and strategies is more helpful to reach the comprehension of language itself. Richards (2007) states that English is the language of globalization, international communication, commerce and trade, the media and pop culture, different motivation for learning it come in to play.

In Indonesia, English is one of the formal subjects that is included in the curriculum. It has been taught from the primary up to university level. The Department of National Education has made English as a compulsory subject and positioned it as the first foreign language to be taught in school based on the curriculum. In order to be able to communicate in English, students are expected to master the four English skills, they are the mastery of the receptive skills (reading and listening) and the mastery of the productive skills (speaking and writing).

One of the skills in English subject is writing that also has an own passion to make the students really more learn about English. Writing is very important for purpose of study or careers. The example can be taken from a company. Some of the companies in Indonesia, especially an international companies ask the
candidate of employee to write the curriculum vitae in English form. It is showed that ability in writing of English form is needed for the people who want to work in an international companies. Besides that, the students who want to get a scholarship also need to master the writing of essay, it is aimed to know how the way of students’ thinking because writing can determine how is someone.

English is still a foreign language in Indonesia. That is the first problem in learning writing in English. Basic idea in writing can be gotten easily, but the plot that lead a writer for the next step to develop the idea is hard. The writer need to find the pattern and also the proper words. As a foreign language, the spelling and grammar of English also become another problem for the writer, especially the students that still has a lack of vocabulary and knowledge about English. Here, Nation (2009) explains that:

Some learners are able to say what they want to write but have difficulty in putting it into written form. That is, they have problems in translating their ideas into text. Some learners can do this but are very slow. That is, they lack fluency in turning ideas to text. A possible cause is the difference between the writing systems of the learners’ first language and the second language.

According to the genres of text, Narrative is a good genre for the beginner of English learner. That is the reason of narrative always become a topic of English subject in senior or high school of Indonesia. It makes the students have to think about the plot, proper words, and also the right grammar. It is not easy to be teached, the teacher has to encourage the desire of students to write a narrative text. Motivation to write is the priority to be raised, because this complex skill makes the students hard to think, and easy to be desperate to write. Riyana Dewi (2013) has concluded that the motivation of the students in learning narrative writing by applying cartoon series were high, namely 79.4%. From the result
above, comic strip can be expected to stimulate the motivation of students in writing narrative text.

In this research, the researcher try to apply the comic as teaching media in teaching writing narrative text. Based on Morrison, Bryan, and Chilcoat (2002), there are some consideration in using comic, such as comic is a popular writing work, so the students that basically teenager love to read comic. The motivation comes from love. And then, comic has a pattern of plot, so it can help the students in writing. They need to be helped as the beginner, it can generate the basic of their way of thinking. At least, it can help the students to know the part of the narrative itself. Besides, comic can also help the students to findi or determine the proper words to be used, because comic has the balloon speech. This part of comic help the students not only in determining words, but the grammar also such as converting the direct speech into indirect speech.

Based on the statement above, the researcher is interested to research about “The Effect of Using Comic Strip on Writing Narrative Text”.

B. The Problem of the Study

In relation to the background of the study, the problem of the study is formulated as the following : Does comic strip as teaching media affect the students on writing narrative text?

C. The Scope of the Study

There are many genres of text that can be used in this research. However, the scope of the study is limited on the narrative text. Thus, the study will investigate the effect of comic strip as teaching media on writing narrative text.
D. The Objective of the Study

The objective of the study is to find out the effect of comic strip as teaching media on students’ writing narrative text.

E. The Significance of the Study

The findings of the study are expected to be useful:

1. Theoretically
   The findings of the research will give theoretical contribution to the truth of the theory of schemata theory from which the schematic relation is developed, and the scemathic relation underlies the comic strip as teaching media.

2. Practically
   To improve the students’ writing narrative and widen their horizon about the function of comic strip in their writing, to improve the quality of students’ narrative text writing, and to use this study as reference for next researches.