CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

There are four skills in language learning such as speaking, reading, writing, and listening. Writing is an activity to express thoughts, ideas, and feelings in written form which aims to make the reader knows or understand the values in an article so that the reader thinks or does something related to the content of the writing. Spelkova and Hurst (2016) believed that writing is the most difficult skills in English. Pleugar (2001) also stated that writing is often thought as the most difficult of four skills, because learners have difficulty in improving their performances, and are not sure how to do so. It means that most of students feel hard when they asked to write a text.

Writing skill is an important skill to be learned and mastered by students. Therefore, the government has set an educational curriculum that determined text types as subject matter. Students will study the types of texts that have been determined by the government, one of which is narrative text. It teaches students about the story of past events. In writing narrative text, students must have ideas about the story to be written. Students also must be able to arrange sentences and paragraphs properly and correctly. Therefore, it is a challenging task facing by English teachers in how to capture the interest and to stimulate the imagination of the students to help them in learning writing.

As an educators, teachers should use appropriate and creative ways in teaching writing to students, in this case is writing narrative text. Teachers should

focus on making strategies in writing activities. Teachers should design creative writing activities so that students can be more interesting and active in the learning process, especially in learning writing narrative text. In the learning process, teachers should be able to motivate students, create an effective learning atmosphere that can help students generate their ideas in learning writing.

In this modern era, education in Indonesia has been influenced by the development of technology as the sign of the existence of the industrial revolution 4.0. In the field of English education for instance, to assist students in dealing with technological advances, teachers should be able and understand to use the developing technologies. Furthermore, in order to achieve an effective, efficient and interesting teaching learning process, it is necessary to have innovation in the technology of information and multimedia in the learning process. Therefore, as educators, teachers should be able to apply these technologies, such as digital media to help students in mastering the four skills, namely reading, listening, speaking, and writing.

The preliminary data was gained by the interview with two students and an English teacher of SMK NEGERI 1 PATUMBAK on 24th March 2021. The researcher interviewed an English teacher and two students to get preliminary data related to the media that the teacher used in teaching writing to students, especially writing narrative text. Here is the interview result between Interviewer (I) and Teacher (T):

I : *Apakah mam menggunakan media dalam mengajar menulis teks narasi?*

(Do you (Ma'am) provide any media for teaching writing narrative text?)

T : Ya, biasanya saya menggunakan media printed seperti buku pelajaran

untuk mengajar menulis teks narasi kepada siswa

(Yes, I usually use printed media such as textbook for teaching writing

narrative text to students)

I : Selain buku pelajaran, apakah ada media lain yang mam gunakan untuk

mengajar?

(Besides textbook, is there any other media that you (Ma'am) use to

teach?)

T : Tidak, saya hanya menggunakan buku pelajaran

(No, I only use textbook)

Here is the interview result between Interviewer (I) and Students (S):

I : Apakah guru menggunakan media dalam mengajar menulis teks narasi?

(Does the teacher use media in teaching writing narrative text?)

S : Guru hanya menggunakan buku pelajaran dalam mengajar menulis teks

narasi

(The teacher only use textbook in teaching writing narrative text)

I : Dengan hanya menggunakan buku pelajaran, apakah itu membuat kalian

tertarik dan memotivasi kalian untuk belajar menulis teks narasi?

(By only use textbook, does it make you interesting and motivate you in

learning writing narrative text?)

S : Tidak, karena media yang digunakan guru menurut kami kurang menarik untuk belajar menulis, walaupun guru memberi penjelasan mengenai teks narasi tersebut, tu membuat kami merasa bosan

(No, because we think the media used by the teacher is less interesting to be use as a media in learning writing, although the teacher gives explanation about narrative text, it makes us bored)

Based on the preliminary data, the researcher found the problem that the teacher only explained the material to the students about narrative text without provided an interesting media to support the learning process. As the existing media, the teacher only used printed media such as textbook without any other interesting media that can support and help the learning process. As a result, there were many students bored, lack motivation, and less interesting in learning writing narrative text.

There are many solutions to overcome the problems. One of the ways is by using appropriate media for teaching (Nur, 2012). Sukiman (2012) defined media as an intermediary which transmits messages from the source to the message recipient. Teaching media is the media used by the teacher in the classroom to achieve learning goals. The existence of media makes it easier for teachers to transfer knowledge and makes it easier for students to understand the learning process. By using media, the delivery of material and messages in the learning process will be easier and more effective, so that it will increase the interest and motivation of students in learning writing narrative text.

One of the teaching media is picture media. Picture media is teaching media that is included in the kinds of visual media. With picture media, it is expected can to help students to organize their ideas to write a narrative text properly and correctly. Pictures can provide stimulation for writing-habit activities (Harmer, 2007). The use of pictures will make it easier for students to understand the learning material by observing and analyzing the objects, people or steps contained in the pictures provided by the teacher. In other words, picture is one of the appropriate media that can be used by teachers in the creative writing activities in the classroom, especially picture series.

Picture series is a kind of media which belongs to picture category. Wright (1997) defined the pictures series are pictures, which show some actions or events in chronological order. It is compatible with the narrative text. It shows some steps by the pictures which can make it easier for students to write a narrative story chronologically based on the series of picture. Furthermore, Sulastri (2019) states that the use of picture series can help the teaching and learning process running well. The students can generate their ideas in writing narrative text by observing, analyzing, and understanding the pictures which are given by the teacher. Picture Series which is a creative and interesting media will attract students to learn writing more (Sahputra, 2017). It can attract students' attention in the writing process. It can also help students to find information and ideas about what should be write, because it provides a clear description of what happened to the events chronologically.

Regarding the use of digital media and new concept of technology, the researcher interested to develop Digital Picture Series as a media for teaching

writing narrative text. Digital Picture Series is an online Picture Series creator that helps visually communicate ideas and concepts to write a story appropriately. Different from Picture Series in general, which only presented in the form of printed media, Digital Picture Series is presented in the form of digital media, where the researcher used the help of computers or with computer media and is currently developing through online media/internet to create Digital Picture Series Media.

From the background above, the researcher interested to develop Digital Picture Series as a media for teaching writing narrative text for grade X students of SMK NEGERI 1 PATUMBAK by using digital applications. The existence of Digital Picture Series is expected to be appropriate media to help students in writing good and correct narrative text.

B. The Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study, the problem of the study is formulated as follow: How is the development of digital picture series as a media for teaching writing narrative text for grade X students of SMK NEGERI 1 PATUMBAK?

C. The Objective of the Study

Based on the problem of the study, the objective of the study is to develop digital picture series as a media for teaching writing narrative text for grade X students of SMK NEGERI 1 PATUMBAK.

D. The Scope of the Study

Based on the background of the study, this research is covering the development of digital picture series media for teaching writing skill for grade X students of SMK NEGERI 1 PATUMBAK. The researcher used digital applications to create digital picture series media. The genre that the researcher used in this research is narrative text and only focus on legend/historical story.

E. The Significance of the Study

The research finding beneficial for students, teachers, and other researchers theoretically and practically as follows:

1. Theoretically

The findings of this research will be extended the horizons in theories related to the development of digital media, especially digital picture series for teaching writing narrative texts.

2. Practically

1) For teachers, the result of this research is expected to help them in the teaching process by using the developed digital media, especially in teaching writing narrative text. It is also expected to be a motivation and inspiration for teachers to be more creative and innovative in developing interesting and effective learning media.

2) For students, the result of this research is expected to be an interesting media that can help them in learning writing narrative text. In addition, it can also motivate and encourage students to be involved in the learning process, so it can increase students' writing skills.

3) For other researchers, the result of this research is expected to be a motivation and inspiration to develop an interesting and effective digital teaching or learning media in order to help teachers and students in the learning process. Besides that, it can also be a reference for similar research.