

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Language has a very important role in human activities. It is used as a means of communication with other people to express feelings, thoughts, and ideas in spoken as well as in written forms. At present, learning English is becoming more and more important. This era of globalization is an era full of challenges and competitions where the proficiency in spoken and written English is compulsory. With this competence, it enables one communicate with other people from different countries in many activities.

English has been taught from the Elementary School level up to the University and even now, it has been taught in the Kindergarten level. Learning English in Senior High School is based on The Educational Unit Level Curriculum (*Kurikulum Tingkat Satuan Pendidikan: KTSP*). It focuses on the mastery of the content of the text, so that the students can understand how the language is being used. In learning English as a foreign language, the four skills that must be well-mastered by students are listening, speaking, reading, and writing (Brown 2001: 232). All of these language skills are very important to everyone especially for students to become fluent in English.

Writing as one of the most important skills in English, is a productive skill that should be achieved by students in order to be able to communicate in

written form. Teaching writing skill is an important part of teaching a language. Writing involves the encoding of message of some kind; that is, the transfer of thoughts into a language. In developing the writing skill, students are encouraged to read a lot and understand the formation of sentences, paragraphs, vocabularies, and tenses (Byrne, 2002).

Writing skill is considered as one of the aspects of a language that is difficult to master by students. There are many problems faced, and one of them is the organization of thoughts and ideas. This is one of the many reasons why a teacher should teach the right way in order that students can organize their ideas into written form. To achieve this, the students should be given a lot of writing practices.

Based on the writer's observation at the State Islamic Senior High School (*Madrasah Aliyah Negeri: MAN*) Pematangsiantar and through interview the English teacher, it was revealed that the students of Grade X faced difficulties in writing. Most of them said that they were confused and lazy in English class. Therefore, this might be that the teacher did not teach well and the students did not know the strategy to write well. It was difficult for them to write, especially to generate the ideas on their mind into written language. Moreover, sometimes the students opened the dictionary and thus wasting some of the time and also decreased the students' interest to continue writing. Another factor that made writing as the most difficult subject is that there are many kinds of writing in English among others: narrative, descriptive, expository, argumentative and persuasive. Every kind of writing has different characteristics, namely: genre,

social function, structure and grammatical features. They had problems in distinguishing kinds of writing.

This failure of the students in writing was likely to happen because of the media used by the teacher during the teaching-learning process. Teachers were not able to use an interesting media in instructional process so they could not enjoy their lessons. The teacher should not just explain the subject or the materials and force the students to memorize or do their activities because it can make the students not interested in their lessons.

To solve the problem above, a teacher can try to use an interesting media which can generate the students' motivation and stimulation in the learning activities. There are many examples of media such as, song, picture, photograph, animation movie, cards, etc. In this case, the writer used animation movie as a media which could be used to solve the students' interest in writing.

Movie is an audiovisual version of storytelling. It is a form of entertainment that presents a story by sound and a sequence of images giving the illusion of continuous movement. It is more effective in transmitting persuasive messages and eliciting a high degree of recall than the other media because of its ability in delivering information through both visual and sound. The majority of instructional material is accepted by students through sense of taste, smell, and touch. It means that the material delivered using media which involves both senses of sight and hearing will be more interesting for students.

One kind of movie is an animation movie. This media can make students to have more fun in the class because it provides interesting things which are

loved by students, such as it contains the interesting story, interesting actors, wonderful actions, beautiful scenery, and a nice song. It contains many kinds of characters which can be imitated by the audience. Therefore, there are many people who love watching animation movie.

In the teaching of narrative, the writer considers that animation movie might be interesting. Narrative means something that tells a story. Actually, it is an interesting writing for students because they could share their ideas, opinions, imaginations, and own experiences, like writing a diary.

Based on the reasons above, the writer would like to discover whether the application of animation movie can improve the student's achievement in writing narrative paragraph.

B. The Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study, the problem is formulated as the following:

“Does the use of animation movie significantly improve Grade X students' achievement in writing narrative paragraph?”

C. The Objective of Study

Animation movie is one of the audio visual media which produces sound and moving pictures. Using animation movie as a media for teaching writing can be very enjoyable and interesting to the students. By using animation movie, students will be more interested and active in learning. Furthermore, students will

feel something new and different from what they usually get in their class. In connection with the problem of the study, the objective of this study is to discover whether the use of animation movie improve Grade X students' achievement in writing narrative paragraph.

D. The Scope of the Study

There are so many media that can be applied in teaching English. Media is effective to be applied in teaching English since it can give much information which can motivate students to master some language skills and one of those skills is writing. In line with the application of media in teaching English, this study is focused on the use of animation movie in teaching writing narrative paragraph to Grade X students' achievement.

E. The Significance of the Study

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

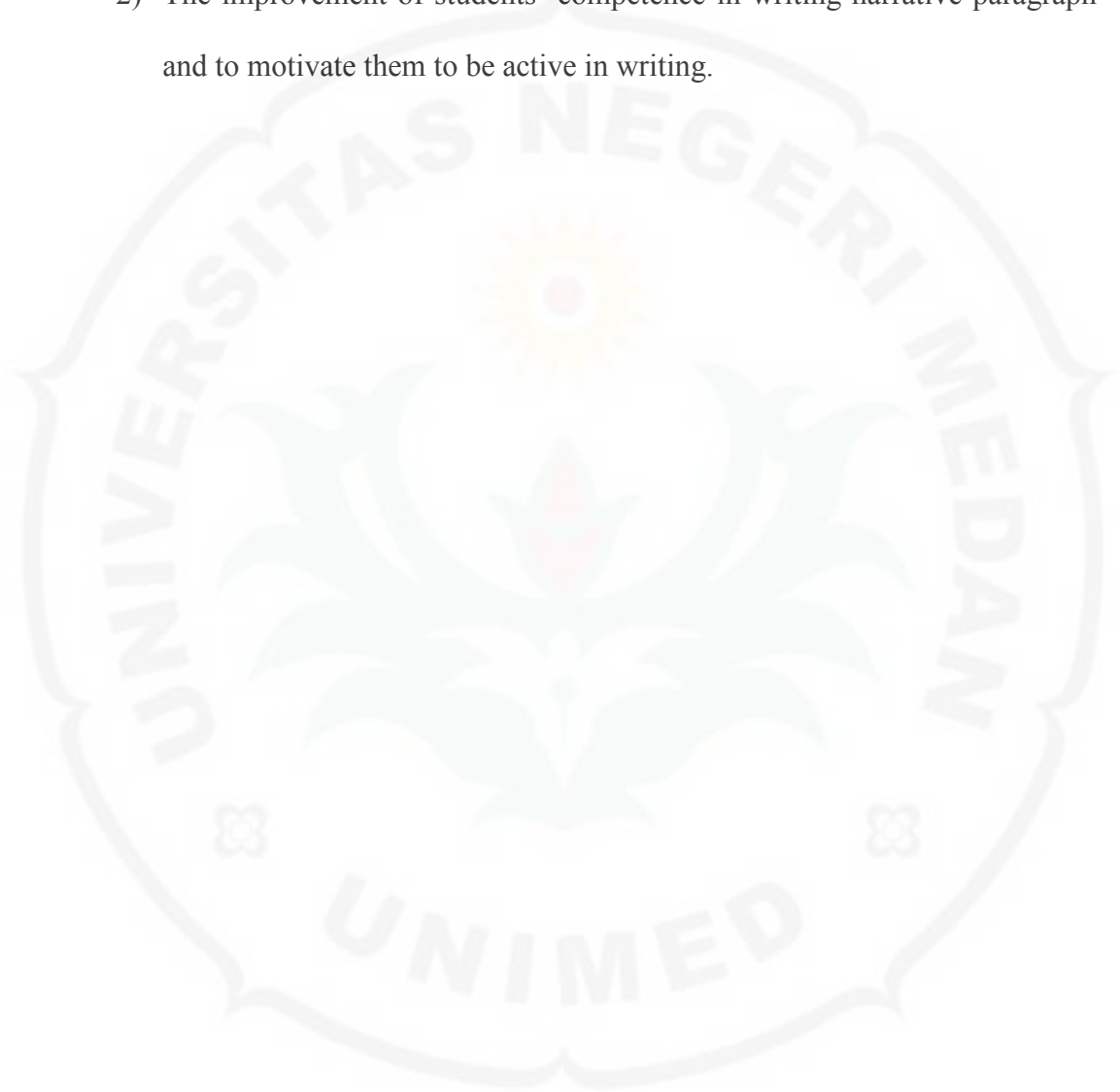
Theoretically, the findings are expected:

- 1) to broaden the horizons on theories of language learning,
- 2) to apply theories on the second language learning, and
- 3) to be used as a reference for those who want to conduct a further in depth research in English the teaching of writing.

Practically the findings are relevant and useful for:

- 1) English teachers to provide the information in their attempt to decide the use of animation movie in teaching writing a narrative paragraph,

- 2) The improvement of students' competence in writing narrative paragraph and to motivate them to be active in writing.



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