

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Language plays an important role in human life because it is the media of communication, thought, and learning. By using a language, human beings can communicate with each other to express the ideas, to facilitate the thinking process, and to recall the information.

One of the languages that have an important role in the world is English. English is a foreign language for Indonesians and it is used in many international activities as commerce, sport, science, education, and technology. Therefore, English must be taught and learnt at school.

According to the Educational Unit Curriculum (KTSP), students must master four language skills; they are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Writing as a part of the language skills besides listening, speaking, and reading must be taught maximally by the teacher to the student. Wallace (2004: 15) states that writing skill for beginning students can benefit from learning and practicing one skill at a time. So, study writing skill can benefit for student to learn another aspect of language at once.

Nowadays, the ability to write has become an indispensable skill in the literate community. Writing is still hard and often frustrating the learners when they are asked to do it although English has been taught since from elementary class. Students are getting confused to start their writing because they are not interested in writing. Even though they have some ideas on their mind, they do not

know how to express the idea into good composition. Harmer (2004:11) states that for many years the teaching of writing focused on the written product rather than the writing process. In other words, the students' attention was directed to the what rather than how of the text construction.

Based on the observation done by the researcher in the grade X of DHARMAWANGSA, it is found that the score of monthly test in semester 2 for each class before getting remedial test are different. In X-9, it is found that 75% students get remedial test. In X-10, it is found that 38% students also get remedial test. They have to get remedial test since their score are under Kriteria Kelulusan Minimal (70). It means that students' achievement of X-9 is still low. Therefore, this class should be given treatment.

Beside that reason, there is another factor that makes writing is difficult skill for students. It is caused by the conventional way applied by the teacher in teaching writing. Teacher uses lecturing method. She only gives a topic, explains it, asks students to answer questions or write but teacher doesn't allow them to use media. In addition, students think that writing is about arranging words or sentences. But this is wrong considering that writing is how we gather the idea or information and define purpose.

There are some kinds of genre and one of them is descriptive text that will be focused of the study. The description stage is often divided into paragraphs which focus on specific aspects of the phenomenon being described (Knapp and Watkins, 2005: 105). In this study, it is considered that students find it difficult and bored to describe or write something without any media.

In order to make the teaching and learning process easy and interesting, the researcher will use media in teaching and learning writing. Hamalik in Arsyad (2009: 2) says that media as tools of communication are used to make learning and teaching process effective. Therefore, this study will focus on using film as the media of teaching writing.

This study will focus on using animation film in writing descriptive texts. By using animation film, it is easy to transfer the material by explaining, describing things, people, and places and event. Besides, the students can illustrate what they will write about.

B. The Problem of the Study

The problem of this study is stated as follows: “Does the use of animation film in teaching significantly affect the students’ achievement in writing descriptive text?”

C. The Objective of the Study

The objective of the study is to find out the effect of animation film on student’s achievement in writing descriptive texts.

D. The Scope of the Study

There are classification of media, such as audio media, visual media, and audio visual media. Animation film is classified into audio visual media. This study will be focused on the effectiveness of applying animation film in

developing students' achievement in writing descriptive texts. The level of students is grade tenth of Senior High School.

E. The Significance of the Study

The study on the effect of applying animation film in teaching on students' achievement in writing descriptive texts is expected to give much information about it to the teacher as well as learners and especially to English teachers. Then, it is useful to increase students' ability in writing descriptive texts. The last is to provide preliminary information for those who are interested in the same study.