CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Writing is an activity done to change the idea in written language effectively. Through writing people can express their experiences, and social identities which focus on the contents, ideas, and written products. Therefore, writing involves human actively thinking about ideas. Using good and correct language is important so that the readers can understand the writing easily. By that reason, it shows that writing is an important skill that must be mastered.

Generally writing is considered as the most difficult skill to study for many students. Based on the writer's observation in one of senior high school that is SMA Negeri 21 Medan, the teacher told to the writer that there were still many students who had not able to write well. They are often confused to start and express their feelings and ideas, then change it into written form and make them uninterested in writing. To write well, the students must have good capabilities in writing process and the components of writing itself. They must be able to build the idea, to construct the sentence, and to use the punctuation and spelling well. Besides that, the teacher just used a textbook as the media and make the student does not have a high motivation in learning and most of students get the score under Minimal Completeness Criteria (KKM). The score of English test from the students can be seen in the Table 1.1.

Table 1.1
Students' English Score of Grade XI in SMA Negeri 21 Medan

Semester	Score	Students	Percentage	Mean
1th Semester 2014/2015	<70	23	70%	69
	≥70	10	30%	
2nd Semester 2014/2015	<70	21	64%	69
	≥70	12	46%	

The Minimal Completeness Criteria (KKM) applied for Grade XI is 70. From the data above, the teacher still use one of the conventional methods, that is Lecturing Method in teaching learning process and it can be concluded that the students' ability in writing is still low. It can be seen from the mean of the students' score where the mean still under the Minimal Completeness Criteria (KKM) and it is needed to be enhanced.

So it can be concluded that the writing skill of the students in SMA Negeri 21 Medan is still low. One of the causes of that problem was the students felt difficult in organizing a good text and wrote it by using their own words for a certain types of writing such as report. The writer found that many of students still often wrote incomplete texts and did not know how to arrange the good sentence with the correct grammatical pattern as well as the generic structures of report text itself. They also had limited number of vocabulary in writing. The students could not be independent when they were asked to write a report text.

In addition, writing fluency is one of the difficult writing skills faced by low and average proficiency student (Hiew, 2010). Moreover according to

Suyanto (2007) as quoted by Hiew (2010) explains that writing ability is very difficult, because involving ability or mastery of grammar, vocabulary, and spelling. This is skills or logical way of thinking and skill arrange words into meaningful sentences. Therefore writing skill of the students is needed to be enhanced.

Writing is related with many kinds of text, but in this study the writer wants to focus on report text. Since, report text is one of genres that are taught in Senior High School. Report text has purpose that to report and to present something, just like the way it is. Report text describes the way of certain things, such as to phenomenon of natural or non-natural, animal, human and scientific object. By report text the student can develop their knowledge about something. Then, deliver something important to share that becomes good information in written form. The second grade of Senior High School should have competence in writing report text as stated in the syllabus. Besides that, in daily life the student cannot be separated from give the information to another. Student need to know report text deeply because it can make the student give or share the information in written form around their life, such as phenomenon that happen in environment. It can be a problem in student life and can be lift as a topic of why that phenomena can happen and the student should looking for the information to solve it of why it is happening. Then to solve the problem and can make the student able to make a report text well is by using Problem-Based Learning.

Problem-Based Learning as a curricular design began over thirty years ago at McMaster University in Canada. This model is useful to enhance the student's

ability in teaching learning process. In Problem-Based Learning, students learn by solving problems and reflecting on their experience. According to Hilman, Wendy (2003) states that instruction about problem solving in the classroom is a process whereby students are presented with a problem and it is solved by the end of the lesson. So, it can be concluded that Problem-Based Learning is a group of teaching learning process that is focused to the process of the problem solving which is faced scientifically. It can help students in solving a problem around them and make the student able to create a good report text. By using this model the student will solve the problem together in their group and discuss each other so that their ideas and information can be developed. So, through Problem-Based Learning, it is expected that students are able to write well especially report text.

B. The Problem of the Study

Referring to the background of the study, the problem of the study is formulated as the following: "Is the students' achievement in writing report text taught by Problem-Based Learning higher that taught by using Lecturing Method?

C. The Objective of the Study

This study is intended to find out whether student's achievement in writing report text taught by Problem-Based Learning is higher than that taught by Lecturing Method?

D. The Scope of the Study

There are some kinds of models in learning which can be applied to enhance the students' achievement in writing. One of the models used in this research is Problem-Based Learning, because Problem-Based Learning is focused on a problem which becomes the main thing to stimulate the student and enhance their knowledge. So, this study focused on applying Problem-Based Learning to find out Students' Achievement in writing report text.

E. The Significance of the Study

This research is expected to be useful theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the students can understand about the theory of report text through problem of phenomenon that happens around students' life. Practically, Problem-Based Learning is useful for student to improve their achievement in writing and use for students future practice of how they will solve the problem around them.