

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Language is an important part of human existence and social process that has many functions to perform the life of human beings. Language has important role in human life, since it is a tool which human uses to interact with other people. Therefore, mastering several foreign language is considerably necessary, especially English. Status of English as universe language has made people all over the world to master English language.

Language is an instrument to convey information. It is used to express ideas, feelings, purposes, thoughts, and opinions in speaking way. Through language, we can share and transfer knowledge, transmit message from one to another, and from generation to the next generation. In short, almost all of human activities are conducted through the use of language.

English was an international language in Indonesia and considered as a foreign language. It is very important to be learn this language because it is a tool primarily used to communicate internationally. In Indonesia, English has been taught since the elementary through university level.

In learning English, there are four basic language skills that must be well mastered by the students, namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing to be master and able to have the good prestige in their school, college, or in their work place when they work someday. One of these four skills which is very important and most required in academic field is writing.

Brown (2001:43) reveals that writing is a process of putting ideas down on paper to transform thoughts into words, to sharpen main ideas, and to give structure and coherent organization into its work. Through writing, we can share our knowledge, good ideas or thought in written text to ever one to read it.

In addition, writing has many kinds of text or genre such as narrative, descriptive, recount, report, and procedure. According to Educational Unit-Curriculum in Junior High School, the students are expected to be able to understand and write procedure, descriptive, narrative, recount, and report text.

Based on the above explanation, the descriptive text is one of genre that must be mastered by students in learning English. Wyrick (2001: 323) states that the writer of description creates a word-picture of people, places, objects, and emotions, using a careful selection of details to make an impression on the reader. Students who are going to write this type of text should be able to express what they see, hear, feel vividly, so the reader can get the same views as what the writer means.

In fact, not all students are able to write descriptive text properly and in accordance with the existing elements in the descriptive text. Based on the data taken during the interview with the English teacher at SMP Negeri 3 Perbaungan, there are some problems faced by students in teaching English and writing is the most difficult one for the students. Many students cannot write good text especially in writing descriptive text. Almost 75% students got the score under the Minimum Criteria Mastery (KKM). The KKM that is applied for the English subject is 2,67 (6,75) based on curriculum 2013.

Semester	Score	Students	Percentage	Mean
1 st Semester	$\leq 6,75$	29 students	72,50 %	68
2014/2015	$\geq 6,75$	11 students	27,50 %	
2 nd Semester	$\leq 6,75$	25 students	62,50 %	69
2014/2015	$\geq 6,75$	15 students	37,50 %	

Source: Students' Accumulated Score of Grade VII-3 of SMP N 3 Perbaungan academic year 2014/2015

Most of students got lower score in writing. The students were not able to write and did not pay attention on the writing task. Students often failed in writing because they faced some difficulties such as poor structure, technique, lack of vocabulary, literature, and information. They do not pay attention and enthusiasm on writing, especially in descriptive text. They might have some ideas on their mind, but they did not know how to express it in writing. They have difficulties in presenting their ideas. They frequently get confused of what to write and how to start. They thought that it was very difficult to write descriptive text. This problem can be resulted from teacher's technique and strategy as they still apply conventional method, by which they fail to motivate the students.

The failure of the students in writing is likely to happen because of the media used by the teacher during teaching and learning process take place. During teaching and learning process, teacher just explains the materials without giving an interesting media so the students cannot enjoy the lessons, therefore the students are difficult to understand the materials. The teacher should not just explain the subject or materials and force the students to memorize or do their

activities because it is not exciting for students to learn. As a result, in learning process, students have poor cognition, deficient concentration, and limited knowledge in writing. In order to solve this problem, it is needed creative media in teaching writing more effective and interesting, so the students pay attention on the writing task.

Based on the situation, the researcher suggests it is important to find ways to solve the problem. Mohanty (2005: 72) suggests that the use of media will make our communication effective as well as interesting to communicate anything to young children calls for special skill and experience. There are many media that are popular to make teaching writing more effective and interesting, make students become active, enjoy and improve their ability about the main point of writing text. Mohamadkhani (2013) defines that listening to audio media helped students learn a great deal about English pronunciation, learn to speak English more fluently and correctly. According to Harmankaya (2013) that visual media is important to helped students use correct, reliable, creative and effective communication tools and messages for the students who can easily access information through the developing communication technologies. Gumilang (2013) states that one of ways to solve the problem is by proposing a teaching-media that is interesting, easy, effective, suitable, fun, and helpful to the students.

Madhuri (2013) in her study, found that teaching- learning English speaking process could only succeed by having good learning facilities, such as competent teachers, various kinds of English book and teaching use audio visual media. The other study, conducted by Falupi (2012), found out that using audio

visual significantly increased the students' score in writing descriptive text and gave large effect to the students' score in writing.

Research studies have established in Educational Book (2005: 164) states that we learn 83.0 percent through sight, 11.0 percent through hearing, 3.5 percent through smell, 1.5 percent through touch and 1.0 percent through taste.

Therefore, audio visual media is proposed to be one interesting media, which might be able to solve the writing problem. For this purpose, the nearest media of students' learning is by using audio visual media. The audio visual media presentation makes use of the students' sense. What the ears hear are strengthened by what the eyes see, so that the words, which the ears hear, are associated with the visual aids. Hearing and sight are the primary means of human learning. Audio visual media is one of the media used to teach writing descriptive text. Audio visual media are available in many forms, namely tape recorder, puppet toys, videos, film and another.

B. The Problem of the Study

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

“Is there any significant effect of using the audio visual media on students' achievement in writing descriptive text?”.

C. The Objective of the Study

Based on the question formulated in problem of the study, the objective of the study was to discover whether students' achievement in writing descriptive text is significantly are taught by using Audio Visual Media.

D. The Scope of the Study

There are many genres of writing learnt in the SMP (Junior High School) such as recount, procedure, report, and narrative. This research was primarily focused on writing descriptive text through Audio Visual Media.

E. The Significance of the Study

The findings of the study were expected to bring up significances, such as:

1. For the teachers, this study was useful to improve their ability in teaching writing by paying more attention to the media of teaching learning process; not only for descriptive text material, but also the other materials.
2. For students, the results of the study can be used to encourage and stimulate them in improving their writing achievement and motivating them to be better in writing achievement, especially in writing descriptive text.
3. For the readers, the result can give information and knowledge of writing by using Audio Visual Media.