

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 The Background of the Study

Language is one of the most important things in communication and it is used as a tool of communication among the nations in all over the world. As an international language, English is very important and has many interrelationships with various aspects of life owned by human being. There are four important skills in English. They are reading, writing, listening and speaking. People need to learn writing English, for occupational or academic purposes. Writing is one of media communication. It purposes to express ideas, feelings, opinions, experiences, or information in form of written language.

In general, writing is complex and difficult among the language skills. It is must for the language learners to master writing skill. Without having good knowledge in writing, it is so difficult to be able to convey the ideas to the readers. That is why writing is one of important things that must be taught to the students.

In this study, the researcher only deals with writing descriptive text that purposed to describe thing, person, or place, so the reader can imagine what the researcher wrote. Saragih (2010:20) claims that Descriptive text is a kind of text that has a purpose to describe a particular person, thing, or place.

In descriptive text, writers describe person, object, appearances, landscape or phenomenon naturally so they can make the reader imagine and feel it (Alwasilah: 2007).

After the researcher did observation at grade XI of SMA Negeri 1 in Siborongborong, the researcher found the several problems in teaching and learning process. The first time the researcher observed the class, the teacher was teaching descriptive text and the researcher

found that the students looked bored and less active in the activity. When the teacher asked the students to describe an object, the students had difficulties in generating their ideas to produce the text. Based on researcher's estimation, the cause of the cases is because the teacher did not use the appropriate technique in teaching descriptive text. She just used the textbook to explain descriptive text and just used a picture in the textbook to describe an object and then the students were asked to do the exercises in the textbook.

Besides, based on the interview about the problem with the students in the class, most of them said that they were not interested with the subject because when the teacher asked them to describe an object they said that it was difficult to generate their ideas. The teacher also said that she had difficulty to create appropriate technique in teaching descriptive text. In order to solve this problem, it is needed some creative and engaged technique to make the teaching writing more effective and interesting.

According to (Buzan, 2003:10), to solve the students' problem in writing descriptive text in the literature, one technique that can be used to help students' write is mind mapping.

The mind mapping technique is one of the teachers' techniques in teaching. Not only Mind Maps show facts, but also show the overall structure of a subject and the relative importance of individual parts of it. It helps students to associate ideas, think creatively, and make connections that might not otherwise make (Buzan, 2010). As Alamsyah (2009) explained that mind maps work well as their visual design enables students to see the relationship between ideas, and encourages them to group certain ideas together as they proceed. The mind mapping technique can be used to explore almost any topics in writing and also used in every kind of writing such as: narrative, descriptive, recount, persuasive, argumentative, essay etc. students can improve their ideas and lend themselves to discussing ideas in groups. According to Murley (2007), mind mapping can maximize brain's ability in

associating number with visual qualities (space, image, color) and as the result the memory will be able to store more fact.

A mind-map is made based on radiant thinking, a concept which describes how the human brain processes various ideas and information that are associated to each other through relationship hooks (Buzan & Buzan in Budd, 2003; Murley, 2007; Siriphanic & Laohawiriyano, 2010; Al-Jarf, 2011).

Actually, there are many techniques to make teaching interesting, especially in teaching writing. In this part, the researcher will try to conduct Mind Mapping Technique in writing descriptive text.

## **1.2 The Problem of the Study**

Based on the background of the study above, the problems is: how to develop media based on mind mapping as technique in teaching writing descriptive text for the 11<sup>th</sup> students of SMA Negeri 1 Siborongborong?

## **1.3 The Objective of the Study**

The objective of the study is to develop media based on mind mapping as technique in teaching writing descriptive text.

## **1.4 The Scope of the Study**

In teaching, a teacher may apply a certain way and media which can be called as approach. Based on syllabus of KTSP in senior high school of Siborongborong, there are some texts which have to be mastered by the students. They are narrative, recount, procedure and descriptive text. Accordance to the explanation above, researcher just focused on certain way (technique) and descriptive text. Hence, the researcher will develop mind mapping as

way (technique) and descriptive text. Hence, the researcher will develop mind mapping as technique in teaching writing descriptive text for grade XI students of SMA Negeri 1 Siborongborong.

### 1.5 The Significance of the Study

The significances of this study are:

1. Theoretically: this study is expected to enhance the literature and provides more information on an alternative way of teaching descriptive writing by developing technique.
2. Practically:
  - a. For Students, the research will give students a creative learning technique that can help them in writing descriptive text and increase their interest in learning activity.
  - b. For Teacher, the research will give teacher a creative technique that can be used as appropriate technique in teaching writing descriptive text.

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