CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Writing as one of the ability in English has important roles in human communication. People can share their information, stories, emotion and opinions through writing. In Indonesia, English is foreign language for most of Indonesian. Blanchard (2003) states that writing can be more difficult in a new language but the good news is that writing involve ability that can learn, practice, and master. Writing is a productive skill in English subject, because it produces a thinking process of idea, experience and feeling in written form. The skill which is categorized as a productive' skills must be developed well in order to increase the ability and capability of the students. Writing becomes a means and important part of communication that is the most used by many people to interest and share information. Nunan (2003:38) defines that the main purpose of writing is to make the writer creates or expresses ideas into a written form to give information to the readers and it is the same as the purpose of communication. Harmer (2004: 33) states that writing is frequently useful as preparation for some activities. In this case, writing considered to be important in developing other three skills (listening, reading and speaking).

According to the syllabus of Curriculum 2013 students are demanded to master some genres in writing, they are descriptive, recount, narrative, report and also procedure text. One of the genres that students learned in Junior High School

is Recount Text. Recount Text is a text that retells and recounts an event or an experiences; or, recount is a text that retells events or experiences in the past (Dirgayasa,2014:14)

Recount text is one of common text types in writing. Knapp (2005:223) explains that recounts are sequential texts which consist of series of events. Writing recount text is an activity to write the record of events in the past time. The events are reported chronologically according to the setting of time and place with the use of a number of conjunction and sequence marker. Cavanagh (1998:11) defines "recounts are retelling of past events." They are usually written as a series of events in the order in which they happen. The purpose of recount text is to retell past events. It tells information about what happened, when it happened, where it happened, and who was involved.

Based on the pre-observation in SMP PRAYATNA MEDAN, the students had difficulties to write recount text. It was caused by limited vocabularies, lack understanding of tenses and sentence structure. The students found it was hard to express their ideas and thought using the best words. They also had difficulties in arranging the words into a good sentences, they were also confused in making the sentence into the form of past tense. They had to reopen their notes about tense and it makes them spend much time in writing recount text. Besides, some teachers did not use media in process teaching and learning, they just used An the English book from government. The teacher did not try to use the media to help students to more easily see what they wanted to tell from the printed pictures, newspaper and video as an additive for learn recount text, but they just used the

book from the government in teaching writing recount text. Because of that, students were unable to have good achievement in English writing.

Based on the situation, it is important to find ways to overcome the problem. One of the ways to solve the problem is by using media in teaching writing. Media is a tool that teachers need in teaching and the tool that gives information from teachers to students (Manurung,2012:12). Based on the definition of media, we can get information that media is needed in learning process. Media give the easy way for students to obtain information from the lesson. In addition, media also can solve the problem in learning process such as the difficulty that students get to understand the information.

Media can create an atmosphere of interactive learning in the classroom. The use of media would give positive impact on education. So, it is very important for the learning process at school. The process of teaching learning will run well when students understand about the information or knowledge that presented by the teacher. By using media students will get stimulus to think, feel, and have desire to study. At least, students will give attention to study when learning process provided with media.

In this study, the researcher purposes to develop a digital media on a scrapbook. The scrapbook will be created by using computer software program. Jeanne and Joan (2005) stated that "Digital scrapbook is a fantastic fit for today's fast-paced society — and its tools and techniques are easier, quicker, and more economical to use than ever. By using Digital Scrapbook, students can tell their story in a beautiful and interesting look in the past. Using Digital Scrapbook, the students can share their experience in the past through collecting their photos,

then adding those with story about those photos and from this students can improve their vocabulary and their interesting in writing recount text."

This developed media hopefully could stimulate students' motivation in learning process and simplify the application of writing theories. Djamarah and Zain (2010: 120) stated that "the complexity of material toward students could be simplified through media". The use of computer technology very potential for language learning because it can perform multiple tasks for teaching activity (Al-Seghayer, 2001:203). Accordingly, teaching writing will also be more meaningful and successful if we can use attractive media.

Based on the statement above, the researcher intends to develop a digital scrapbook as media for teaching writing for the eighth grade students of Junior High School. The developed media hopefully can contribute to the teaching and learning process of writing in order to improve and develop the student's writing skill.

B. The Problems of Study

Based on the background above, the problems of the study can be formulated in the form of question below:

1. What Digital media is needed by the eighth grade student of SMP PRAYATNA MEDAN?

2. How is Digital Scrapbook as media of teaching recount text writing for the eighth grade students of SMP PRAYATNA MEDAN developed?

C. The Objectives of Study

Based on the problems stated above, the objectives the study are:

1. To investigate the needs of the eight grade students of SMP PRAYATNA MEDAN learning recount text writing in the Digital Scrapbook.

2. To develop Digital Scrapbook as media of teaching recount text writing for the eighth grade students of SMP PRAYATNA MEDAN.

D. The Scope of the Study

Based on the background of the study, this research will be cover the developing media of writing skill by using Digital Scrapbook for Junior High School. This recommended media will be relevant to the capacity of learners, interesting, and innovative for students in eighth grade in SMP PRAYATNA MEDAN. This media is developed based on the need analysis of the learners which will motivate them to study.

E. The significances of the study

1. For teacher, the research will give them an additional creative media in teaching writing recount text.

2. For students, the research will give them a creative learning media that can help them in writing recount text and make their learning interest.