

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of the Study

Every nation has different media to communicate with others using language. English becomes the most important language in the world. It becomes an international language used by all of people in the world. In Indonesia, English is one of foreign language, and the most important language to learn. In globalization era, everyone should understand about the international language, to be expert in every developmental access.

As an international language, English language is not only used for communication, but also for academic requirement. The aim of English language learning, is to master English language as a communication media, in spoken and written, and also expert of the four skills in English, there are reading, speaking, listening, and writing. The productive aspects in English are listening and speaking, and the receptive aspects are reading and writing.

Writing is one of the language skills. Rivers (1981: 294) states that writing is conveying information or expression of original ideas in a consecutive way in the new language. Based on those definitions, it can be stated that writing skill is a complex activity in producing a qualified writing. The complex activity consists of stages as the steps in writing. To improve students' writing skill, the teaching and learning process of writing needs to be done well with developed input and effective activities.

In this research, the researcher takes the focus of learning writing. Learning can broadly be defined as any process that in living organisms leads to permanent capacity change and which is not solely due to biological maturation or ageing (Illeris 2007, p. 3). Learning is a change of human side in their capacity for long time. Learning also a process of human change in their social life. According to Wakefield (1996: 364) learning can be

described as a relatively permanent change in the behaviour of an individual based on his/her experiences or discoveries. Thus the processes of experience and discovery lead to a new understanding of the world and ourselves, and enable us to apply the acquired knowledge in new situations.

Learning may change someone's behavior. In way of learning, the strategies are required in learning; it is called learning strategies. Learning strategy refers to "characteristics we want to stimulate in students to enable them to become more proficient language learners." (Oxford, 1990, p.ix). Strategies must first be identified as important to a given task, and then, they are purposely taught. For example, a common task teachers use is to ask students to make a written summary of information acquired from listening to or reading text. The task is to say or write the main idea. This is a cognitive strategy known as summarizing. Strategies are specific means that learners use to learn or improve their language. There are many different kinds of learning strategies, depending on the content and tasks. The example of writing course in junior high school is writing a text using descriptive text. The students learn the descriptive text from the basic principle, the rule, and then they try to make it.

In this research, the researcher limits the subject only to the strategies in developing students' writing skill at the eighth grade of SMP N 2 Banyudono. SMP N 2 Banyudono is one of junior high school in Boyolali located on Jembungan village, district of Banyudono, regency of Boyolali, Central of Java. It consists of the students from the middle class. In this school, there are some facilities that support the activities, like a mosque with 250 Muslims can pray in there, 24 classrooms, MIPA laboratory, computer laboratory, language laboratory, school library, and so on. Like other common schools, SMP N 2 Banyudono also gives the students English lessons. It includes four language skills such as listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The researcher takes eighth grade students because at eighth grades, the students are easy to get the course, more than the seventh grade. Another reason, because they get the course from the level before, in seventh

grade. The aim of this research is to know the strategies used by the eighth grade students of SMP N 2 Banyudono to develop their writing skill. The reasons why the researcher takes this topic, because there are some problems in developing their skill, especially writing skill and the researcher wants to know the strategies used by the students to solve the problems in developing their writing skill.

In teaching writing at SMP N 2 Banyudono, there are some problems of the students. The problems in writing English, among others are that (1) writing makes the students feel bored and it is not interesting, (2) it is difficult for the students to organize the assignment in writing, (3) students feel difficult to express their idea, and (4) students feel bored in learning vocabulary and grammar, so they feel difficult to put their idea in writing. Therefore, the researcher is interested in investigating learners strategy to develop their writing skill an conducted a study entitled “Learner’s Strategy in Developing Writing Skill : A Case Study at the Eight Grade of SMP N 2 Banyudono Students in 2016/2017 Academic Year”

## **B. Problem Statement**

Based on the background of study above, the researcher formulates the problem statements as follows :

1. What are the strategies used by 8<sup>th</sup> grade students of SMP N 2 Banyudono to develop their writing skill in 2016/2017 academic year?
2. What is the dominant strategy used by 8<sup>th</sup> grade students of SMP N 2 Banyudono to develop their writing skill?
3. How do they apply the strategies?

### **C. Objectives of the Study**

In relation to the problem statements in this research, the objectives of this research are to know (1) the strategy applied by 8<sup>th</sup> grade students of SMP N 2 Banyudono to develop their writing skill in 2016/2017 academic year, (2) know the dominant strategy used by 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to develop their writing skill, and (3) to know how the students apply the strategies.

### **D. Limitation of the Study**

In relation to the problem statement in this research, this research is focused on the strategies applied by four subjects of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students of SMP N 2 Banyudono to develop their writing skill in 2016/2017 academic year, the dominant strategy used by 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to develop their writing skill, and the application of those strategies.

### **E. Significance of the Study**

#### 1. Practical Benefit

- a. The result of this research will be useful for students of grade 8 of SMP N 2 Banyudono in learning English.
- b. It gives confidence for the English teacher in SMP N 2 Banyudono and also other English teachers in improving students' writing skill.

#### 2. Theoretical Benefit

This research can be used as a reference for other researchers who want to analyze and identify students learning strategies of English as foreign students.

### **F. Research Paper Organization**

The organization of this research consists of five chapters. Chapter I is introduction, which covers background of study, problem statement, objective of the study, limitation of the study, significance of the study, and research paper organization.

Chapter II is underlying theory. It contains review of previous study, and some related theories which deal with notion of learning, notion of learning strategy, process of writing, and notion of writing skill.

Chapter III is research method, which consists of type of the research, subject of the research, object of the research, data and data source, technique of collecting data, and technique of analyzing data.

Chapter IV is data analysis and discussion. It includes the implementation of learner's strategies in developing writing skill, the result of student's writing, learning strategies used by four students, the dominant strategies used by four subjects of SMP N 2 Banyudono at the eight grade students.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion. In this chapter, the researcher draws conclusion, pedagogical implication, and proposes the suggestion.