

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

English as an international language has gained its popularity all over the world. It plays a very important role in Indonesia. Beside language as a means of communication, language is also an instrument to make an interpersonal relationship, changing information and enjoying the aesthetics of language in the western culture (Nurhadi, 2004: 200).

Writing is a complex skill, which enables students to express their idea in a written form. "In English learning classroom, the teaching objective is developing four skills to understand to speak, to read and to write. "Writing is an important tool, which enables man to communicate with other people in many ways" (Rani Andal, 2009). To students, good at writing will bring many benefits. It is an essential tool to support other skills. That is why writing is very important to be equipped to student.

English language constitutes one of the subjects tested in national exam. There are six hours schedule in every week in junior high school. For the reason, every student should learn English like other basis lesson. Nowadays the English material is given on the basis of different types of genres. Genre is a type of text which fuctions to make effective text. Text is classified into genre on the basis of the intent of the communicator. Genres which are usually taught at school are descriptive, recount, report, narrative, hortatory, and argumentative procedure.

Descriptive text is a text which says what a person or a thing is like. Its purpose is to describe and reveal a particular person, place, or thing. The generic structure of descriptive text is Identification: identifying the phenomenon to be described and description: describing the phenomenon in parts, qualities, or/and characteristics. The language feature of descriptive text is using attributive and identifying process, using adjective and classifiers in nominal group,using simple present tense. According to Graves (1986),

students of Junior High School are expected to have 2.500 until 5.000 words to support their reading, listening, writing and speaking. To make English text, specially descriptive text, students should master grammar, vocabulary, text organization, mechanic, content, etc. But it is not easy for them.

Students' capability in writing descriptive of text is influenced by many factors. One of factors is writings' complexity. The factors are grammar, vocabulary, text organization, mechanic, content and others. Grammar is examples dealing with word structure of a language. Vocabulary is the capability of the writer using effective word and choice of the word.

Based on the observation in the teaching learning English lesson at the eighth grade of SMP 1 Muhammadiyah Pati, the researcher found that many students had problem in learning writing. In this case, some students were frustrated and confused to generate ideas to writing descriptive text. The students did not know to collect ideas about the topic that were going to start writing, so that writing was often considered as difficult. Not only did the students get difficulty in getting idea, but the students also faced a problem with the ability in writing, especially grammar in order to write a good text.

On the basis of the fact, the researcher intends to investigate the descriptive texts written by the students. The results of the analysis is very beneficial especially for the teacher. Seeing the result the teacher can reflect her teaching strategy she had used and found the better strategy to maximize the students' achievement.

Based on the previous reason, the researcher is interested in conducting the research entitled **AN ANALYSIS OF DESCRIPTIVE TEXT WRITTEN BY THE 8TH GRADE STUDENTS OF SMP 1 MUHAMMADIYAH PATI IN 2015/2016 ACADEMIC YEAR.**

B. Problem Statement

Based on the background study above, the problem statements are as follows:

1. How is the students' capability in writing descriptive text at the 8th grade of SMP 1 Muhammadiyah Pati in writing descriptive text?
2. What are the problems faced by the eighth grade students of SMP 1 Muhammadiyah Pati in writing descriptive text?
3. What are the causes of the problems faced by the eighth grade students of SMP 1 Muhammadiyah Pati in writing descriptive text?

C. Objective of the study

This research aims of the study are to describes:

1. the students capability in writing descriptive text by the eighth grade students of SMP 1 Muhammadiyah Pati in writing descriptive text,
2. the problems faced by the eighth grade students of SMP 1 Muhammadiyah Pati in writing descriptive text, and
3. the causes of the problems faced by the eighth grade students of SMP 1 Muhammadiyah Pati in writing descriptive text.

D. Scope of the Study

This research has broad scopes for both the subject and the object. Due to the fact, the researcher will limit both of them into; the subject of this research will only the eighth grade students of SMP 1 Muhammadiyah Pati, while the object of this research is students' capability in writing descriptive text and the problems faced by the eighth grade students of SMP 1 Muhammadiyah Pati.

E. Significance of the Study

From this research, the researcher will outline the significance of the study into theoretical significance and practical significance, the significances are as follows:

1. Theoretical Significance

- a. This research can be the additional information about the writing learning in detail in writing descriptive text.
- b. This research can increase the understanding about the writing learning for those who are learning the English language.
- c. This research can be a reference for those who want to conduct a research with the same topic.

2. Practical Significance

- a. This research can be useful for the teacher of the English language; this research can be a reference of information about the student's capability by the eighth grade students of SMP Muhammadiyah Pati in writing descriptive text.
- b. This research can be a benefit for the student; writer hopes that this research can improve the students' capability in writing descriptive text.
- c. This research can probably give a determination for other researchers to conduct a further research about the student's capability in writing descriptive text.

F. Research Paper Organization

The researcher will display the research paper organization in order for the readers to be able to understand it. The organization will be elaborated as follows:

Chapter I will be the introduction. This chapter consists of background of the study, problem statements, objective of the study, limitation of the study, significance of the study, also research paper organization.

Chapter II will be the review of related literature. This chapter will include previous studies, the explanation about language learning, the notion of learning strategies, the classification of learning strategies, and the explanation of language skills.

Chapter III will be the research method. This chapter will consist of type of the research, subject and object of the data, data and data source, method of collecting data and technique of data analysis.

Chapter IV will be the result of the study. This chapter will consist of presenting the data and techniques for analyzing the data.

Chapter V will be the conclusion and the suggestion toward the whole research that will be done by the researcher.