

HAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses background of the research, scope of the research, statement of the problem, objective of the research and significance of research.

A. Background of the Research

Writing is an effective way to communicate and express our thoughts, feelings, and opinions to others. Writing has function to entertain and make fun. Writing skill helps the learners gain independence, comprehensibility, fluency, and creativity in writing. If the learners have mastered these skill, they will be able to write not only they can read what they have written but also practice this language by speaking, so the others speakers or the foreingners can understand the message or meaning step by step in a communication. In writing also, there are many kind of text that have to know by the learner. they are descriptive text, narrative text, recount text, report text, procedure text, announcement text, advertisement text, review text, explanation text, anecdote text, spoof text, new item text and discussion text.

According Bentley (2008) descriptive text is a text which says what a person or a thing is like. It is purpose to portray a person, place, or thing in such a way that the reader can visualize the topic and enter into the writer's experience. descriptive paragraph is characterized by sensory details, which appeal to the physical senses and details that appeal to a reader's emotional, physical, or intellectual sensibilities (Faisal & Suwandita, 2013:242). Descriptive text is one of the materials contained in the syllabus. Syllabus is the description of the materials that should be taught by the teacher to the students.

One problem that the researcher recognized to students in learning descriptive text is most students have difficulty in writing. They did not know how to start to write, what the first word to begin even though they already know the topic. This condition effect students' of class VIII at SMP Negeri 21 Halmahera Selatan. Students problem get difficulty in exploring ideas into words, students often choose inappropriate words, simple paragraph, students have low vocabulary mastery. To overcome these boring condition teacher should provide interesting technique, method, and media to motivate students in writing. Teachers should choose an appropriate media in teaching in the classroom, to make students interesting in writing, teachers need to present material in interesting way therefore, the researcher tried to apply a media in teaching process that facilitate students to write descriptive text.

However, in teaching writing to students, teachers must be optimistic that students can improve their writing ability if each student has a will to study and try to write and it must be continuously. Therefore, teachers have to do an interesting teaching to get attention from their students and give motivation to write. The researcher tries to use an interesting media to improve students' writing using Picture media.

Picture is one kind of visual media because it can be seen and performs a meaningful description. Picture is a visual representation or image painted, drawn, photographed, or otherwise rendered on a flat surface. Pictures are one of recognized ways of presenting a real situation. For example, photographs are often used to carry out our imagination to describe thing, person, animal or place as if in real. Picture makes students more interested in writing descriptive text. Furthermore, from the picture they will make a text more easily because they can describe the pictures they see. It will help them creating a good descriptive text.

So, base on the background above, the researcher will conduct a research entitled improving students' descriptive writing competence by using picture media at SMP Negeri 21 Halmahera Selatan.

B. Scope of the Research

The research will focus on students' descriptive writing by using picture.

C. Statement of the Problems

The research question for this research can be formulated as follows :

To what extent, does picture media improve students' descriptive writing?

There are two hypothesis as follows :

1. H₀ = There is no improvement of students' descriptive writing by using picture media.
2. H₁ = There is an improvement of students' descriptive writing by using picture media.

D. Objective of the Research

The objective of this research is to find out whether the use of picture media can improve students' descriptive writing.

E. Significance of Research

1. Theoretical Significance
 - The result of this research is expected to add the existing references related to teaching writing and to be useful information for the teachers especially to the English teachers of the second grade of SMP Negeri 21 Halmahera Selatan.
2. Practical Significance

To students will get new experimental in writing descriptive text using picture media.