A. Background of the Study

Language is an important thing in life. People use language as the instrument of communication in the country, profession, or daily life. Through language, people can express feeling, idea, and attitude, so that they can cooperate and get along with others.

One of the languages is English, which is needed by people around the world. Therefore, English is very important in people’s life and English should be learnt through appropriate ways.

English is the first foreign language in Indonesia that is taught in Elementary level to university, so it makes the learning process of English is a duty in all Indonesia schools. Furthermore, the Indonesian government decided to make English as one of the subject of national examination for junior high school and senior high schools. This shows that English is important for our country to complete in international level. As we know that English has four skills; those are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The four English skills should be learned, because those are basic skill in learning English. Those skills are divided into two types. Listening and reading are included of receptive type. In listening people focus on what speakers says; in reading people should understand what they read. Meanwhile speaking and writing are productive type. In speaking people can speak well if they
understand what they will talk about; in writing people should understand what they will write.

One of the texts that have to be learned by the students of junior high school is descriptive text. In learning descriptive text, the students have to able to know, understand, and create a descriptive text based on the social function, generic structure, and language features of the text. The students have to know and understand those parts, so that the students can write a descriptive text well.

Descriptive text is a kind of text that is used to describe a particular person, place, or thing Depdiknas in Kartika (2013). The generic structure of descriptive text consists of two parts, namely identification and description. Identification gives information about the thing that will be discussed. It can be in the form of the definition and classification about the thing that will be described. The description in writing is the process of creating visual image and sensory impression through words. It gives information more details to support identification, such as description of parts, quality, and characteristics. The language features of the descriptive text are the use of vocabulary and grammar within the text. The vocabulary commonly used in the descriptive text is related to the thing that is described. Depdiknas also tells about the language features of the descriptive text which are focus on specific participants, the use of adjectives as modifier in noun phrase and the use of simple present tense.
The students in junior high school level still feel difficult to write, especially in writing descriptive text. It is caused by some reasons. The first reason is that the students don’t know what they are going to write. They often feel confused because they feel difficult to develop their idea to put it in the form of English written. Then, the second one is that the students are not interested in writing and have low motivation in writing and they often feel bored in writing. And the third one is that sometimes, the teacher uses conventional method and seldom uses educational media and appropriate technique in teaching or just focus on the worksheet (LKS).

To overcome those problems, the teachers have to change the situation becomes interesting and make the students feel enjoy in teaching and learning process, especially in writing activity. To make good situation in the class, certainly it is better for the teacher to modify the teaching learning process in the classroom and also that can support the situation. Actually, a lot of alternative ways can be used to teach English in the junior high school. One of the ways is by using a game in teaching and learning process. By using game, the students are able to write easily, enjoyable and memorable about the material especially in writing skill. It bring relaxed atmosphere in the classroom. In this research, the writer tries to give solution to the teacher in teaching English. There are many kinds of game that can be used in teaching English, especially in teaching writing descriptive text. One of them is by using “Wholesome Listing game”.

The Effectiveness of Wholesome..., Yogi Setiati, FKIP UMP, 2015
Wholesome Listing game is a game that asks the students to predict the content of passage and duplicate sentences by using benefit’s list of words that they have got from discussion (Hess. N, 1991 in Hami.W, 2011). Through Wholesome Listing games are writing and arranging the words from the list of words. It helps the students in learning English especially in writing skill. In this case, the writer tries to build the spirit of the students to increase their abilities in writing descriptive text by Wholesome Listing game. This game provides opportunities for students to study while playing game in the classroom. The use of game in learning English is very important; it can make the students understand the material easily. By using Wholesome Listing game as a technique of teaching; it also creates students’ imagination or creativity in writing their ideas. And in this case, the writer tries to investigate the effect of Wholesome Listing game as the teaching technique in writing descriptive text for Junior High School students at SMP MUHAMMADIYAH 3 PURWOKERTO. By Wholesome Listing game, the students are expected to be enthusiastic in learning writing descriptive text, it can help students to explore new vocabularies about the object to be described. The treatment is given for the students of the second grade of Junior High School.
B. Reasons of Choosing the Topic

There are several reasons for choosing the topic. They are as follows:

1. The students have difficulties in organizing ideas, especially in making descriptive text. The students are still confused on what they should write first, next, and later. These make the students spend much time writing any kinds of writing especially descriptive text.

2. Writing is a productive skill that has to be mastered. It can be good starting point to students’ writing product. So, suitable teaching technique is needed to develop the students’ writing ability.

3. “Wholesome Listing game” is one of the good techniques for teaching writing, especially in descriptive text. It can motivate the students in learning English, and they will be good in paragraph writing.

C. Problem of the Research

Based on the background of study, the problem of the research is stated by the following question:

“Is Wholesome Listing game effective to teach writing descriptive text at the second gradestudents of SMP MUHAMMADIYAH 3 PURWOKERTO in the academic year 2014/2015?”
D. The Aim of the Research

Regarding to the problems of the research, the aim of the research is: to find out whether *Wholesome Listing game* effective to teach writing descriptive text at the second grade students of SMP MUHAMMADIYAH 3 PURWOKERTO.

E. Clarification of the Key

To make the topic easy to understand, the writer wants to give definition of the terms.

(The Effectiveness of *Wholesome Listing game* to Teach Writing Descriptive Text)

1. Effectiveness

Effectiveness is a noun form of effect which means having effect, able to bring about the result intended. (Hornby, 2000: 368)

2. Wholesome Listing game

*Wholesome Listing game* is a game which students predicts the content of passage and duplicates sentences by using benefit’s list of words that students have been got from the discussion (Hess, N, 1991 in Hami.W, 2011).

3. Teach Writing Descriptive Text

a. Teaching

Teaching is a facilitating learning, enabling the learners to learn, setting the conditions for learning (Brown, 2000: 7). From this
definition, teaching means helping the students in mastering in materials and provoking the students to learn.

b. Writing

Mayers (2005: 2) says that “the word ‘writing’ is a verb. Which means an activity or process? Writing is a way to produce language, which you do naturally when you speak. Writing is much different, except that you take more time to think about your subject, the person or people. You will be discussing and the goal you hope to achieve in that discussion.”

c. Descriptive Text

Descriptive Text is which say what a person or a thing is like. The purpose is to describe and reveal a particular, place, or things.

F. Contribution of the Research

This research is expected to give contribution to improvement of English teaching learning process, especially in writing class.

1. For the writer

The research result is enabling for the writer to have broader access on the selective of methodology, especially regarding to the effectiveness of Wholesome listing game for teaching descriptive text in writing.

2. To the teachers

The result of this research can help the teachers find out the most suitable technique for the success of their teaching.
3. For the students

The writer hopes that by researching this theme the students:

a. Be motivated and interested in learning English especially in learning writing mastery.

b. Give experience to those students how to learn or study writing by using *Wholesome Listing game*.