CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Study

Writing is a skill to formulate and communicate idea or information through language medium which is done by writer to the reader. It can be said that writing is encoding of a message of some kind that is, it translates our thoughts and ideas into language. So in a way, writing represents our thoughts and ideas. What one thinks leads to one’s writing in the form of sentences and by organizing the sentences into a cohesive text where we are able to communicate with our readers successfully.

Writing skill is also one of the skills that is taught in Junior High School. Writing encourages students to focus on accurate language use and because they think as they write, it may will provoke language development as they resolve problems which the writing puts into their minds (Harmer, 2007: 31). The basic competence of writing ability is that the students must be able to express their idea into a text by combining letters and using particular linguistic aspects which consist of words, spelling, sentence structure, punctuation, etc.

Based on the interview with the English teacher and the pre-observation in VII B Grade Students of SMPN 2 Ajibarang, on January 29th 2016, students have difficulties in writing, especially writing procedure text.
When the class is observed, at that time the teacher taught writing procedure text without any media. As a result, students had many problems in writing text, as follows: (1) students had difficulty to explore their ideas. They could only write one up to three sentences; (2) students had problem in understanding the language features of procedure text; (3) students had problem in using appropriate word in writing sentences; (4) students had problems in producing grammatically correct sentences; (5) students had difficulty in using mechanics (punctuation and spelling) in writing. Because of the problems above, many of students’ score in writing procedure text were below minimum standard score, 7.3. There were only 6 students from 32 students who got score more than 7.3.

By looking at the problems which were faced by students, it is decided to use media to improve students’ writing skills, especially in writing procedure text. Realia is a real thing, in language teaching, realia is actual objects and items which are brought into a classroom as examples or as aids to be talked or written about and used in teaching. The examples of realia are objects such as coins, tools, and textiles that don’t easily fit into the orderly categories of printed material. In education, realia is the object from real life used in classroom instruction, so by using realia students are exposed to real objects.

Realia as media of instruction that has become the choice in teaching learning process especially in writing to the junior high school students. By
using realia students are exposed to real objects. Realia gives students the opportunity to use all of their sense to learn about a given subject, and is appropriate for any grade or skill level.

From the previous description, it is interesting to conduct a research under the title "Improving Students’ Ability in Writing Procedure Text Using Realia (A Classroom Action Research on Grade VII B Students of SMPN 2 Ajibarang in Academic Year 2015/2016).”

B. Reasons for Choosing The Topic

There are three main reasons why the researcher takes this topic to study:

1. Writing is a difficult language skill for the Junior High School students, and on the other hand writing has little portion in English teaching learning process. Thus, need to be researched based on the practical conduct in the classroom.

2. Using realia will improve students ability in writing procedure text. Because realia as an aid that can be found in our surrounding.

3. The researcher believes that teacher will get optimal result of students in teaching writing through realia as an aid of teaching a procedure text.

C. The Problem of Study

Based on the background of the research and the reason for choosing the topic, the problem of this research is stated by a question “Is realia able to improve students’ ability in writing procedure text on Grade VII B Students of SMPN 2 Ajibarang?”
D. The Aim of Study

The aim of the research was to find out whether using realia is able to improve students’ writing ability in writing procedure text on grade VII B students of SMPN 2 Ajibarang.

E. Clarifications of Terms

1. Improving Students Ability

Improving students ability is defined to advance in value or good qualities; as a good education improves the mind and the manners Improve can be meant to use or employ to good purpose; to make productive; to turn to profitable account; to use to good advantages.

Students are person who are studying at a college or university, or person studying at secondary school or any person interested in a particular subject. Ability is power to do (something physical or mental) or it can be meant as the state or quality of being able.

Students ability can be meant something (power to do physically or mentally) that students who is studying at a college have, especially here is ability to write procedure text.

Thus, from the explanation above improving students ability is advance in value or good qualities to students who are studying at a college.

2. Writing Procedure Text

Writing is usually be the most difficult skill to acquire and should only be taught after students have learned the other skills. In many school, writing is
principally conducted to demonstrate a knowledge of decontextualised facts with little awareness of a reader beyond the teacher-examiner.

Procedure text is a piece of text that gives us instructions for doing something. The purpose is to explain how something can be done. Writing procedures help us do a task or make something. They can be a set of instructions or directions e.g. step by step method to germinate seeds.

3. Realia

According to Richards, Platt, and Platt in the Longman Dictionary of Language Teaching and Applied Linguistics book, in language teaching Realia is actual objects and items which are brought into a classroom as examples or as aids to be talked or written about and used in teaching.

Realia is a term used in library science and education to refer to certain real life object. In education, realia are objects from real life used in classroom instruction.

A. The Contributions of Study

This study is hoped can give some positive contributions to the English language learning context and will be beneficial for many sides such as for students, teacher and for the next researcher:

1. For teachers

Every English teacher may apply realia as a media to improve students ability in writing procedure text.
2. For the school
   It will make a right decision to use some media to support teaching and learning process.

3. For the readers
   They will get more information and experience from this research.