

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of Research

English is an international language which is used by people around the world. It plays a crucial part of life. It is intensively used in international trade, diplomacy and transfer of science and technology. Many books of science, business, technology and other published issues are written in English. It indicates that English is used in various knowledge which is needed by people around the world. In Indonesia, English is the first foreign language that is taught from Elementary School to University. In our country, English becomes one of the subjects of national examination at school. It shows that English is important for our country to compete in international level.

English consists of four skills that should be learnt by students. They are speaking, writing, reading, and listening. Each skill is divided into two types. Speaking and writing are productive types. In speaking, people can speak well if they understand what they will talk about. In writing, people should understand what they will write. They also should know the right grammar, vocabulary, fluency and mechanic to measure the student's knowledge. Meanwhile, reading and listening belong to receptive types. In reading, people should understand about what they have read. In listening, people focus on what speaker' says.

One of four language skills that is important to learn by students is writing. This skill demands the students to organize their ideas and put it in the written form. Writing is an ability to arrange letter, words and sentences of language that is used in written communication so that the reader can understand the message or the information. In other words, writing can be defined as a way that is used to communicate with other person to express someone's ideas, feeling and thinking in the written form to the readers. Nunan (2003: 88) states that writing is the mental work of inventing ideas, thinking how about to express them, and organizing them into statements and paragraphs that will be clear to a reader.

Writing plays the important role. There are many jobs in the world that are a part of writing skill. For example, when a student wants to be an author, he must have a good writing skill. Actually the principle of writing in English is nearly the same with writing in Indonesia. However, in several aspects, English is different from Indonesia, for example, bahasa Indonesia does not have what is called tenses (past, present and future) while English does. (Hadisastro, 2003:47)

In the first year of junior high school, the students should have the ability to make and develop written simple functional text. One of the written simple function text is descriptive text. In learning descriptive text, the students have 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 those parts so that the students can write the descriptive text well.

Most students consider that writing is a difficult activity due to some reasons. The first reason is that the students do not know what they are going to write. Then, the second is that the students are not interested in writing and have low motivation in writing. And the third is sometimes the teacher uses conventional method without any media or game in teaching so that it make the students feel bored during the teaching and learning process. According to Nurgiantoro (2001: 298-299) there are some problems which are faced by students in learning writing, they are organizing idea, lack of vocabulary, and arranging the sentence grammatically. Those problems make the students have no interest to write and do not enjoy following the lesson so that in the end of the lesson the students can not receive the material well.

Based on the student's difficulties in writing, it is necessary for teacher to have an appropriate technique to teach writing. There are some ways to help the teacher in teaching writing descriptive text in order to the students interesting in writing. One of the ways is using game. As we know that game is one of the interesting way to teach English because the students will not get bored and they can understand the material easily. Games provide language teachers with many advantages when they are used in classroom. One of these advantages is that learners get motivated to learn the language when they are in a game. Andrew Wright (1983: 1) states that games help and encourage many learners to sustain their interest and work. Games also help the teacher

to create contexts in which the language is useful and meaningful. In this case, the writer chooses Monopoly Game to teach writing descriptive text.

Monopoly Game is a board game played with a dice and board by two or four players in which they throw the dice in turns (<http://wikipedia.org>). Its beautiful board will help the students to be more enthusiastic in understanding the material while playing the game.

This game is fun. When the students throw the dice, they will guess in what number they get. The students hope they land on the square that they want. So there is an element of excitement in this game. Monopoly game is also has the advantage of helping players develop important social and interpersonal skill such as waiting, taking turns, and enjoying interaction with others.

Based on the explanation above, the writer decides to do a research to teach writing of a descriptive text using Monopoly Game. The writer wants to know the influence of Monopoly Game in teaching writing descriptive text, therefore, the title of this research is “The Effectiveness of Monopoly Game for Teaching Writing Descriptive Text (An Experimental Research at First Grade Students of SMP Negeri 2 Banyumas in the Academic Year 2014/2015).

## **B. Reasons for Choosing the Topic**

There are some reasons why the writer chooses this topic:

1. Writing is a productive skill that has to be mastered. So, suitable teaching technique is needed to develop the student's writing ability.
2. Monopoly Game is assumed to be able motivate the students in learning writing especially descriptive text.

## **C. Problem of Research**

The problem of this research is stated by the question "is monopoly game effective for teaching writing of descriptive text at the first grade students of SMP Negeri 2 Banyumas in academic year 2014 - 2015?"

## **D. Limitation of Problem**

The writer will do this research at SMP Negeri 2 Banyumas. The writer just focus on teaching writing descriptive text using Monopoly Game.

## **E. The Aims of Research**

The aim of this research is to know whether Monopoly Game is effective or not for teaching writing in Descriptive Text in first grade students of SMP Negeri 2 Banyumas in academic year 2014/2015.

## **F. The Contributions of Research**

It is hoped that this research will be useful for teaching and learning English, especially in learning writing descriptive text. The result of the research is expected useful:

1. For the readers
  - a. The readers can know the effectiveness of monopoly game in teaching writing.
  - b. The readers can know technique to teach writing.
2. For the students
  - a. They are able to experience fun learning.
  - b. They can be more enthusiastic in learning English.
3. For the English teacher
  - a. It can help the teacher find out the most suitable teaching technique for the success in teaching learning process.
  - b. The teacher can develop her knowledge and ability.
4. For the writer
 

She is able to help the teacher to improve the quality of teaching learning process.

## **G. Clarification of the Terms**

To understand the topic more easily, the title needs to be defined operationally. In this case, there are some key words used and they are defined operationally and classical as follows:

### 1. Monopoly Game

Monopoly Game is a board game played with a dice and board by two or four players in which they throw the dice by turns. From the dice the student can show the number he/she get (<http://id.wikipedia.org>). The equipments consist of a board, 1 dice, situations (material: descriptive text), 10 cards of chance, picture of the person, a blank of paper.

### 2. Teaching

Teaching is guiding and facilitating learning, enabling the learner to learn, setting conditions for learning (Brown, 2000: 7).

### 3. Writing

Nunan (2003: 88) states that writing is the mental work of inventing ideas, thinking how about to express them, and organizing them into statements and paragraphs that will be clear to a reader.

### 4. Descriptive Text

Descriptive text is a kind of text which describe particular thing, animal, person, or others, for instance: our pets or a person that is known well (Wardiman, 2008: 122).