

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

English is an international language which is used by people around the world to communicate each other. This makes English an important language to be learned. The students are expected to achieve four skills, those are listening, speaking, reading and writing. Writing is a language skill which is used to communicate indirectly (Tarigan,1996:122). Writing aims to express ideas, issue, events, feeling or thinking to others in written form. As a productive skill, writing requires students to be more productive in generating ideas, phrase or sentence to create paragraphs. Writing involves some language functions such as fluency, grammar, vocabulary, and punctuation. Writing mastery needs process and the students should practice everyday.

Based on the Junior High School syllabus, there are some kinds of text that should be learned. One of those text is Descriptive text. Descriptive text is a text which describes particular thing, a character, an event or a place in detail. Descriptive writing has a social function to describe a particular person, place or thing, for instance, description of a particular building, specific animal, particular place and specific person (Hartono, 2005:6). Most students of Junior High School consider writing is difficult. In writing, they face some of difficulties such as lack of grammar understanding,

lack of vocabulary, confused about the content, mechanic and organization. Lacking vocabulary is the most common problem faced by students. The students sometimes do not know the right word which they need to put in their writing. One of the difficulties which is also commonly found related to the content or ideas. Another difficulty is found in the organization. They cannot develop sentences into a coherent paragraph. Related to the problems, it can be considered that in the classroom, the teacher should be more creative to control and attract students' interest.

From the description above, the teacher should teach the students with variety of activities which gives them more opportunity to writing. One of the way is by using basic question technique to guide the students in writing. In this technique the teacher provides a list of questions to give guidance about what should be included in their writing. The writer also chooses picture as a media during learning process. Media is a tool used by teacher in learning process in order to make the student understand the material easily. Pictures have some benefits such as giving true, concrete, and realistic concept. Furthermore, pictures can attract the students' attention and make the students more imaginative and creative. The use of picture and basic questioning will make the students interested in following the learning process. It also makes the students understand the material easily.

B. Problem of Study

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

“Is basic questioning with picture effective for teaching descriptive text?”

C. Aim of Study

The aim of this study is to find out the effectiveness of using basic questioning with picture to teach descriptive text.

D. Clarification of the Terms

To understand the topic more easily, essential terms of this research classified as follows:

1. Effectiveness

Effectiveness is a noun form of effect which means having effect, able to bring the result intended (Hornby, 2000: 368). The degree to which something is successful in producing a desired result; success.

2. Basic Questioning

Question that given by the teacher to give a stimulus to the students in the writing process..

3. Pictures

A painting or drawing, etc. that shows a scene, a person or thing. Picture gives description and information about something (a person, a landscape, a place or building).

4. Descriptive text

Descriptive writing has a social function to describe a particular person, place or thing, for instance, description of a particular building, specific animal, particular place and specific person (Hartono, 2005:6)

E. Significance of the Study

The findings of this study are expected to provide useful information:

a. For students

By using basic questioning with picture the student will be able to understand the material easily especially in writing descriptive text. The students can be motivated and interested during the learning process.

b. For teachers

This study is expected to be able to increase teacher knowledge about variation of learning media that can be used in learning process.

Help the teacher to find out the suitable technique for learning process.

c. For school

This study is expected to be able to give good contribution for school as suggestion to improve and develop learning process in English, especially in teaching writing,