

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This section discusses on the background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and definition of key terms.

#### **1.1 Background of the Study**

English is a compulsory subject which must be taken by the students from elementary school until university students have to master English orally and in written form. There are four skills in English such as listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

One of the important skills is Writing because it is needed to academic purpose. According to Cohen and Reil (1989:2), Writing is a communicative act, a way of sharing observation, information, thoughts, or ideas with ourselves and others.

As we know that practice continuously is not enough to make good writing. Students still need other abilities to make their writing improved, such as ability in learning how to arrange a sentence, how to make a good paragraph, how to express their ideas and others. Based on Tan (2009:1), "Writing includes a complex activity because it represents meaning and content that can be communicated to other people." In teaching writing it self, process is more important than product. So, writing needs much time and energy for the students. Troyka (2010:1) states that teaching writing is an activity to help the students in communicating through a message for a purpose. The purpose of writing is to express any ideas to show information for readers. Therefore, English teacher must be creative in developing their teaching learning process to create good atmosphere, improve student's writing skill, and make the teaching and learning writing more exciting.

In this case, using appropriate teaching media is very important in teaching writing in order that the students can produce good writing. As Harmer (2001:78) said that a media is an approach that is useful to be implemented in the teaching and learning process. A media should be appropriated in the activity, roles of teachers and learners, the material and syllabus. Media also includes procedure and techniques. Based on Richards and Schmidt (2002:330) "A media is a way of teaching which is based on principle and procedure." From those definitions of media, the researcher concludes that a media is a procedure in giving instruction to the students that aims to increase student's ability. There are a lot of ways to increase teaching writing. One of the effective ways to increase teaching writing is changing the media of teaching it self. There are some media that can apply in teaching writing. One of them is picture series media for teaching writing.

Halimatuh Sa'diyah (2008) has conducted a research using picture series to improve student's skill in writing descriptive text where this research divided the advantages of using picture series in two ways. First, picture series was useful to improve student's ability in writing descriptive text. The improvements were in terms of being able to write more ideas and using more vocabulary. Second, picture series gave positive impacts to the teaching and learning process. This study indicated that student's interest, enthusiasm, participation and interaction with the teacher increased through the use of picture series.

Marheni Siritwaji (2011) did a study through a picture series in teaching writing, the researcher had found three result of the research. The first result was that student's ability in constructing the text could be improved by using picture series. The second finding, that a series of picture was effective for teaching and learning process. It could improve student's motivation and passion to learn English writing. The last result was that the cooperative learning among the student could also improve by using a picture series. In other words,

pictures as media can give a number of special roles such as to help the teachers to be able to attract and motivate the student in teaching and learning process.

Harmer (2004:67) also argues that just as music using pictures can provoke creativity in students especially those who are particularly responsive to auditory stimuli. In this research, the use of picture series as the media affected them directly. It can be seen when the researcher showed and provided picture in series in teaching learning activities. The picture in series attracted the student to write their text easily and efficiently. Students were easier to give their feeling and ideas while it can work interactively in a group to active and learn more about how to write. Interesting topic given by teacher also makes students easy to understand what they learn in English.

Based on previous studies above, Picture series will provide some more experiences for the students when they are studying English because this learning Model relies images as a medium of learning and these images become a main factor in the learning process.

Based on the description above, the researcher is interested in investigating Picture series as the media of teaching writing that is applied in some Junior high schools in Gresik. After observing some schools in Gresik, the researcher finds that one of those schools which has been applying picture series for decades and effective is SMP Muhammadiyah 4 Giri and SMP Islamic Qon GKB. It can be proven based on the competences of teacher is good in implementing picture series strategy on that school, so it can be seen the student's score which is above average mostly while this school has grabbed accreditation "A". Therefore, the researcher decides to conduct the research under the title "*The Use of Picture Series in Teaching Writing Procedure Text at Junior High School in Gresik*".

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Based on the description from background of the study, the writer wants to know:

1. How is picture series use in teaching writing?

2. How are the student's responses to picture series media?

### **1.3 Objective of Study**

According to the formulation of the problem, the objective or the aims of the research is to:

1. Describe how picture series is applied in teaching writing.
2. Describe how the student's responses to picture series in teaching writing that is applied in junior high school.

### **1.4 Significance of Study**

The writer hopes that this research has some benefits to the writer his self and for the reader as general. The benefits of the study as follow :

1. Theoretical benefit

For the theoretical significance, this study gives discourse and knowledge about implementing teaching writing by picture series media for teacher that is students interested with writing class.

2. Practical benefit

- a. For the teacher:

The writer really hopes that this study can give information how the teacher applied, teach and solve the problem faced in using picture series media for the reader.

- b. For the students

The writer hopes that this study can improve their writing using picture series media, so that they could produce a good writing and variation in studying English.

### **1.5 Scope and Limitation of Study**

The writer focuses on the use of picture series media at Islamic Qon junior high school and SMP Muhammadiyah 4 Giri at eighth grade proficiency in writing descriptive text.

Therefore, the researcher puts several limitations to react the goal of this study.

The researcher limits how the process to teach writing using picture series media and how are the student response in teaching writing at eighth grade students in the first semester at Islamic Qon junior high school and SMP Muhammadiyah 4 Giri.

### **1.6 Definition of Key Terms**

The mean of definition is intend to avoid ambiguity and misunderstanding of the terms used. To get same points of view to certain terms, the writer gives the definition of key terms. One refers to the previous and others do not. The definition of the key terms of the study are :

1. **Teaching writing procedure text** is an activity in teaching learning to communicate through writing *procedure text, which is considered to describe how something is completed through a sequence of actions or steps.*
2. **Picture series media** is one of media to guide the student to express their ideas in written language number of related composite pictures related to series or sequence.