

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter consists background of the study, statement of the problems, purposes of the study, significant of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and definition of the key terms. To make all of them obvious, the researcher would discuss them one by one.

### **1.1. Background of The Study**

Teaching English in Indonesia is focused on the student's communicative competence. The communication can be in oral and written forms. The learners should be able to use the four language skills, they are: listening, speaking, reading and writing (National Department of Education, 2007). The learners should have ability in these skills to complete each other on English communicative competence.

Writing clearly is not entirely easy, but neither is it particularly difficult (Manser, 2006: 67). To increase writing ability the students should get writing practice enough. Practice is very important in developing this skill, because without practice, it is impossible to write English well. Good writing in English requires ability to write good sentences and to organize them logically into paragraphs.

The curriculum 2007 gives right authority to the school to make and develop curriculum, so teacher should be active and creative in teaching learning

activity. Based on the curriculum, the active and creative teacher must improve students' writing ability. The improving student's writing ability can apply in classroom activity.

Based on Savage and Mayer, the unity of organization in paragraph is guides of five part process. First, an image or quotes to spark interest as students begin thinking about the topic. Second, students are introduced to a specific rhetorical mode. Third, students develop the ideas from the outline and produce a first draft. Fourth, students edit their writing produce a final draft. The last step, review the four part before. In addition, Weir in Cohen (1994: 317) analytic marking scheme is more useful tool for the training of raters and standardization of their rating than is a holistic one. Thus, the unity of organization in paragraph and analytic marking useful to writing guidance for student to produce writing text.

From the statement above, it needs media to help the students understand. The educational transaction by the way it is delivered and mediated by a particular technology (Garrison and Anderson, 2003: 32). The particular media is as tool in writing activity to improve their ability. It makes the students easier to organize the words in sentence into paragraph, and paragraphs into a composition in which they understand in meaning and grammatically correct.

The fact in the classroom where the researcher will conduct research shows that students' writing class condition is noisy. It does not focus in writing learning activity. The noisy class indicates that the material or media which are not interesting. The researcher proposes to apply writing fun by Jenny Eather's

website in teaching writing activity as tool to improve writing ability and give treatment for students which will focus on it. In addition, the school has Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) class and the students' average have intermediate grade in internet use, these will encourage them.

This research has related problem to previous study. The previous study is made by Walcot and Wilkie (2006) Teaching with "Write Brain": Writing Software to improving writing ability. In "Write Brain" gives significantly result to improve students' writing ability. The conclusion here, similarities of "Write Brain" and "Writing Fun" is the writing software media for writing activity. The researcher is interested used writing software to improve writing ability. So the researcher decided "Writing Fun" by Jenny Eather's website as media to improve students' writing ability.

## **1.2. Statement of The Problem**

Based on the background of the study, the researcher states the problem as follows:

- 1.2.1. How does "Writing Fun" media improve students' writing ability at eighth grade SMPN 1 Manyar?

## **1.3. Purposes of The Study**

Based on the problem, the purpose of this study is expressed as follows:

- 1.3.1. to improve students' writing ability using "Writing Fun" media at eighth grade SMPN 1 Manyar

#### **1.4. Significance of The Study**

The result of the study is hoped to give benefits from theoretical and practical aspects.

##### ***1) Theoretical Significance***

- a. It is expected that the result of this research will create idea on the teaching writing in junior high schools.
- b. It is expected that the result of the study as participation to the theory of the strategies in teaching writing.

##### ***2) Practical Significance***

Practically the research results are expected to give contributions to:

- a. Students

It is expected that the use of “writing fun” can be a good way for the students in learning writing. So, the students can enjoy the material and improve their writing skill.

- b. Teacher

It is expected that this study will give a good contribution for the teacher to teach and motivate the students to learn writing. It can be an alternative ways to solve the problem in teaching writing in the class. So, the teacher will not be stuck in particular teaching strategies.

- c. Next researcher

It is hoped that the result of the study can give the information related to teaching writing using writing fun. So, it can be the previous study for the next researcher who wants to conduct an action research in

writing area using “Writing Fun”.

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

The scope in this research is eighth grade of SMPN 1 Manyar. The subjects of the study consist of 32 (7 males and 25 females). The limitation is in finding out using “writing fun” in a descriptive text product.

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

To avoid misunderstanding about discussion, those terms are defined as follows:

**Students’ writing ability** is capability of students to master subject of writing learning.

**“Writing Fun” by Jenny Eather’s website** is one of media used in writing by text organizer.