

## CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Language is used as a means of communication. With language people can express ideas and wishes to other people. Thus language plays a very important role in human life. As one of the foreign language in Indonesia, English is taught in junior high school and senior high school. As a result, the Indonesian government always makes effort to improve quality of English teaching by improving the quality of the teacher and the other components that are involved in educational processes.<sup>1</sup>

In language, the purpose of teaching English is to master four skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Writing is frequently useful as preparation for some other activity.<sup>2</sup> It is a process of discovering and organizing ideas, putting them on papers, and revising them. By writing, we can express our ideas well; however, to get our meaning strong, interesting, and clear for the reader, this skill must be improved by practicing a lot. Because writing has many contributions for our life, we can make a habit of writing to develop this skill. Here, the writer focuses on writing, because it is the important language skill to be developed. Realizing that writing is very important for English learners in addition to the other skills, it is essential for the students to develop their writing skills in English. Allah decrees in the Holy Qur'an:

﴿5﴾ الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ ﴿4﴾ عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ

“Who taught by the pen, taught man what he did not know”. (QS. Al-‘Alaq: 4-5).<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Kasihani K.E. Suyanto, *English for Young Learner*, (Jakarta: pt. bumi aksara, 2007), p. 2

<sup>2</sup>Jeremy Harmer, *How to Teach Writing*, (England: Pearson Education Limited, 2004), p.

<sup>3</sup>Mahmud Y. Zayid, *The Quran*, (Lebanon: Dar Al-Choura, 1980), 1<sup>st</sup> Ed., p. 457.

From the verse above, we know that writing has an important role in human life. Allah explained in the verse that Allah taught human by pen. By writing the people will get some information. That is why human being needs to learn how to write correctly.

Writing as one of language skills has given an important contribution to human work.

The important of writing can be seen in people's daily activities, office activities, and business activities (application letter). Because of writing activities make life easier so people in big cities even small villages may get newest information from media, such as newspaper, magazines, and tabloid and so on.

Writing must be learned because it is important for language learning and advantages for students.<sup>4</sup> Writing has certain characteristics which seem to make it difficult for students to get to group with especially for young learners. In the teaching learning and process, the students may still have problem in writing. There are many factors that influence someone's difficulties in writing, such as in mastering vocabulary in arranging the structure or grammar. Like other skills (speaking, listening, and reading) writing skill is taught step by step. Writing activity can ready from simple and then continue with comprehensive writing according student's competencies and skill. To teach writing, teacher seldom uses certain methods to teach writing. Moreover, the teaching writing is generally felt boring and even confusing for learners because it needs more analytical ability. The result of observe and interview to English teacher on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2010. From the result of observe can analyzed that teaching and learning writing in the classroom is not maximal. The students are not enthusiasm following teaching and learning process. It was caused many students did not pay attention to the teacher. It still there are many students speaks with their

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<sup>4</sup>Kasihani K.E. Suyanto, *op.cit*, 69

friend when teaching learning process was progress. And students' ability in writing especially to make paragraph still low. Based on the data the average of the students' result in writing skill is 2, 5.<sup>5</sup>In this way, the teachers want to make teaching writing more interesting than before.

But the problems are different character and competencies students can also be a barrier which may be faced by teacher when he or she teaches in classroom. From this case the researcher intends to conduct the research applying a learning method which is expected to be helpful and beneficial for students as well teachers.

In this point, she is going to apply one of the cooperative learning methods that are Teams Games Tournaments (TGT). This method is viewed as a solver for the problem stated above. Adopting this method, teacher is expected to be able to run the teaching learning process effectively, especially teaching of writing. Beside that, learning process is made easy and enjoyable in order to students do not feel bored in the classroom. This is appropriate with the with Rasulullah's speech:

### **Hadits**

From Anas that prophet speech: "take it easy and do not be difficult. Be happy and you do not make run." (Narrated Bukhori)<sup>6</sup>

As asserted by Hyland, classroom audiences' are important as teachers play a central role in responding to students writing while peers can be trained to provide effective feedback.<sup>7</sup> They will work in groups by explaining the given materials. Thus, when teacher put the students in groups, he or she has to ensure that the students whose levels are different are put

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<sup>5</sup>Based on observe at class VIIA MTs Sudirman and interview with English teacher, Mr Mahrus S.Ag on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2010 and from data students' worksheet.

<sup>6</sup>Ibnu Hajar Al Asqalani, Fathul Baari; *Penjelasan Kitab Shahih Al Bukhori I*, (Jakarta: Pustaka Azzam, 2002), p. 308.

<sup>7</sup>Ken Hyland, *Teaching And Researching Writing*, (Malaysia: Longman. 2002), p. 83.

together. In addition, the activity offered in Teams Game Tournament is interesting so that the students will feel the new atmosphere in classroom and are interested in learning writing.

The method chosen by the teacher become one of researcher's considerations as well. In this case, the researcher attempt to offer one method that makes the students interested in studying writing through TGT technique in which the activity is more emphasized on students' involvement and there is peer teaching as well. Basically, cooperative learning corresponds to Islamic teaching which is stated in Qur'an Surah al-Maidah in verse 2

(2) ... وَتَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْبِرِّ وَالتَّقْوَىٰ وَلَا تَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْإِثْمِ وَالْعُدْوَانِ ...

*"....Help one another in what is good and pious, not in what is wicked and sinful...."*<sup>8</sup>

The verse above explains that cooperation is very suggested in every goodness; in this point is English language learning. Lets' put this verse in language teaching learning context by connecting it with the cooperative learning. In cooperative learning, there is mutual relationship among students which enable them to reach the goal of teaching and learning.

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

In this study, the writer only focuses on the study on the use of the teams games tournaments as an aid for teaching writing in descriptive text. The reasons for choosing the topic are as follows:

1. The monotonous technique of teaching writing makes student not comfortable and enjoyable. Because to teach junior high school teacher must creative to improve technique to the class.

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<sup>8</sup>*Loc.cit.73*

2. Teams games tournaments (TGT) provides ideas to create activity for success of the English language learning and can build students' motivation to learn English more comfortable.
3. Making the writing classes interesting, enjoyable and communicative is not easy. Teams games tournaments is one way to make the students feel the new atmosphere in classroom and interested in learning writing.

### **C. Research Questions**

Based on the problem that has been stated above, there are some problems that will be investigated through this study. The problems are:

1. How is the implementation of TGT to improve students' writing organization of descriptive text?
2. How much is the improvement of students' writing organization of descriptive text after being taught through TGT?

### **D. Objectives of The Study**

The objectives of the study are:

1. To describe the implementations of teams games tournament to improve students' writing organization of descriptive text.
2. To find out the level of improvement of students' writing organization of descriptive text after being taught through the use of teams games tournament.

### **E. Significance of The Study**

The result of this study hopefully will be useful for:

1. Teacher
  - a. To provide the information of the students' writing ability in descriptive text.
  - b. To encourage English teacher to seek of the students' difficulties in writing descriptive text.

## 2. Students

- a. Students' writing ability in descriptive text will be improved.
- b. To help students in order to be able to write descriptive text easily.

## 3. School

Give contribution on the effort of improvement teaching learning process in writing to improve students' writing especially in descriptive text.

## 4. Writer

To get information of the students' achievement in writing descriptive text will be improved by using TGT.

### **F. Scope of The Study**

A research should be limited in its scope, so that the problem being examined is not too wide and the research is effective. To limit the scope of the research and to analyze the problems, the findings of the research should be limited by the following factors:

1. Using TGT to improve students' writing organization of descriptive text at 7<sup>th</sup> grade of MTs Sudirman Karang Sari Magelang at the preparation activity, main activity, and evaluation activity.
2. The assessment of students' writing covers the parts, qualities, and characteristics of the object to determine the improvement of students' writing organization of descriptive text.
3. The contributions of the use of TGT to the students' improvement in organizing descriptive text.

### **G. Definition of Terms**

To avoid mistakes and misunderstanding in terms and contents of the topic in this study, the writer explains each term as follows:

1. Improvement

Improvement is the act of making something better.<sup>9</sup> In this case the writer wants to improve students' writing organization of descriptive text through the use of teams games tournament.

## 2. Organization

Organization is arranged something or the parts of something into a particular order or structure<sup>10</sup>. In this case means organization to make descriptive paragraph include generic structure and lexicogrammatical feature.

## 3. Writing a Descriptive Text

Descriptive text is a text that has social function to describe a particular person, place, or thing.<sup>11</sup> So writing descriptive here is the activity to express ideas, opinions, and feelings in a text that has social function to describe a particular person, place, or thing.

## 4. The Teams Games Tournament

Teams games tournament is a structure for reorganizing the classroom into four or five member teams, each having members from all level of achievement.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>9</sup>A.S.Hornby, *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995), p. 652.

<sup>10</sup>*Ibid.*, 825

<sup>11</sup>Rudi Hartono, *Genres of Texts*, (Semarang: UNNES Semarang, 2005), p.6.

<sup>12</sup>David L De Vries, *Teams – Games – Tournaments: The Team Learning Approach*, (United States of America: Educational Technology Publications, Inc, 1980), p.