

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

This chapter deals with an introduction of the beginning of the research which was conducted. In the background of the problem, the writer states the importance of teaching writing skill in language learning, especially in Junior High School by using effective media. In this chapter the writer presents the formulation of the problem, the objective and the uses of the research. The writer also explains the scope of the research and defines important terms.

### **1.1. Background**

Writing is one of the productive skills that can be used as a tool in communication. Using English orally is not the only way to communicate; people can also communicate in written form. Therefore, it is important for students to learn how to write well in English seriously. Writing is not only emphasized at Senior High School level but also important to be emphasized at Junior High School level because writing is one of the tools for communication that should be taught in early age.

According to School Based Curriculum, the goal of teaching learning English at Junior High School is that the students must be able to develop communicative competence in written as well as in spoken to achieve functional literacy level. Based on the curriculum, the students are taught by using text as media. There are

some kinds of texts that have to be learnt by the second year of Junior High School, one of the texts is descriptive text. In this learning process the students have to be able to understand the content and create the descriptive text based on its generic structure.

In fact, students often feel frustrated when their English teacher asks them to compose a piece of writing because they do not understand well about grammar, student lack vocabulary and they get difficulties to express the information into the written form. Many students complain that they do not know how to write and they cannot link sentences into coherence ideas.

Diharyono's research finding (1990:1) shows that students know or have the ideas of what they are going to write but they do not know how to put them into words. Those can be caused by the student's factor, the teacher's factor, or the process of teaching writing.

Therefore, the uses of various teaching media are necessary for motivating students in learning English especially in writing skill, as well as for adjusting the material and avoiding the students' boredom. By using appropriate media the teacher will be able to perform well in the teaching learning process and simultaneously will be able to achieve the target.

In fact, many English teachers still teach writing in conventional way and they seldom use media and technique in teaching writing text (Noprianto, 2007:59). Consequently, the students would easily get bored in writing class and thought that writing is boring and difficult to learn.

Therefore, in this case the teacher is demanded to be creative in teaching learning, especially in teaching writing. The teacher can use the appropriate media or effective methods in order to achieve the goal stated in English curriculum.

The researcher conducted this research at the second year of SMP N 2 Bandar Mataram, Central Lampung. According to the observation which had been conducted, the researcher assumes that the students of that school especially at the second year still get difficulties to arrange the words into sentence. Beside that, the students also lacked grammar and vocabulary. Therefore, the researcher thinks that it is necessary for the students to be taught how to have a mastery of grammar and vocabulary. After that, in order to achieve the goal of this research, the researcher also taught the students how to put the words into sentence in the form of descriptive text. Those are the reasons why the researcher conducted writing in that school.

In this research, the researcher used realia as media to help students in learning writing. Realia could attract the students to focus in what they see and it could stimulate their minds to think about the object. The researcher chose realia because realia is media that can give an unforgettable impression. Jones (1994) states that experience with real things which will interact in students' daily life is the best learning situation.

## **1.2. Problem**

In reference to the background above, the research problem can be formulated like the following;

Is there any increase of the students' descriptive text writing after being taught through realia at the second year of SMPN 2 Bandar Mataram?

### **1.3. Objective**

The objective of the research is to investigate whether teaching using realia can increase the students' descriptive text writing ability at the second year of SMPN 2 Bandar Mataram.

### **1.4. Uses**

It is expected that the result of this research can have the uses as follows:

#### **1. Theoretically**

Based on the theory, the result of this research is expected to be used to support the theories about developing students' ability in writing descriptive text through realia.

#### **2. Practically**

Practically, the result of this research is expected to give new information to the English teachers how to develop students' ability in writing descriptive text through realia.

### **1.5. Scope**

This research was conducted at the second grade of SMPN 2 Bandar Mataram, Central Lampung.

The researcher focused on increasing students' descriptive text writing ability taught through realia. The topics of descriptive text that were used include fruit, person and place. The realia was suited to the type of descriptive text that was taught, the researcher used fruit, person and place to be described by the students.

## **1.6. Definition of Terms**

### **Writing**

It refers to an activity to express an idea, and conveying the message. Writing also is a way to communicate indirectly between the writer and the reader.

### **Text**

It refers to any meaningful part of language. It can be in oral or written form.

### **Descriptive text**

It refers to one kind of texts for presenting a verbal portrait of a person, a place, an event, a process or a thing.

### **Realia**

It refers to real thing or object that can be found around us in everyday life.

