

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the study

Language is one of the communication tools used by humans to communicate and interact with one another. Language is a system of meaningful and articulated sound symbols that have an arbitrary and conventional character, used as a means of communication by a group of people to generate feelings and thoughts (Wibowo, 2001). The use of language must not English.

English is a foreign language. English is also an international language in communication. English is very important in the aspects of education, work, economy, social, arts, as well as culture and politics. Sometimes students have difficulty mastering English Because English is not our native language. One of the languages used by humans to interact and communicate is writing

Writing is a linguistic activity that is very important in human life. Writing is one of the skills that students must master. By doing writing activities students can express thoughts, ideas through writing. However, writing activities cannot be mastered only through theory, but must do exercises and also practice so that they can produce good writing (Meyers, 2005). Similar to Brown (2001:335 ) said that the process of writing can be through thinking, drafting, and revising procedure that requires specialized skills. According to Elbow (1973:14-16) in Brown (2001:336) said that writing is a two steps process

Writing is generally considered one of the most difficult that other skills for foreign language students (Juan Javed & Nazli (2013:130). A student sometimes has difficulty writing to convey ideas through good and correct language. Nugriyantoro (2001: 296) argues that writing is an activity that expresses ideas through language media and writing is one of the most recent language skills mastered after listening, reading, and speaking.

Most of the students are fluent in English but do not have a definite understanding of writing. There are still many students who often make mistakes in writing, this is because students are less interested in writing skills, less focused on learning, and consider writing skills easy.

Researchers made observations at SMP 21 MEDAN. The problems found by the researchers there were some problems of students related to the success of student writing skills. Based on the observation at SMP 21 Simalingkar B in Medan researcher found several problems there are problems related to, self student , self teacher and teaching process . Based on the observation at SMP 21 Simalingkar B in Medan there are many students have problems in writing caused they don't have any idea to express, there is no motivation ,and most of the students have a lack in grammar,vocabulary and so on . On the self teacher, the teacher not been able to teach their students profesionally and totally. The teacher just teaches and ask the student to write but the teacher unable to write properly and correctly.In the other hand, the teacher doesn't master the lessons. In the learning process, the teacher just asks students to write what they know about something, there is no method or media is used to support writing process.

One way that can be done to improve students' writing skills is that teachers must use a variety of teaching methods that do not cause the class to feel bored, and students are asked to be more active in the teaching and learning process. By using the picture and picture method. Picture and picture is a visual representation of a person, object, or scene, as a painting, drawing, photograph, etc. The picture can be a good stimulus for writing, but the picture must be based on the students' ability.

The picture and picture method is a model designed to encourage learners to find, query, execute and search for information, collect data, analyze data, and draw their conclusions. In this model, students can construct ideas and insights in class so that they can put them into practice. Problems such as difficulty in remembering topics (Starrett and Morcos, 2001); (Ravif Daniel, 2004); and (Athles and Ali, 2011). By using picture and picture students can practice their writing skills by conveying the ideas that they have in mind against the images they see. The researcher made class VII B SMP NEGERI 21 MEDAN as the sample of this study.

Based on the description above, researchers are interested in conducting research on students of class VIII B entitled "**Improving Writing Skills Using Picture and Picture in students of SMP NEGERI 21 MEDAN**".

## **1.2 Problem of the study**

Based on the limitation problem above ,the researcher formulated as can the picture and picture method improve students' writing skills for the eighth grade of SMP 21 Simalingkar B?

### **1.3 Objective of the study**

Based on the problem formulation above, the objective of the research is to find out whether the picture and picture method can improve students' writing skills in the eighth grade for SMP 21 Simalingkar B, Medan

### **1.4 Limitation of the study**

Based on the problem identification above ,the researcher will be limited to make it deeper, there are problems related to self-student, self teacher , learning process, but the researcher going to limit the discussion to the most crucial factors influencing students' writing skill is learning process though picture and picture method. Using the picture and picture method is regarded as able of making class enjoyable and interesting for students, and it can make students able to express their idea through pictures.

### **1.5 The signification of the study**

This research aims to reproduce the theory of writing, which focuses on improving students' writing skills in descriptive text.

#### **1. For Teacher:**

The teacher can use this paper to help them as information or input to improve their skills in teaching writing descriptive text .

#### **2. For Students:**

Reachers hopes that this research can improve student's writing skill and using picture and picture method to improve their skill in writing. And also researcher hope this paper can enrich and increase student' knowledge about writing.

#### **3. For Next Researchers:**

This paper is expected to be useful for other researchers who find interest in improving students' writing skills by using picture and picture They can read this paper as a reference to conduct deeper and better research in the future