

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of Study

Language is very important in our life, because it is always used in our daily activity to communicate with others. People cannot communicate each other without language, because it is one of the communication tools used by people in general. People can use language to convey our message or to express our ideas through oral, written, or signal languages.

There are many languages in the world, one of them is English. English is the most widely used language in the world. In many countries, English occupies the highest position in the education. English also plays an important role in the education system in Indonesia.

In Indonesia, English is the foreign language that is taught in every school from the elementary school to the university level. English is taught as a foreign language and its aim is to enable students to master the four skills, they are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. According to Wallace (1986: 9) In school and in life, students face a diversity of circumstances that require language skills. For this reason, experience with a variety of reading, writing and speaking activities in school can help learners acquire the skills they need to be successful.

Teachers in Indonesia provide less portion of time for writing activity and they find difficulties in teaching writing. Writing is one of the skill that is learned in English class. In teaching writing we often find the students who can not write

an English composition spontaneously or easily, they might need a lot of ideas for writing, they might be have some difficulties in making a good sentence, they make a have a trouble with the right sentence structure and good word order. To solve this problem, teachers should be more creative in teaching writing and offer student with an interesting and useful strategy.

Writing is a communicative act, it is one way to share ideas, thoughts, experiences and information between the students and others. It means that the students need to speak about something related to their experiences and their lives through writing. In relation to writing activity, both teachers and students have the same need to write. According to Riddell (2003: 138), writing is very important, either for their own lives if in an English speaking country, on in their jobs. It can also be very important for those students preparing for an exam of which writing will be one part. So teachers need to work on developing their students' writing skill.

Based on the information obtained from an English teacher in SMPN 1 Ponorogo when the researcher conducted the teaching practice that a lot of students have difficulties in Writing English. First, they do not have idea to writes. Second, they were still confused in organizing the writing. Third, they often made some mistakes with the lack of knowledge in vocabularies. The minimum English score is 75 but there were many students that had not reach it. These problems can be influenced by some factors. These problems appear because some students' didn't like writing activities and the teacher didn't give the interesting explanation activities. It made students less comprehends, less interested in writing, and bored.

Based on the problems above, the writer offered a suitable solution to overcome the problems. The writer tried to use concept sentence in descriptive text as a media to solve the problem. Because concept sentence method is useful in supporting the students to active learning. With concept sentence method the students can be to arrange a sentence properly with the help of some of the words given by the teacher. According to Huda (2013: 315) Concept sentence where learning is trying to teach students to create a sentence with some key words that have been provided in order to capture the concepts contained in the sentence and distinguish it from other sentences. Concept sentence is a method to make student interested and it is helpful for students to develop their ideas in writing it will help student to arrange some sentence to making a good paragraph. Writing needs to imagine so they will be can easy to express their ideas.

Based on the background above the writer tries to conduct research entitled: “Improving students’ writing skill using concept sentence at the eight grade of SMP Negeri 1 Ponorogo in academic year 2014/2015”.

## **1.2 Statement of the problem**

Based on the description of the study above, the writer would like to make statement of the problems. The problems that are discussed in this study can be stated as follows:

How can Concept Sentence improve students’ writing skill of descriptive text in at the eight grade of SMP Negeri 1 Ponorogo in academic year 2014/2015?

### **1.3 Purpose of Study**

Based on the statement of problem above, the purpose of this research is :

To measure whether concept sentence can improve students writing skill at the eight grade of SMP N 1 Ponorogo in academic year 2014/2015.

### **1.4 Benefit of The Study**

The study will be useful for us to know the advantages of the research. It is hoped that concept sentence is one of the method that can be used as an alternative way to teach writing. In assition, it can contribute some benefits as follow:

1) The researcher

The researcher hopes this result of the research give solution in teaching English.

2) The students

It is hoped that the students can improve their students writing skill by using concept sentence in descriptive text and there are some efforts to develop their study English in order to be successful.

3) The teacher

The teacher can use this result of the research as a feedback on the teaching activities and he can improve his method in teaching learning progam well.

Beside that he also can use the result of the research as an alternative way to teach writing in the class for his students.

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

This research is focused on the implementation of writing skill in descriptive text by using concept sentence to improve student's writing skill at eight grade in SMP Negeri 1 Ponorogo in academic year 2014/2015.

### **1.6 Definition of The Key Term**

To make easier in undersatanding this research, the researcher defines the key terms as follows:

*Concept sentence* : Concept sentence is a method of learning that teaches students to make a sentence with some key words that have been provided in order to capture the concepts contained in the sentence.

*Descriptive text* : Descriptive text is a text which lists the characteristics something. Descriptive text is a text that draw or tell about something in detail. (Marsudiono, 2011:75).

*Writing skill* : Writing ability is the skill to express ideas, thoughts, and feelings to other people in written to make other people or readers understand the ideas conveyed. In a line the statement above, Zamel (1982: 195) mentions Writing is a process through which meaning is created. This suggests

composition instruction that recognizes the importance of generating, formulating, and refining one's ideas.