CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. BACKGROUND OF STUDY

Language is very important for human being in the world, to get everything that they need and don’t know. We are as the human being in the world have to understand language well, not only first language (mother tongue) and second language (Indonesian) but also foreign language be should studied by human especially in facing globalization era.

English is one of the international languages, it has important role in this world. It can be seen from many aspects, such as in business, academic, tourist and people of the world who use English as a tool of communication. Jeremy Harmer says “English will remain dominant among world languages. However, there is no doubt that it is and will remain a vital linguistic tool for many business people; academics, tourists and citizens of the world who
wish to communicate easily across nationalities for many years to come.”

All educators and students learn English. They have learnt from kindergarten to university because nowadays almost all sciences in the book, newspaper, magazine and others are written by English language. So, English is very important for our life especially in this globalization era.

In studying English, we have to know the four basic language skills, namely listening, speaking, reading and writing. Those skills are important and necessary to learn in order to master spoken language including the vocabulary, spelling, and pronunciation skill.

Writing is very important for us especially when we are facing modern era like today. Because writing is not only for communicate each other, but also for expressing and idea, remembering something and thinking critically as well.

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Descriptive writing describes an object, place, or person in a way that creates a vivid impression in the reader’s mind, enabling the reader to visualize what is being described, and to feel that he/she is very much part of the writer’s experience. Description reproduces the way things look, smell, taste, feel, or sound. It may also evoke moods, such as happiness, loneliness, or fear.2

Actually, there are many media of learning English, especially writing. One of them is using comic, that usually known “comic strips”. When comic strip is used media in learning writing process, it can help the student to improve students writing. Comic strips are not just an artistic creation that shows off its humorous aspects but it also contains a plea, a suggestion or an advice of the ethical standards of a society.3

Based on the explanation above the writer is motivated to conduct the research entitled “IMPROVING STUDENTS’ WRITING DESCRIPTIVE TEXT THROUGH COMIC STRIPS (A Classroom Action Research at the Eight Grade of

MTsN Ciwandan - Cilegon Academic Year 2014/2015). It is to measure the students’ ability in writing skill. Not only that, it has the purpose to find a new method or technique in English teaching at MTsN Ciwandan - Cilegon. The writer hopes the students are able to improve their writing English skill. Besides, they will be usual to write descriptive text. In this study the writer will employ the classroom action research.

B. THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROBLEM

Writing is active process in communication, an also it is to make sure the communication is going well but more of them feeling boring when they write to short story. So, based on the description in the previous part, there are some problems that can be identified as follows:

1. Student are difficult to understand the object given
2. Student are lack of vocabularies in writing the object
3. Student are boring when they write to the object
4. Student just focus on understanding the object without enjoying the conversation
C. LIMITATION OF THE PROBLEM

Limitation necessary in a research problem, this is done in short story the target. So, this research will be limited only deal with improving students’ writing descriptive text through comic strips.

D. THE STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Based on the background of the study above, the writer has started the problem as follows:

1. How is the students’ skills in writing descriptive text?
2. How is comic strips applied in writing descriptive text?
3. How is the effectiveness of comic strips in writing descriptive text?

E. THE AIM OF THE RESEARCH

Based on the statements of research above, the writer makes the aim of research as follows:

1. To know the students’ skills in writing descriptive text.
2. To know the comic strips applied in writing descriptive text.
3. To know the effectiveness of comic strips in writing descriptive text

F. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RESEARCH

The importance of the study of comic strips as a media in teaching can be used to help the student develop their writing ability. It can be used as experience for teacher in teaching writing ability, especially MTsN Ciwandan - Cilegon.

The research has three benefits as follows:

1. For the writer

   The writer knows the influence of using comic strips on student’s writing ability, and the result can be applied in teaching writing skill.

2. For the Teacher

   The result of the research can be used as an input in English teaching learning, especially in increasing writing ability.
3. For the students

Students are enjoying in learning writing ability because they can understand information of the object. And the student can be more active outside classroom activity.