

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

Basic Consideration

Writing is one activity that should be mastered by the students. Writing is a form of communication that must be good and clear to the reader. It is supported by Meyers (2003) that “writing is speaking to others paper” (p.2). In the aspect of writing, the students should have some aspects, between ideas and description, as expressed by Wardahana (2007) as cited in Pujiono (n.d) “writing is a skill in expressing an idea or description of the human mind into a paper that can be read and easily understood to others” (p.1).

Beside idea and imagination, students also should master grammar and sentence structure, in order the text can be structured properly and become a good and clear paragraph that can be understood by the reader.

In the reality the students cannot express their ideas, they do not even know how to how to write. In this case Yuningsih Karim in her research conducted at SMP 8 Gorontalo in 2014 found there were many students who did not know how to arrange their ideas to become a text. They did not know how to start writing a good sentence in one paragraph.

This also happened in MTs Al-Falah of West Limboto. Based on my observation, the second grade of students were very difficult in writing. Less than ninety percent of students cannot write correctly. Although, they had a lot of ideas on their minds, but they did not know how to begin and how to arrange it properly in order to be a good paragraph that can be understood by the reader. This is the one example of student's writing descriptive of my observation text by title:

"My brother". My brother school in SMP 1 Limboto Barat. SMP 1 Limboto Barat far from my house. My brother go to school and friend. My brother handsome boy and smart.

Based on my observation, one of the causes of the example above was the teacher's role which was not optimal in teaching writing, teachers only used the lecture method which only made was not attracted in writing and caused make them did not understand how to write it.

Related to the previous statement, English teacher should think about technique that can help students to overcome their problems. One of the techniques recommended by some researchers in teaching writing descriptive text is by using guiding question.

First researcher is Umi Naini Ikhda, she proved this technique in her research entitled "improving students writing skills of descriptive text through guided question". This research was conducted in SMA Negeri 1 Karanganyar Demak with samples of class X MS3 that consisted of 30 students. In cycle 2 of her research, she proved that the response of students was better from the first cycle, they looked enthusiastic in teaching and learning with an average value 78.33 from the first cycle, which only reached an average value of 70.53. Second researcher is Ulin Ni'mah with her research entitled "The Effectiveness of Using Basic Questioning with Picture to Improve Students' Descriptive Writing Skill". This research conducted at SMP N 31 Semarang with class VII E as an experimental class and class VII F as a control class. The average of post- test of experiment class was 71.17 which were higher than the average of post-test of the control class 57.83.

The first researcher proved this technique in first grade of senior high school in teaching narrative text. However, the second researcher proved this technique in first grade or seven grade of junior high school in teaching descriptive text. Besides using guiding question, she also used picture to increase students' understanding in writing beginner.

By contrast with the writer which examined it in second grade of junior high school. She taught this technique in writing descriptive text without support of picture, as it did by second researcher in first grade of junior high school.

In addition, Traver (1998) said that guiding question serves as a teaching technique that consists of basic questions that can guide and direct the students' ideas in the processing of writing (p.3). Raymon (1980) as cited in Nawawi (2011) also stated that “question can be a way to help exploring topic in writing skill”. Pardiyono (2010) in his book “Pasti Bisa: The Art of Teaching” said that descriptive text is one of factual text category and also descriptive text is simple text with the selection of general topics (p.28). Furthermore, descriptive text also has several aims as stated by White (1986) there are: to see the object (human or non-human), to explain about the subject, to persuade the reader by interest object of writing, to re-create something, and to demonstrate the subject. Therefore, guiding question technique is one of the techniques that can make the students easy to get an idea and also can help student in exploring topic about descriptive text, that can be explain in simple sentence which became one of the grammar teaching in curriculum of second grade of junior high school. Based on this statement, the researcher would like to conduct the researcher entitle: “Improving Students’ Writing Skill by Using Guiding Question Technique”

Research Question

Based on the previous consideration, the problem statement of this research is “can guiding question technique improve students in writing skill?”

Based on the research question above, the objective of this research is to find out whether the guiding question technique can improve students’ skill in writing or not

The Significance of Research

The result of this research is expected to be useful information for English teachers in teaching writing skill by using guiding question technique. This research also contributes idea as a reference to the writer and the next researchers who are interested in conducting similar studies in the next time.

Scope and Limitation of Study

In conducting this research, I limit the study in teaching writing descriptive text by using guiding question technique in MTs Muhammadiyah Al-falah at class VIII A. I choose the descriptive because this text is simple text with the selection of general topics that is appropriate with the beginning level of writer.