

Chapter I :Introduction

This chapter consists of several sections such as background of study, research question, aim of study, significances of study and delimitation of research.

Basic Consideration

Writing is one of the important skills in English instead of listening, speaking, and reading.

Writing helps the students to express and produce their ideas, arguments, or even thoughts in a form of words in sentences. Moreover, nowadays it is also as a tool to communicate with the readers. As supported by Tarigan (2008, p.3) where he stated that writing is language skill which is used to communicate indirectly, and it does not have to face the other people, that all of learner's feeling could be delivered without even told it directly (orally) to the readers.

Then it can be stated that, writing is a skill that critically important to be learned.

However, transferring ideas to a form of text would probably difficult by the students because of the previous consideration proves that writing is a process which demands more skill in arranging thought that the students are forced to be able to develop the ideas. It is not easy to be done especially for someone who does not have the experience in writing. Langan (2010, p.9) points that a realistic attitude about writing must build on the idea that writing is a skill, like driving, typing, or cooking, and like any other skills. Agreed by Tarigan (2008, p.22) Writing skill would not come automatically, but should be through exercises and practices that often and regularly. Therefore, it could be bold that writing could be learned.

Writing clearly is a high level skill which helps the students to write and express their ideas and thoughts; moreover in a high level writing helps the writer to transfer their thought to the readers. It shares the opinion to many people, without even face them one by one. But even though writing is quite hard then the other skills, but as a skill which demands ideas, it is strongly a process that can be learned.

Based on interview with the English teacher in XI ipa² SMA Negeri 6 Gorontalo Utara, the students had difficulties in writing. Moreover, difficult in tenses, locating Subject, Predicate, Object, and Complement (SPOC), they do not master vocabularies, they do not know how to make sentences, and they are often bored in learning English. In the pre observation, the teacher asked the students to make paragraph, but they could not writes well. They also have bad score mostly in the use of tenses in the text. The problem particularly found in how to past tenses and make it into paragraphs. Through the interview, the researcher got that the students do not know what is tense. They have lack of knowledge about the word formation; the use of irregular form of verb and other materials about writing skills.

In contrast, Tenses are important in English. Tenses are verb from that show time. In absolute tenses as in English, tenses indicates when the time of assertion, time of completion, or time of evaluation occurs relative to the utterance itself (time of utterance). On the other hand in relative tenses, tense is relative to some give event. Tenses denote the time of action. They show when the work is done. They are: present tense, past tense and future tense. Yet, there was no curriculum that thought about tenses. Mostly, the curriculum taught about transactional and functional text.

However, the most materials in language curriculum for junior and senior high school level are about text. As an example recount text, narrative text and report text. Those kinds of text formulated in past tense. Based on the pre observation, it found that the students tend to be hard in writing, especially if the text formulated in a past tense. Thus, simple past tense is necessary to be learned.

In fact, by using media students easily to write because they are easy to remember and understand the lesson. Whereas supported by to Hamalik as cited in Arsyad (2002, p.15) stated that the using of media in teaching and learning process can generate the desire and

interest of students to learn and also can motivate students and stimulate them in learning process. Thus, media is required in teaching learning activities in the classroom in order to facilitate the teacher's and the students' knowledge. Media learning must be suitable with the lesson plan that is used by teachers. It hopes that by using media students could understand the way of how to write sentence, moreover in mastering the tenses instead of grammar. All in all, students could be easy to write sentence using tenses.

One of the effective media that could be appropriate to be used in teaching writing is through picture. Picture is media that considered as an appropriate teaching aid in teaching writing because it could be used to stimulate students' composition (Karim & Farni, 1986, p.44). One type of picture that could be used to promote or stimulate student to write composition is series picture (Wright, p.198-98). Pictures are easy to find from many sources. It could be taken from books, the internet, and magazines. Furthermore, there are some kinds of picture; series of picture, cards, flash cards, posters, and photographs. However, there are roles of picture. They contribute to the context in which the language is being used.

The pictures could be described in an objective way or interpreted or responded to subjectively. Then, pictures could cue responses to questions or cue substitutions through controlled practice. They could stimulate and provide information in the conversation, discussion and storytelling. It means that by using picture, the students could be stimulated in arranging their own writing. They could be easy to decide the time changing by looking at the picture. Through picture, they could know how to put sentences into "format of time". By using picture, students could be more understand the material, as there is picture which visually they could see and may stimulate their brain. Moreover, student's vocabulary could be increase by seeing the things in the picture or what they see and what they want to explain through the picture. The last one is by using picture series students would not feel bored during the teaching and learning process. They would be more interested and understand the

material because there is a visual media that is fun. Therefore, the student's ability could increase. The effectiveness of using series picture could improve student's writing ability proved by Muliyani Adam in her research entitled "The Application of Series picture Media to Improve Student's Ability in Writing Narrative Text". The result of her research showed there was an improvement in student's writing ability after applying the series picture.

Regarding to the consideration before, researcher believes that using picture series media in learning could improve students' ability in English, specifically in writing skill. Therefore, this study focuses on the writing by using picture. As a result, the research entitled "*Enhancing Students' Ability in Writing by Using Series Picture*"

Research Question

The research question is, can the series picture enhance student's ability in writing?

Aim of Study

This research aims to find out whether series picture can enhance students' comprehension in writing or not.

Significances of Study

This research helped further students' to enhance their ability to write simple past tense by using series picture. Moreover, this research could educate the readers about the benefits of using series picture as a media to make the classroom more active and fun.

The lack of facilities impact on the teaching and learning process. Other ways, using media could help in learning process. Therefore this research could give innovative strategy in teaching and learning process. In hence, this research could be the reference of the further research related to the writing skill.

Delimitation of research

The delimitation of this research focused on how to enhance the students' ability in writing by using series picture. The series picture created by the researcher itself and take from Google about fairy tales. The reason for choosing fairy tales was because this was being taught in syllabus at the school.

Research hypothesis

The researcher assumed by applying series picture, it can help student to enhance their ability in writing. The researcher also believes that series picture can help student to learn English subject easily in writing skill.