

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Research Background

Writing is a form of communication or self-expression using written language in the form of symbols as a medium that involves the use of language to convey ideas, concepts, information or feelings to the reader. According to Dalman, (2014:3) mentioned that. Writing is a creative process of conveying ideas through written language in a way that tells, persuades, or entertains. In other words, writing is a person's attempt to convey their thoughts, ideas and feelings in the form of words on sheets of paper which are expected to be understood by the reader and function as an indirect means of communication. Not only that, writing is also a skill that must be mastered by today's students from elementary school to college, especially in learning English which requires mastery of writing.

Skills are the ability to carry out various activities in a particular career. In this way, writing ability is also one of the important language skills in the educational process. Therefore, through writing, students can express their ideas freely without having to meet the reader face to face and students must have extensive knowledge if they want to write something, because writing skills require sufficient accuracy to express the writer's thoughts and ideas into the writer's language, by Therefore, writing activities are very different from listening, speaking and reading activities, even though these activities are included in English language skills, this is because writing has several linguistic points of view that must be taken into account in order to convey ideas and express oneself to the reader. Writing skills in English are also important to improve communication and self-expression in order to be able to describe objects, places or events clearly.

Some aspects that are included in english writing activities are content, organization, vocabulary, grammar, and machanic. This means that writing skills can be a good opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of

grammar and vocabulary in learning English writing with different kinds of writing or essays are used as lesson materials while teaching writing. one of them is the descriptive essay as the essay for student study material, Descriptive essays are one of the essay types that are taught which has There are several methods available in place for learning how to create descriptive essays. In this research, the researcher has a desire to know and identify students' skills in writing descriptive text.

Based on the 2013 Curriculum syllabus for junior high schools, descriptive texts are intended for students to compose oral and written descriptive texts, very short and simple, relating to people, animals and objects, taking into account social function, text structure and language element correctly and in context. The educational curriculum also requires students to have the ability to write using English, one type of text that is most often taught is descriptive text, which requires students to increase their understanding of objects, places, or experiences. Byrne (1988) states that writing skill is an ability to convey one's thought in the form of writing which is arranged clearly and completely so that it can be understood by others. However, there are some students who may face difficulties in writing descriptive texts in English. This could be due to a lack of understanding of grammar, limited vocabulary, or lack of practice writing in English. Therefore, descriptive writing is written to provide meaning as well as describe things such as people, animals and objects. To further elaborate on the definition of a descriptive text, Mursyid, (2013). Asserts that it is a piece of writing with the purpose of informing the reader. This kind of prose typically describes certain things, animals, people, or other individuals; examples include close family members like moms, dads, and friends. Identification and description make up the basic organization of descriptive texts. While the description describes the elements, qualities, etc. of the thing being described, the introduction identifies the phenomenon being described.

Writing is a complex process in which individuals consider the importance of writing and completing the writing, as Phenomenon has

observed at SMP 1 Tanah Pinoh was that students were newly introduced to the English language. Thus, an investigation was conducted to determine if there were any issues with students' writing skills and the extent to which students can develop writing skills in English in the context of descriptive texts. This is important in improving English language education, which often emphasizes that writing skills are important to language proficiency. Even though the students were still new to English, it is important to note that if the school administration is aware of the challenges faced by students, the teachers there can provide more efficient instruction. Subsequently, an improvement in the student's English learning, particularly in writing skills, can be expected.

In conclusion, the analytical research conducted at SMP Negeri 1 Tanah Pinoh, focusing on eighth-grade students, under the title 'Analysis of English Students' Writing Skills on Descriptive Texts,' aims to provide valuable insights for educators. The findings of this research can inform the development of more effective teaching strategies, especially for enhancing students' writing skills in English, particularly in crafting descriptive texts. Additionally, the outcomes of the analysis can contribute to curriculum improvement and aid teachers in addressing specific challenges students may encounter. By identifying errors and difficulties in writing descriptive texts, this research serves as a foundation for constructing robust teaching methods. Overall, this study is crucial for enhancing the quality of English language education and preparing students with proficient writing skills to meet the communication demands of our interconnected world.

B. Research Problem

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concluded that the research question is:

1. How is students' writing skills abilities on descriptive text at SMP Negeri 1 Tanah Pinoh in the academic year 2022/2023?
2. Which dominant aspects of writing skill on descriptive text ?

C. Research Purpose

The purpose of this research are :

1. To find out how students' writing skills abilities on descriptive texts at SMP Negeri 1 Tanah Pinoh in the academic year 2022/2023.
2. To describe which are the dominant aspects of writing skill on descriptive texts.

D. Significance of Study

This researcher is expected to be able to make a contribution that has a positive impact on students, teachers, and researchers in learning English related to students' writing skills on descriptive text.

This research will be useful in the following aspects:

1. Theoretical Benefits

This research will be useful as a verification of the application of theory based on the problems faced by students with their skills to write descriptive texts.

2. Practical Benefits

This research is related to how far the students' skills are in writing descriptive text. The results of this study are certainly expected to provide meaning both theoretically and practically for SMP Negeri 1 Tanah Pinoh schools.

a. To Students

The results of this research can help students develop their writing skills. Through this writing test, students can learn to compose sentences well, organize ideas, and convey information clearly. And encourage students to use their imagination and creativity. This descriptive writing test can be used as an evaluation tool to measure students' understanding of the subject matter they have studied. These results can make a significant contribution to the development of students' literacy and cognitive skills.

b. To English Teachers

The results of this study can help teachers to make it easier to present material about writing descriptive texts.

c. To Researchers

The results of this study can help other researchers provide additional information who wish to conduct further research on the problem to be studied.

E. Scope of Research

1. Research Variable

Research variables are characteristics of an individual or organization that the researcher can measure or observe and vary between individuals or organizations studied Creswell (2012). These study variables determine what to focus on to get this data. Variables are also used to study research topics and are viewed during research. Variables are divided into two parts, namely the independent variable and the dependent variable. Independent variables are variables that affect the estimation of other variables called independent variables. Then the dependent variable is an estimate of a variable that can change due to the progress of the estimation of other variables. In this research variable using a single or independent variable, namely students' writing skills on descriptive text

2. Research Terminology

The researcher provides the following explanations which are used in this research. The terms are below:

a. English students

English students generally describes people who are enrolled in educational programs focused on the English language or related subjects. This encompasses students at different educational stages, including primary school, secondary school, college, or university. These individuals partake in educational activities that span a variety of skills and areas of knowledge.

b. Writing Skills

Writing skill is the capacity to articulate thoughts, concepts, and information in a lucid, cohesive, and well-structured fashion using written language. This proficiency encompasses employing vocabulary, grammar, punctuation, and composition to communicate meaning proficiently to a reader. Effective writing abilities hold significance across diverse facets of life, encompassing academic pursuits, professional environments, and interpersonal communication.

c. Descriptive Text

Descriptive text is text that has a social purpose to describe an object or objects individually based on their physical characteristics. This descriptive text is also one of the texts that students must master, students are starting to be able to describe something in detail. But in fact, there are still many students who still need to improve their skills in writing descriptive texts, even though they are already at junior high school level. Therefore, in this study the researcher wanted to know the skills of VIII grade junior high school students in writing descriptive texts.