

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Research Background

Writing is one of important skills that students need to be learning. Even in our daily life, students can not be separate with writing activities. In writing, students is not only expressed their ideas, they also extend the kind of informations through their writing. It can not be avoided that every single people need to learn how to write because it will give many benefits especially for students. Writing is important because by mastering writing skill the students can encourage their critical thinking, sharing their idea in written form, and also students can deliver whatever that it cannot be expressed by spoken language. It is expectable for students to be able mastering writing skill.

In fact, students in MTs. Nurul Iman Sungai Pandan had problem in their writing. The students were not interested to be involved in process of teaching learning especially in writing activities. The students also had problem in writing aspects. The first aspect was the difficulty found in term of content. The students were difficult to elicit their ideas in writing their experiences because they did not have sufficient idea on what they were going to write. Then, the students had problem in organization aspect. They could not organize their ideas into good paragraph.

Another aspect that students faced was grammar. The students felt difficult to decide the appropriate use of the grammar in writing particular text. Besides that, the students also had problem in vocabulary aspect. They had limited word to use in writing. Then, mechanic was the last difficulty aspect of writing faced by the students. The students made some mistakes how to write in good spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.

Concerning the situation above, the researcher was interested in applying teaching technique. The technique should make the students develop their writing ability. One of the techniques that can be used in learning writing is Clustering Technique. Clustering Technique was a good way to turn a broad subject into a limited and more manageable topic for a short essay. Applying clustering technique could help the students to improve their writing skill. It could encourage the students to think. By using clustering technique, it could make the students to develop their idea systematically. This technique also could make the students motivated to write a good paragraph. Clustering is an invention activity which reveals possible relations among fact and idea. It means that clustering technique is a creative activity, because when creating a clustering students tried to find things related to the topic (Axelord and Cooper, 2004:563).

The effectiveness of Clustering Technique in improving students' ability had been proven by Fajriyanti (2011) who had investigated that Clustering Technique is effective in improving the students writing ability. The improvement could be shown from the increase of students' mean

score, the result of field notes also showed that class condition during learning process the students' creative in finding the idea, and the result of questionnaire also informed the positive responses to the implementation of clustering technique in teaching learning process of writing. Fahmi (2011) also proved that the implementation of Clustering Technique can improve the students writing ability. It could be concluded using clustering technique can make the students' easier to understand the material, and the students' think that this technique make them easier in making descriptive text and more creative to develop their idea in make good descriptive text.

The notion of clustering technique from the other researchers, the researcher concluded by using clustering technique could motivate the students to write and to stimulate their ideas. Finally, the researcher expected through this research entitled "Improving Students' Ability In Writing Descriptive Text Using Clustering Technique (A Classroom Action Research to the Eighth Grade of Mts. Nurul Iman Sungai Pandan in the Academic Year of 2016/2017)". It benefits to students easier in developing ideas for their writing as well.

## **B. Research Question**

The research question is formulated as "How can clustering technique improve students' ability in writing descriptive text to the eighth grade of Mts. Nurul Iman Sungai Pandan in the Academic Year of 2016/2017?"

### **C. Research Purpose**

The purpose of this research was to find out how clustering technique improve students ability in writing descriptive text at the eighth grade of Mts. Nurul Iman Sungai Pandan in the Academic Year of 2016/2017.

### **D. Benefit of Research**

#### **1. Practical Benefit**

##### **a. For The Students**

The results of this research expected give benefit to the students to improve their writing skill especially in writing descriptive text. The students also can learn how to write easily by using clustering technique.

##### **b. For The Teacher**

The result of this research was expected can be useful for the teacher. The teacher can use this technique as the alternative ways in teaching writing especially for writing descriptive text.

##### **c. For the Other Researcher**

This research is expected can give contribution for the other researchers who are interested conducting further research to improve students writing descriptive text using clustering technique.

## **2. Theoretical Benefit**

The result of this research can be used as the reference for those who want to conduct a research in writing descriptive text by using clustering technique.

## **E. Scope of Research**

### **1. Research Variable**

Variable can be identified as many aspect of a theory that can change as part of the interaction within theory. Otherwise, variable is something that becomes the focus of attention (center of attention) or a center that gives an effect and has a value on result of the study. Every study has variables as these are needed in order to find out the differences. Creswell (2012:112) states that variable is a characteristic or attribute of an individual or an organization that the researchers can measure or observe and varies among individuals or organizations studied. In this research, the researcher used action variable that is a procedure in the process of where the researcher doing an effort to solve a problem. The action variable in this research is the use of Clustering Technique in learning process of writing ability.

## 2. Terminology

To avoid miscommunication between the researcher and the readers, the researcher provides the explanation of those terms.

The terms are:

### a. Writing Ability

Writing ability is one of communication that allows students to put their feelings and ideas on paper, to organize their knowledge and beliefs into some arguments, and to convey meaning through their vocabularies with a correct construct. Then writing also develop from the first simple sentences to elaborate stories.

### b. Descriptive Text

Descriptive text is another types of texts which the purpose to describe about how to writer imagine to the particular person, place, or things looks like.

### c. Clustering Technique

Clustering Technique is kinds of the prewriting technique which help the students to generate their ideas by connect one to another ideas using visual connection such as circle, boxes, arrows, and lines.

### d. MTs. Nurul Iman

MTs. Nurul Iman is the Junior High School which located at Jl.Cahaya Bone, Sungai Pandan. Kubu Raya regency.