CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Writing is an important part of communication and interaction for people to get information. Writing is also one of activities or way for delivering a massage, idea, which can be understood by the reader. Mustapa and Noor (2013:1), state that writing is one of a part of four integrated skill in mastering English beside listening, speaking and reading. According to Marza and Hafizh (2013:683), writing is one of the basic skills for communicating, that should be mastered in learning English, which of listening, speaking, and reading, and should also be learned by the students at the junior high school. It can be started when they are at junior high school level. To gain writing skill, the research considers combining which the others skills, like listening, speaking and reading. It means, the students should gather more information by reading books, practicing, and discussing with others. From those activities, the students are able to express an idea, opinion, feeling, and thought in order to produce a text.

Based on pre-observation done by me, the students of SMP Muhammadiyah 3 Semarang got difficulties to combine and construct their idea to produce the sentence correctly. The students had lack of vocabulary and difficulty to choose the appropriate words and arrange the words into well-formed sentence. There were some problems which faced by the students of junior high school in learning
process, particularly in writing. It showed that the students still had difficulties to produce good writing. Most of them did not know how to start writing. The reason because was they did not understand the rules of step of writing. There were the students who could not write and had nothing to write. Besides, the students’ faced problem on vocabulary, grammar, and spelling. Based on the problem found at SMP Muhammadiyah Semarang, it needs to be solved to improve students writing skill. The existence of media in learning is expected to help students in improving their writing skill. It would make them to have interest and enthusiasm in writing.

According to the statements above, I want to conduct the research about learning media in teaching writing. I choose WhatsApp as in teaching writing recount text to improve the students’ writing skill. It would be done to make students interested in English writing and to communicate their ideas through writing.

The use of WhatsApp is as a tool for writing. The statement means it can be understood that writing using internet usage can connect between the students and teacher. It is supported by some researchers. Bouhnik and Deshen (2014:217), they say that WhatsApp group is for four main purposes, there are communicating with students, nurturing a social atmosphere, creating dialogue, and encouraging sharing among students, and as a learning platform. Vieira (2009:472), says the writing and division of the diary, therefore, suggested, beginning with the integration of this existential independent dimension, especially the mobile diaries as the source of the educational methodology and the research process for the above-mentioned avoidance of life.
Therefore, the use of WhatsApp can make the students to be more enthusiastic and easier in writing. I would focus on recount text through writing a diary. This is different from common because the students do not use book but apply their writing.

In this research, I would conduct the research about teaching recount text by using WhatsApp at SMP Muhammadiyah 3 Semarang. It would take two classes, there are control class and experiment class. The researcher would focus on the experimental class that would be given a treatment. Hopefully, the class would have increase in students’ writing performance.

1.2 Reason for Choosing the Topic

I choose a topic “the influence of whatsapp in teaching writing toward students’ writing performance” for some reasons:

1. Writing is difficult for the students, because writing involves many aspects such as organization, mechanics, and grammar, so the students should be mastered writing performance.

2. WhatsApp can be a media for me to teach students writing recount text because the teacher usually uses the usual method in teaching recount text.

3. The students can write recount text not only in the class, but also at home in which they can submit their writing on WhatsApp, so it will be flexible when they could not finish their writing in the class.

1.3 Statement of the Problem
a. How is the influence of WhatsApp on the students’ writing recount performance?

b. How is the students’ response on the use of WhatsApp in learning process?

1.4 The Objective of the Study

a. To know the influence of WhatsApp on students’ writing recount text.

b. To find out the students’ response on the use of WhatsApp in learning writing recount text.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The significances of the research are as follow:

a. For the reader, it will give information about new media in teaching writing.

b. For the teacher, it will provide the alternative way for teaching writing in which it is more enjoyable for students.

c. For the students, it will help students to get easiness in understanding the material. It will increase students’ motivation, to improve their writing skill.

1.6 The Scope of the Study

I determine the scope of the study for Junior High School students at SMP Muhammadiyah 3 Semarang especially students of class VIII D and VIII E in the academic year 2017/2018.

1.7 Outline of the Study

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This study has five chapters consists of an introduction, review of related literature, methodology of the research, finding and discussion, and the last conclusion and suggestion.

Chapter I is introduction which consists of background of the study, the reasons for choosing the topic, the statement of the problem, the objective of the study, the significance of the study, and the outline of the study.

Chapter II is review of related literature which consists of the definition of the writing, writing process, the type of writing, the reasons for writing, WhatsApp, and recount text.

Chapter III is methodology of the research which consists of research design, research procedure, object of the study, population and sample, method and instrument of data collection, and data analysis.

Chapter IV is the analysis of data which consists of the results of quantity analysis and discussion.

Chapter V consists of conclusion and suggestion.