CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes some points including the background of the study, statements of the problem, objectives of the study, the scope and limitation, the assumption, and definition of key terms.

1.1. The Background of the Study

Teaching writing descriptive text for the eighth class students at SMP Nahdlatul Ulama Candi is very important to be implemented because the students in this class have very low ability to write descriptive text explains by the English teacher. This explanation state when the researchers see first the teacher for request to implement observation for takes the research in this school.

Writing is one of four English language skills; they are speaking skill, reading skill and listening skill. According to Harmer (2007) writing can be defined as writing for learning and writing for writing. Writing for learning means writing as tool to practice the language will learned. In writing for writing it is a tool teach the students as writer. Students have purpose to their own write, and the students can learn to write by trying to write something and to implementation students writing.

Teaching writing is something that always taught in schools and is necessary in English lesson. In line with this, Nation and Newton (2009:113) stated that writing, as with the other languages skill, it is

useful to make sure that learners are involved in meaning-focus use, language-focus learning, and fluency development. Teaching writing can also develop children thinking in writing. Writing provides thinking and learning. It motivates communication and makes thought available for reflection (Sangkala, 2012:180).

Descriptive text is used in this study, because the students find difficulties in writing descriptive text. They are confuse when the teacher ask to write descriptive text based on the topic will give. Descriptive text is a text which describes a particular person, place, or thing in detail (Abdillah, Sutarsyah, & Hasan, 2017: 2). According to Collin (2009) descriptive text is to describe about location, size, old, content, and others characteristics. In facing this problem, the teacher tries to use Clustering Technique in teaching writing. Caswell and Mahler (2004:55) say that clustering Technique is appealing for two reasons. First, it is a way to organize the ideas from a brainstorm list into categories, which each branch representing different paragraph. Second, it is visual, it appeals to specific learning style.

There are many techniques in teaching writing, this study chooses one the best technique, and it is clustering technique. Based on Langan (2002) Clustering technique is also known as Diagramming or Mapping is a technique that can be used to generate ideas in writing. It is added by Pharr and Santi (2005) in clustering the students write a topic in the center

of a piece of paper, then write ideas suggested by the topic around it, connecting these the topic with lines, follow the same procedures with their subtopics. So, this technique can help the students to writing descriptive text more easily.

Based on the explanation above, this study takes a title of this thesis "The Use of Clustering Technique in Teaching Writing Descriptive Text to The Eighth Grade at SMP Nahdlatul Ulama Candi".

1.2. Statements of The Problems

The problems of this research are an attempt to answer the following research questions:

1.2.1. How is the implementation of teaching writing descriptive text using clustering technique to the eighth grade at SMP Nahdlatul Ulama Candi?

1.2.2. How are the students' perceptions on teaching writing descriptive text using clustering techniques to the eighth grade at SMP Nahdlatul Ulama Candi?

1.3. Objectives of The Study

This Objective of the Study is intended to cover the following purpose:

1.3.1. To describe implement Teaching Writing Descriptive Text using Clustering Technique to the eighth grade Students at SMP Nahdlatul Ulama Candi

1.3.2. To describe the students' perceptions on teaching Writing Descriptive Text Using Clustering Technique to the eight grade students at SMP Nahdlatul Ulama Candi.

1.4. Significances of the Study

The result of this study can provide useful information for:

1.4.1. Teachers

The result of this study is useful for English teachers at Junior High School level to get information about teaching descriptive writing using clustering technique. This study can be used for all English teachers for teaching; also can inspire English teachers to apply learning teaching methods.

1.4.2. Students

To give students motivation, creativity, and ability to learn English, especially in develop writing skill.

1.4.3. Other researchers

For further researchers who are interested in teaching descriptive writing at junior high school level can get the basic information from this study to do the further research. Get more knowledge and benefit as a new experience to use this method

1.5. Scope and Limitation of the Study

1.5.1. The scope of this study is focusing on the eighth graders of at SMP Nahdlatul Ulama Candi because it is good school and easy for researcher to ask permission to take the data of research.

1.5.2. The limitation of the study is emphasized on the process of on Teaching Writing Descriptive Text Using Clustering Techniques for Eight Class Students at SMP Nahdlatul Ulama Candi.

This study uses clustering techniques in teaching writing descriptive text because it is in the odd semester of eight grades' syllabus program.

1.6. *The Assumption*

Clustering technique can be used to teaching writing descriptive text.

1.7. Definition of Key Terms

1.7.1. Teaching Writing

Writing is the physical act of committing words or ideas to some medium. Writing is an activity to explore thoughts and feelings about a subject that is expressed in writing.

1.7.2. Clustering Technique

Clustering technique is a technique that group of ideas from the general into the more specific and more directed. This technique can be used to help students express their ideas, develop the ideas their have and be able to classify the ideas correctly

1.7.3. Descriptive Text

Descriptive text is one type of text in English that clearly describes the properties attached to something, be it humans, animals, plants or inanimate objects. The purpose of this text is to provide clear information about the object being depicted to the reader.