

## **Chapter One**

### **Introduction**

This chapter presents the background information of the research. The discussions is started by improving students' writing ability by using jumbled sentence game then followed by identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, objective of the research, and significance of the problem.

### **Background of the Study**

English is very important to learn as it is an international language in the world. People use it not only for communication but also for building and to maintain relationship among them. People are expected to develop and progress their knowledge, science, technology, art literature and culture by learning English. In educational sector, especially in Indonesia, English has become targets of study to improve international language in the world.

The sooner a student learns a foreign language the easier they understand the foreign language compared to adult people (Kosasih Lestari, 2006). English should to be mastered by them. Although, English has been taught from Kindergarten, many students are less of knowledge and they are weak about the mastery of English skill (Suciyati, 2013: 2). In line with Erik (1982), an expert of neurology expressed that before puberty, the children can learn flexibly. Therefore, children learn languages more easily, while adult learners will be harder to study language in this case is English.

Although English becomes a subject taught in Indonesia from early ages, the result of the teaching and learning process is still not satisfying, because of most English teachers still uses conservative or traditional method (Hadiatmadja, 1982: 20). Teachers just present and explain the material by focusing on grammatical rules that exist in the text book by reading and mentioning those vocabularies and translating them into Indonesia, the students are the teenager. The students feel bored with the technique and it is easy from them to forget the material and vocabularies that they have accepted because they only memorize of material (Hadiatmadja, 1982: 25).

English is considered as a difficult subject. When I practiced teaching in SMA Muhammadiyah Kasihan Bantul, there were many students said that English was not easy. Learners of English in Indonesia are only exposed to English when they are studying the subject, while outside the English class they almost never get exposure to English. In addition, many examples in teaching English, the materials is presented using the mixture of Indonesian language and English, or many still more use Indonesian language than English. In general, this minimum exposure to English, then contributes to students' unsatisfactory performance in the four language skills, namely: listening, speaking, reading and writing. In traditional language classrooms, learners are taught especially about language and its rules. They learn facts about language rather than how to use it communicatively to express ideas, to talk and write to other people, to read and to listen to the real language, and to learn how to cooperate with others (Nunan, 1999: 270).

Although the teacher always stays and guides the students in the class, there are many students still have less ability in writing English. It also happens in MTs Muhammadiyah 6 Bayat, Klaten. I interviewed English teacher in MTs Muhammadiyah 6 Bayat, medias and activities has been applied by teacher to improve the students' writing ability, but there is no significance advancement of the students' writing ability. Therefore, an English teacher should apply an interesting technique in teaching and learning process. A learning technique can arouse the students' motivation, increase the student's creativity, enjoyment and challenge with learn English.

One of the techniques is jumbled sentence game. Jumbled sentence game is a game of writing by rearranging the random words to be a good sentence. It can be modified into several interesting game that related to the writing game. Jumbled sentence game is a popular technique which is used the English teachers in the class when they want to improve their students' writing ability. In this technique, active writing ability will be pushed by students. Hopefully, they will enjoy the game and their writing ability of English will be improved (Palupi, 2013: 4).

The objective of this activity is to make easier for the students to write sentences in English. So, they will not feel confused in writing English sentences. They will not over generalize the English and Indonesian sentence pattern again. An English teacher should give a clear instruction to the students before doing the activity. So, the activity will run well and the purpose of this activity can be raised.

According to the statement above, the researcher is interested in conducting the research entitled Using Jumbled Sentences Games to Improve the Writing Ability of the Seventh Grade Students of MTs Muhammadiyah 6 Bayat, Klaten. The researcher hopes that they will be able to master this foreign language much better. This research is worth studying because it can improve the quality of the students' writings. It will avoid the sentence fragment occurred in the student's writing.

### **Identification of the Problem**

Language is a means of communication. Communication can be spoken or written. Writing is one of activities of communication which is done by human being in the daily life after listening, speaking and also reading. English has become a second language in Indonesian and has been used in many fields in life. So, English must be learned early. In Junior High school English has become one of subject lesson which is taught every week. Almost all the students feel happy when they know that they will study English. They feel happy and proud because they will study a language which is used by people all over the world. Along with the time running, their view of English has changed. They start dislike English lesson and they deemed that English lesson is difficult, uninteresting, and terrifying.

Based on the researcher's observation at the seventh grade students of MTs Muhammadiyah 6 Bayat, Klaten, it was identified that there were many problems and obstacles faced in the English class. The problems that were identified as follows: the students' interaction in writing is class less, they had not

self confidence to write English, they felt confused about the grammar rules of English, they often over generalize the English and Indonesian sentence pattern, and also they had less motivation to practice writing in English. They felt afraid of making some mistakes in writing English. Hence, the teacher needs to apply a new learning method or technique to come up their confidence in writing English.

### **Limitation of the Problem**

Based on the background and identification of the problem above, the researcher can identify that the students in MTs Muhammadiyah 6 Bayat are lacking of motivation and willingness to write English. It needs a method or technique to solve the problems that arise at that condition. It is the teacher's duty to change the motivation of the student to write English by using jumbled sentence game which is appropriate to improve the students' writing ability. Jumbled sentence game activities can improve many English skills of the students such as, vocabulary, reading, and writing. But in this research, the researcher limits the subject only to know about the effectiveness of jumbled sentence game to teach writing to seventh grades students of MTs Muhammadiyah 6 Bayat, Klaten in academic year 2014/2015.

### **Formulation of the Problem**

Based on the background, the identification and the limitation of the problem, the problems of the research are formulation as follow:

1. What is the level of the seventh grade students' writing ability at MTs Muhammadiyah 6 Bayat?

2. How effective is jumbled sentence games to improve the writing ability of the seventh grade students of MTs Muhammadiyah 6 Bayat?

### **Objectives of the Research**

In accordance with the limitation of the problems above, researcher wants to present the objectives of the research as follow:

1. To describe the level seventh grade students' writing ability of MTs Muhammadiyah 6 Bayat.
2. To explore the effectiveness of jumbled sentence games to improve the writing ability of the seventh grade students of MTs Muhammadiyah 6 Bayat.

### **Significances of the Research**

After the objectives of the study are fulfilled, this study is expected to be useful for the following person:

**For the teacher.** In this research, the researcher hopes that the result will give benefits for the teacher in teaching and learning process in order to improve their quality in teaching English, especially in teaching writing.

**For the students.** The researcher hopes that the students can be more motivated to study English and also can improve their writing ability.

**For educational institutions.** The result of the research will be beneficial for MTS Muhammadiyah 6 Bayat as a place of doing the research in order to give a reference for the teacher to develop their techniques in teaching and learning process. In order educational institution to elementary school, junior school,

senior high school and university give reference for the teacher to improve their methods in teaching and learning process.