

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Difficulty writing and understanding English texts has become a common thing that is often faced by students in class. This can happen because they do not have writing strategies that are less attractive, vocabulary mastery, lack of understanding of grammar, and not forming a good writing habit. To master english, students need and must to know all about the main parts of english, such as reading, speaking, listening, writing, and grammar (Lasagabaster, 2011). The position of foreign languages in Indonesia has an important role has been regulated by the government where foreign languages must be taught in schools (Sari & Salam, 2017).

Mantra and Kumara (2018), further stated writing does not only involve micro skills, namely the use of language and mechanical skills, but also involves macro skills, for example in the field of writing which has a wider scope including the communicative purpose of writing, main and supporting ideas, literal and implied meanings of the written form.

One of the goals of teaching English in Indonesia is to be able to grasp the meaning, and understand witten English textbooks. English lessons have been established as an effort to improve student's abilities and improve the quality of students in Indonesia, so that the students can complete globally and it will be aesier

for them to continue their education abroad for a bright future (Batubara & Wulansari, 2023).

Writing is a skill that is required to be mastered in the process of learning english. Writing is one way that can be used to broaden horizons as well as a form of appreciating books. Writing is an activity that involves sight, effort and understanding that involves the physical ability to think critically and creatively by using the writing skills possessed to achieve certain goals. According to Al-Jumaily (2015), writing is a form of communication accompanied by symbols in the process of expressing ideas.

There are two previous studies based on the problems examined by researcher with the different methods. First, are created by Fika Megawati. The result of his study indicate that the use of comic strips can imporove students' skill in writing narrative text. Not only that, student improvement in every aspect is also obtained through the form of comic strips as well as guidance from the teacher during the writing process. Second, the research written by Lailatul Abidah. The result of his study confirms that improving students' writing skills through making comic strips as a means to increase students' creativity is effective. This means that the need for making comic strips in the writing class can improve students' writing skills as evidenced by an increase in their pre-test and post-test scores, as well as their motivation to learn.

According to Yunus (2013) Writing is an action that is practical in its use, an activity that is smooth and easy to do even for some time, but often there are foreign

students who are still fluent at the expense of accuracy. According to Okari (2016) Before the teacher begins teaching actual writing skills, he or she must first ask his/himself some questions such as; is the assignment meet the needs of students, is the assignment still within the reach of students, and will students find the task fun and not too burdensome for students. English teachers are also very involved in developing students' writing by appreciating the writings they have done and also the need for some type of controlled and guided writing at an early stage, (Satariyan, 2015). At this period, students tend to have a high curiosity. Moreover, English texts are familiar to teenagers this time, both from quotes from social media, wall magazines, especially from textbooks. According to Andersen (2022), writing is not only as attention grabbing in literacy research as reading, but writing also a challenge for students that requires a lot of attention. Writing is an active, complex process, which involves the personal creative thinking of the reader of the text. Good and neat handwriting, correct spelling and correct punctuation are one of the main skills that must be possessed in order to write well. Without a good understanding of writing, of course the writer or the learner will not be able to summarize the content of the text and the meaning of the text that he has read.

Every process in learning will run well well if it is accompanied by motivation. It is hoped that every student who comes to school already has the motivation to learn beforehand. Therefore, teachers must be able to get students involved directly and productively using the work in class. This step really needs the teacher's creativity to create the most appropriate way for their students. Teaching english is always

oriented towards mastering the four language skills, namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing. These four skills are very important in learning English. Language components such as structure, vocabulary, spelling, and pronunciation are taught to support the development of these four skills. These skills are learned through materials selected based on their level of development. In the process of teaching and learning, a teacher must be able to develop four language skills interactively. Qualified teachers, good environment, facilities and media also greatly support the success of language learning in the classroom.

Based on what the researchers found when conducting observations at SMA Negeri 5 Langsa during the Introduction to School Field I (PLP I), and entering the tenth grade, almost all students had difficulties and could not even write English texts especially narrative text. Many students refuse to be told to write by the teacher because they feel inferior and feel they cannot. Based on what the researchers have seen, most of them felt bored with learning strategies that were still very general and boring so that there was nothing that could arouse their passion for writing. Therefore, the researcher believes that a new strategy should be created to increase students' writing interest in class so that it is not monotone so that students can learn more about the world of writing. Researchers are interested in using new teaching media in the classroom, namely by applying comic strips as media. Based on interviews conducted by researchers with tutors, the use of comic strip media has never been used there.

Comic strips is a collection of images that have story and consist of one or more titles and themes. Comic strip is a work of art that contains characteristics and events in the form of images. These comic strips can be humorous, adventurous, etc. and are usually found in newspapers, books, or magazines (Annisa & Nst, 2020). Comics can be a potential medium for tell a story (Lewis-Smith, H., Hasan, F., Ahuja, L., White, P., & Diedrichs, P. C. 2022). When comic strips are used as written text, the teacher can design temporary activities through the comic strips, such as discussing the main ideas of the comic strips, ideas, messages or new words in the comic strips. Besides that, when we use comics as part of student assessment, targeted student performance can be designed through comics, including; making it a role play, write well and neatly, or knowing the extent to which students can summarize the reading by rewriting the content of the text in their own words.

Another reason of using comic strips in class in language lessons is that students can make their own comics if they are already interested in comics so as to increase their talent and knowledge. Comics have a unique composition, where the narrative is conveyed through a series of images filled with text, which has captivated and captured the attention of readers for years (Watson, K., Just, M., & Berg, T. 2023). According to Buchori & Setyawati, (2015) the application of comics as a validation media has been combined with character education. Through the help of comics, students will be able to create stories, podcast, or even narrative stories, and it is important to help students open up their mind on how the story turns into a

paragraph (Bledsoe, 2010). This learning model is in great demand by students because the comic character education media has been integrated, they also can play while learning so that the learning process becomes fun. Applied comic strips as a media in teaching brought same effect as uses games and brought nice atmosphere into class.

From the discussion of the case above, the researcher assumes that teaching and mastery of writing in English can be done through the use of comic strips. Researchers designed comic media with their own hand-drawn and colored to make it attractive when shown to students in front of the class. Many researchers consider the use of comic to be one of the appropriate strategies to help develop students' skills in producing good written narrative text (Megawati & Anugerahwati, 2012). So in this study the researchers were interested in conducting this study entitled "The Use of Comic Strip Media in Teaching Writing of Narrative Text".

1.2 Problem of The Study

In the application of comic strips media can change the behavior and patterns of our writing in accordance with the learning rules that are applied.

Therefore, the researcher is interested to know:

- (1) What is comic strips?
- (2) How does comic strips improve students writing skill?
- (3) How the use of comic strips in improving students' writing skill?

1.3 Purpose of The Study

- (1) To know what the meaning of comic strips.
- (2) To know does comic strips improve students writing skill.
- (3) To know how the comic strips in improving students' writing skill.

1.4 Scope of The Study

This research is limited to the subject and object of research. Subject of this study were students of class X IPA² of SMA N 5 Langsa in the academic year of 2022-2023 and the object of this research was the use comic trips as teaching media on student's writing skills of narrative text.

1.5 Significance of The Study

- Theoretical Use

The research will add scientific insights particularly to researchers and generally to writers.

- Practical Use

- For the students, this research can make it easier for students to summarize the texts, especially in the narrative text. This can improve students writing skill and improve student achievement in English.
- For English Teacher, teacher will have new teaching media in learning to write using comics strips. In addition, with comic strips media, can make

it easier for teachers to teach students to write narrative text.

- For the campus, the result of this research can be expected to produce graduates who are qualified and skilled in English and can be relied upon.