CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Writing is the skill that is possessed by human being to produce ideas and thoughts into the writing people are able to share their experiences, explain opinions and suggest or persuade the reader to write. It is also very important for education in completing their assignments like the report, proposal and scientific writing. Since English is used as a means of communication among nations in the world, we must master it. Although English is not the language with the most native speakers or "first" language speakers, it is widely used as their "second" language by many people around the world. (Harmer,2001). Another fact that also emerged based on research is the education system that prioritizes reading activities in learning activities and pays less attention to writing learning. In fact, one of the goals of teaching English in schools, according to the 2013 English Curriculum, is the ability of students to communicate in writing. Because it is an active and productive skill, writing plays an important role as an indicator of academic performance so that it becomes one of the skills that must be learned. In learning English, there are four skills that must be mastered by students when learning English. speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. Students are also required to master the English component. The components of English are grammar and vocabulary.

According Shihab (2010) quoted in (Ridwan, 2018) The verse of the Qur'an revealed to the Prophet Muhammad SAW in the fourth verse of Surah

Al-'Alaq with the word *"allażī 'allama bil-qalam"* which means that teaches humans through kalam (writing), and also to acknowledge the gift of Allah SWT who teaches all scientific intelligence. Writing is useful for storing and disseminating messages and knowledge to others.

According to (Hyland & Jiang, 2017) Writing requires composition abilities as well as understanding of texts, settings, and readers, making it one of the most crucial skills to master. The teacher must provide the students with the best possible instruction in writing as one of the language arts. Students can share their views, ideas, and experiences through writing. Students must be taught how to effectively portray their emotions when writing. In order for the reader to comprehend their writing, they must effectively communicate their thoughts and feelings. Therefore, teacher plays an important role in teaching writing. Teacher's creatively and appropriate method should be implemented inthe class while teaching writing to students in order to produce quality.

In this section, the researcher focuses on writing descriptive text. Writing is one of the language skills that must be taught in addition to other skills. Moreover, based on the junior high school curriculum, there are several texts that must be mastered by students in junior high school. One of them is descriptive text.

Descriptive text according to Kristiyani (2016) is a paragraph consisting of a series of words and sentences, which are written or explained about a place or object. Descriptive text is an essay that describes or

tells about something that is obtained through the process of observation, experience, and the author's feelings towards the description of the text.

There are particular texts that students in junior high school must master in accordance with both the government's approved junior high school curriculum. One of them is descriptive text, according to (Jayanti, 2020) A descriptive text is a type of text that focuses on describing a certain place, person, or object. The researcher typically uses the simple present tense in descriptive language. To describe something, someone, or a location is the aimof the descriptive form of writing. In the teaching writing, the researcher found students who have problem in their writing descriptive skill. First, they are unsure of where to commence describing anything in order to organize their thoughts or for determine the topic that fit in what would be written by them. Second, Students frequently struggle to arrange their thoughts; they make mistakes given the lack of vocabulary understanding, and they are still understanding how to structure the content of their writing. Third, they often bored of the way the teacher teaches them. The students sometimes difficulty with developing their writing abilities. To resolve these problems, it needs the creativity of teachers to use the suitable technique in teaching writing of descriptive text. We must use technique and methods in teaching writing and we must always give the motivation to students to get the English teaching effectively.

Based on direct observation when the researcher was doing an internship in the first grade of SMP IT Khairunnas, the author found that students still did

not understand clearly what descriptive text was, and how to describe people, places, and things in English writing. Then students do not understand vocabulary, grammar and sentence structure. the value of the student's descriptive text is still low, it can be seen based on the value obtained from the results of the student's daily test :

Table 1.1
The results of the daily test of student descriptive text VII A

The value of the results of the student VIIA's daily test of descriptive text				
50	47	52	49	51
45	50	45	45	59
51	60	48	51	52
49	53	59	43	47
55	42	51	56	53

Then based on interviews with teachers at SMP IT Khairunnas, it was found that junior high school students there had difficulty in learning descriptive texts, especially on vocabulary, grammar, sentence structure in descriptive texts and students' lack of interest in studying descriptive texts.

Therefore, the researcher wants to try a method, namely the fishbone diagram. The researcher chose the fishbone method because the fishbone method has several advantages, namely students can find out what composition they want to write, students will find it easy to write descriptive text, students will be interested in learning descriptive text and fishbone method This will help them to share main ideas and supporting sentences of descriptive text.

Fishbone diagram is a diagram that resembles the shape of a fishbone, where there will be an inscription inside the fishbone. Which has a function to find out cause and effect and also to find the main idea of a text. According to Edwards (2003) Fishbone is a technique that can be used in lessons on several skills, namely reading skills, writing skills, understanding of a main idea and also supporting details. In this study, fishbone is expected to be able to improve students' writing skills, especially writing text descriptions.

In the fishbone diagram there will be questions that will be answered by students, this is where students' knowledge can be seen, teachers can judge from the results of students' answers. Fishbone is expected to help teachers and students understand learning, besides that fishbone can also help students become proficient in finding the main idea or an important information in a text, where students simplify it into a keyword that is easy to understand and remember.

There have been several previous research studies on the fishbone method. One of them came from Setiawan (2014) who studied about improving students' abilities in writing hortatory exposition texts using the fishbone method. He used Classroom Action Research with two cycles, the results of the first cycle showed an increase of students who were able to pass the standard score (≥70) from 35% in the basic data to 52.94% and to 70.58% in the second cycle. This means that fishbone diagrams can improve students' ability to write descriptivetext.

The next studies is come from Sidabutar (2016), the study is about the effect

of fishbone method on students' achievement in writing analitycal exposition text. The study was conducted by using quasi-experimental design. The result of this study show that fishbone strategy effects on students' analytical exposition writing ability.

The other studies are come from Subaedah (2011), her study says that using fishbone diagram could improve students' writing skill. Shan Li (2011) does classroom action research using fishbone method to improve students' writing skill. And the result from those studies is using fishbone method can improve students, writing skill Because of this research, the researcher wants to know whether the use of the fishbone method can provide a significant difference between before and afterlearning it on their writing skills or not. the researcher wants to specify writing skills, namely writing descriptive text. And in this research, the writer wants to know whether it is effective to use the fishbone method in writing descriptive text. Therefore, here the researchers decided to conduct a study with the title " **The Effectiveness of the Fishbone Method on Students Writing Skills in Descriptive Text** " First grade students of SMP IT Khairunnas.

B. **Identification of the Problem**

Based on the above background, the researcher found several problems about writing descriptive English text for seventh grade students of SMP IT Khairunnas Bengkulu. Researchers identify existing problems and classify many problems related to students as follows:

1. Students have difficulty identifying the descriptive structure of the text.

2. Students have difficulty in lacking vocabulary knowledge.

3. Students do not understand to determine ideas

4. In addition, the teaching process is not interesting. As a result, students become bored in the learning process.

C. Identification of the Problem

Based on the above background, the researcher found several problems about writing descriptive English text for seventh grade students of SMP IT Khairunnas Bengkulu. Researchers identify existing problems and classify many problems related to students as follows:

5. Students have difficulty identifying the descriptive structure of the text.

6. Students have difficulty in lacking vocabulary knowledge.

7. Students do not understand to determine ideas

8. In addition, the teaching process is not interesting. As a result, students become bored in the learning process.

D. Identification of the Problem

Based on the above background, the researcher found several problems about writing descriptive English text for seventh grade students of SMP IT Khairunnas Bengkulu. Researchers identify existing problems and classify many problems related to students as follows:

9. Students have difficulty identifying the descriptive structure of the text.

10. Students have difficulty in lacking vocabulary knowledge.

11. Students do not understand to determine ideas

12. In addition, the teaching process is not interesting. As a result, students

become bored in the learning process.

E. **Limitation of the Problem**

Based on the identification of the problem, the limitation of the problem is limited to the effectiveness of using the fishbone method on students' writing skills in making descriptive text. Then this research is only limited to students of SMP IT Khairunnas Bengkulu City for the 2021/2022 academic year.

F. **Research Question**

This **study** aims to answer questions about writing skills: Is there a significant effect of using the fishbone method on students' writing skills in descriptive text?

G. **Objective of the Research**

Regarding the formulation of the problem, the objectives of this study is: The general objective of this research is to find evidence whether or not there is a significant effect of using the fishbone method on students' writing skills in descriptive text?

H. **Significance of the Study**

This research has results that are expected to provide important information for some of these elements and elements for students of the English Language Education study program, and for future researchers who will take the same type. The results of this study are expected to be useful not only theoretically, but also practically for:

1. **Students**

By using the fishbone method, students will be happy and enjoy the

lesson. If they feel happy and enjoy, learning media will be useful for students to encourage them to master students' writing skills.

2. **Teacher**

From this research, it is hoped that it can provide benefits for all English teachers, where they find out new knowledge and information about new techniques that are suitable for teaching students' writing.

3. **Further research**

This research can also be a reference for future researchers who want to conduct further research related to teaching students' writing skills using the fishbone method.

I. **Definitions of Key Terms**

To prevent confusion and also to make this research easier to understand, I will summarily describe the definition of terms in research as follows.

1. Writing is one aspect of language skills that cannot be separated from the world of education, because writing plays a very important role in the learning process and also outside of learning. Writing can be said to be a skill that cannot be mastered by everyone but can be done. Because writing skills require extra practice in conveying messages or ideas into written language so that they can be accepted by logic and are interesting for many people to read.

2. Descriptive according to Suwarna in Ary Kristiyani (2016: 3) is a paragraph consisting of a series of words and sentences, which writes or explains about a place or object. Then according to Fadlilah Nurul (2014:

22) description is an essay that describes or tells about something that is obtained through the process of observation, experience and feelings of the author of the description text. From this opinion, it can be postulated that descriptive text is an essay text that contains one's thoughts on an object, which is explained from the pointof view of the author of the descriptive text.

3. Fishbone diagram is a diagram that resembles the shape of a fishbone here there will be an inscription inside the fishbone. Which has a function to find out cause and effect and also to find the main idea of atext. According to Edwards (2003: 32) Fishbone is a technique that canbe used in lessons on several skills, namely reading skills, writing skills, understanding of a main idea and also supporting details. In thisstudy, fishbone is expected to be able to improve students' writing skills, especially writing descriptive tex