CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background, the problem, the operational definition, the scope and limitation, the objective and the significance of the research.

1.1 Background of the Research

English is an international language. It has been chosen since many years ago because of its widely use among of all countries in the world. This is in line with what Briughton et al; (1980: 1) said that "of the 4.000 to 5.000 living language, English is by far the most widely used". It is the reason why many people like to learn English. Indonesia is the country that has English as foreign language. They take it into the curriculum of their formal education. It means that English is taught to the students who study in the formal education at elementary, junior and senior high school with the goal of making them able to communicate and mastering four skills of English.

The teaching and learning process of English in Indonesia has been changing over time in order to make the students easier to understand the subject. There are many methods can be used by the teacher to teach, but to decide which method will be used is not as easy as it looks. The teacher has to consider the class atmosphere and the student's ability. The common problem to solve is the lack

knowledge of the students in English. When I was in the junior high school, I thought that English is the most difficult subject. It was not only me but also most of my friends thought as what I thought, because even though we paid attention to the teacher's explanation along the teaching and learning process, we could not understand. This is not only happen in the past, when I was practicing teaching in SMK 5 Jember, I asked my students about English in the first meeting, most of them said that English is difficult. With the time passed by, I understand why it happens. It happens because of their lack knowledge about basic English. To solve this problem, using cooperative learning is recommended. Because in cooperative learning, the students are not work alone, they will work in a group or peer which able to make them work together and help each other.

The goals of teaching and learning process are making the students able to communicate and mastering four skills of English. They are listening, reading, speaking and writing. Reading and listening are receptive skills, because in reading and listening we receive the language and decode the meaning to understand the message. Speaking and writing are productive skills, because we use the language that we have acquired and produce a massage through speech or written text that we want others to understand. In this research, the researcher focuses on writing. Writing is an important skill to improve. Graham and Perin (2007:3) said "Writing well is not just an option for young people—it is a necessity. Along with reading comprehension, writing skill is a predictor of academic success and a basic requirement for participation in civic life and in the global economy." From this statement we can say that writing has an important

role in academic success. As a facilitator in teaching and learning process, the teacher should be able to use various methods and teaching strategies in order to solve the students' problem in writing.

It was done an interview with the English teacher and some members of the eighth grade students of SMP Darul Hikkah Jenggawah. The result of the interview is the students still find some difficulties in writing. They hardly find an idea and construct appropriate sentences to express their idea. And the teacher still has a problem to find a suitable technique to improve their writing skill

In order to support students to get better in writing, the researcher tries to implement Cooperative Script in teaching and learning. Cooperative Script is kind of method that requires cooperation among students as its name, Cooperative is cooperation; help each other, or mutual assistance, while the script is writing by someone, or a paper document. Cooperative learning requires pupils to work together in small groups to support each other to improve their own learning and those of others (Jolliffe, 2007: 3).

Thus, the researcher concern to carry out the research entitled: "Improving the Students' Writing Skill by using Cooperative Script on the Eighth Grade Students of SMP Plus Darul Hikmah Jenggawah in the Academic Year 2015/2016".

1.2 Problem of the Research

Based on the background above, the problems to be answered in this research is how can Cooperative Script improve the eighth grade students' writing skill of SMP Plus Darul Hikmah Jenggawah in the academic year 2015/2016?.

1.3 Objective of the Research

In line with the problem of the research, the objective of the research is to know "How the use of Cooperative Script can improve the eighth grade students' writing skill of SMP Plus Darul Hikmah Jenggawah in the academic year 2015/2016.

1.4 Operational Definition of the Research

There are three terms that need to be defined operationally in order to make clear illustration about the study.

1. Writing Skill

Writing skill refers to students' ability in composing text. It is indicated by the students' writing scores covering the aspects of grammar, vocabulary, and mechanics.

2. Cooperative Script

Cooperative script is a learning method which the students work in pairs to interpret orally of parts the material learnt (Lambiotte et al (1988) in Huda, (2013: 213).

Based on the statement above , cooperative learning is a method which attractive where in classroom practice, while getting the materials they should be able to exchange roles in doing tasks. In teaching writing, a student takes role as an informant and another one will be a writing implementer, and they will exchange roles during teaching and learning process.

1.5 Significance of the Research

The result of this study is expected to give some significances the following benefits:

1) The result of the study can be a beneficial reference for teachers as a consideration in teaching writing in the classroom.

2) The result of the study can be a beneficial reference for students in writing, especially using Cooperative Script.

3) The result of the study can be beneficial reference for the future researcher in doing the same research, or the same strategy with difference titles.

1.6 Scope of the Research

Scope of the research was concern in using cooperative script in teaching writing and it is limited the eighth grade students of SMP Plus Darul Hikmah Jenggawah in the academic year 2014/2015.