

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter discusses some aspects that include the background of the research, problem of the research, the research objective, operational definition of the terms, significance of the research, and scope of the research.

### **1.1 Backgorund of the Research**

In learning English, the students of junior and senior high school need to learn the four skills of English. Based on the Kurikulum Tingkat Satuan Pendidikan (KTSP), English instruction aims at developing students' competence to be able to communicate in English, both orally and written. So, if students want to mastery English they should master four skills are listening, speaking, reading and writing.

In writing ability, students should be able to achieve the competence of mastering genre, understanding as well as producing some kinds of English texts. Writing is one of English language skills that should be mastered by the students in academic context. As tool of communication, this skill demands the students to be able to deliver message in written language since writing is actually a word transaction in which it is freely to presently think, feel, and perceive (Peter Elbow, 1973, in Brown, 2001:337). Writing as one of English skills is very important to learned because it has important role. According to Nation (2009:113), he said that writing is an activity that can usefully be prepared for by working in the other skills of listening, speaking and reading.

When the researcher did the preliminary study in the eighth grade of SMPN 09 Jember, the researcher found the fact that the eighth grade students of

SMPN 09 Jember had difficulties in writing ability especially in writing recount text. They difficult in developing their ideas, because students have less vocabulary. They also difficult to arrange sentence in English using grammatical well, in the other hand they can't organize sentence well. They also difficult to choose the appropriate vocabulary to make sentences in recount text. The English teacher have had some problems in teaching writing. They are limited media and cannot find the appropriate method to teach writing in recount text. Beside that the students felt bored to study English language, because they felt making a recount text is too hard. In addition, most of students at eighth grade of SMPN 09 Jember were not actively involved in the teaching learning process of writing.

Therefore, to overcome these problems, the teacher needs to teach writing using an attractive method which suitable and unique for the students of junior high school and it can improve their writing ability. The researcher assumes that game is the suitable method to apply in teaching and learning process of writing. Talak (2010:4) defines games are fun activities that promote interaction, thinking, learning, and problem solving strategies. Some games require the players to engage in a physical activity and/or complete a mental challenge". According to the national curriculum in Sigríður Dögg Sigurðardóttir, games can be a good teaching method and games, such as role playing games, imitation games, theatrical expression and problem solving activities are especially fitting for all stages of language learning.

The writer choose this game, because according to Tria R (2013:325) this game suitable for junior high school students, which the activity of this game not only write, but also we write something to achieve some purposes such as, students

can write their writing in front of the class then teacher revise it directly and by using this game students can know their mistake because teacher explains it directly after students write their writing. It is a way of getting something done. Then, by using this game as one of the activity in writing process, it is hoped that students are able to know their mistakes and they are able to revise it and can write well. This game is useful in reviewing or revising vocabularies and sentences structure (Tria R, 2013:328). By using this game, students can know which sentence that is correct or wrong. From all of the information above, the writer would like to write this research in titled **“The Use of Sentence Race Game to Improve Students’ Writing Ability”**.

## **1.2 Problem of the Research**

Based on the background of the research, the main problem that will be studies in this research is formulated, “How can the use of Sentence Race Game improve the students’ writing ability at eighth grade of SMPN 09 Jember in the 2016/2017 academic year.

## **1.3 Objective of the Research**

Based on the problem of the research above, the objective of the research is to improve the eighth grade students’ writing ability by using sentence race game at eighth grade of SMPN 9 Jember in the 2016/2017 academic year.

#### **1.4 Operational Definition of the Term**

The following definitions are given some understanding or perception for some terms is used in this research. They are also expected to avoid misunderstanding and ambiguity meaning. They are defined:

##### **1.4.1 Writing Ability**

Writing ability in this research deals with the students ability to write a simple paragraph of recount text deals with the students' mastery of writing aspects such as content, organization, vocabulary, language use, and mechanics that made after playing the game.

##### **1.4.2 Sentence Race Game**

Sentence race game is a game that arrange the sentences by using one word fastly. In this game, the students will be divided into five teams, and these teams will fight each other to be the winner. In the proccess of writing, teacher give revising about the students' writing directly. So the students will know which one is the correct sentence.

#### **1.5 The Significance of the Research**

The findings of the reseacrh are expected to be useful for; First, the English teacher considerate and continue in applying sentence race game more frequently in teaching writing in order to improve students' writing ability. Second, students can improve their writing ability. Third, The future researcher, it is hoped to improve writing ability and use this research as reference in making research.

## **1.6 The Scope of the Research**

The researcher focus on writing ability about recount text by using sentence race game. The subject of the research is the VIII F grade of SMPN 09 Jember in the 2016/2017 academic year.