

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Games are one of the activities that can make young people and old people , men and women, boys and girls, very happy or fun. All of them do these activities everyday, and confider games as a part of life in community that cannot be avoided nowadays as a friend in spare time, relax time, and used to gather and have fun with friends. Moreover, education maybe some people consider games as a media for having fun, but not like that, games are very important and useful for teachers in teaching process in the class now hoped to get good results finally. Through the games of course the students will be enthusiastic to take part because they feel happy or fun, therefore they can have more focus in learning rather than using a book only. Therefore, the students will not feel boring and the severity can make the assumption that learning becomes difficult. The teachers certainly want the learning they teaches easily to be absorbed by their students in order to achieve the expected educational goals.

Especially in terms of teaching skills in language learning. Language skills are important and must be mastered by students from the elementary level to the higher levels. No exception in the case of learning English, skills are an inseparable thing in learning English.

Through these English language skills students will continue to be able to develop their abilities in learning English. Skills in learning English consist of four skills, that are listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills.

In this case researcher are focused on writing skills which are the main skills in terms of language, which may be for some people the most difficult skill to master, especially in a foreign language because there are so many things that must be mastered before someone can be said to be proficient in writing in a foreign language, especially English, starting from choosing the best words, vocabulary a lot, proper grammar, so it is required to write with a variety of rules according to what type of writing it is. Writing is very important in the readers lives today, through writing someone can deliver messages to others through letters, notes, books, and other types of written messages.

Writing also now can not be separated from the various realms of life at home, school, environment, social community, etc. At home the readers want to convey a message to home people before the readers are going, surely the readers will write a message to be known so that home people do not worry about us when the readers go, while at school the readers write and record the subjects assigned by our teacher, starting from writing essays, writing poems, writing freely, taking notes on lessons, summarizing readings, etc ., and in the life of the readers social environment the readers also cannot be separated from writing

activities, imagine if the readers have no writing skills how can the readers express our aspirations or opinions to our community , how can the readers play a role in society when do not have the skills in writing will certainly make it difficult for us to be able to plunge into our society.

Regarding the importance of our writing skills, it is also explained by Allah in Q.S Al Qolam verse 1 - 4 :

ن وَالْقَلَمِ وَمَا يَسْطُرُونَ ﴿١﴾ مَا أَنْتَ بِنِعْمَةِ رَبِّكَ بِمَجْنُونٍ ﴿٢﴾ وَإِنَّ لَكَ لَأَجْرًا غَيْرَ مَمْنُونٍ ﴿٣﴾

وَإِنَّكَ لَعَلَى خُلُقٍ عَظِيمٍ ﴿٤﴾

The verse from surah Al Qolam verse 1 -4, Allah explain to us that how important it is that the readers have writing skill to convey knowledge to humans descend, even in that verse Allah swears to give pleasure in the form of intelligence and avoid ignorance through what the readers write about goodness in the form of knowledge and writing that is useful for others. Allah also glorifies the activity of writing which is one of the tools for humans to gain knowledge about its greatness. This verse shows us writing is an activity that the readers should not ignore and miss, through writing someone is able to write something that can be useful for others to gain knowledge. In line with this statement from Allah in Surah Al Qolam verse 1 - 4, it is proper for us to study it and explore it as deep as possible, especially in this increasingly sophisticated era writing skills do not only reach the realm

of our country alone but we are also required to master writing in various foreign languages, especially English which is the official language of the international world, so that what the readers convey through writing is not only beneficial for the people around us but also beneficial for people from all corners of the world.

It has been known that this writing activity has become a daily staple in our lives, starting from when the readers were little taught by our parents to write even though only writing simple letters, continued to be taught by our teachers at school until the time now the readers are good at writing things the readers want. Then the question arises in our hearts whether the readers are in learning to write directly can and smoothly like now? Of course not, there are various phases that the readers go through and study so that the readers can write various things. Writing will definitely begin with the most basic level, which is what our parents taught us when the readers were kids. Through the writing phase of the beginning, basic, up to a high level, as well as writing in English students certainly have to go through the beginning and basic phases first if we want to start learning writing in English.

For some people writing in English is certainly very difficult, especially in terms of rules that must be fulfilled when deciding to write something in English, not least for school students who want to learn writing in English, of course at the primary level they already

consider learning English is difficult, so how can the readers as a teacher react to it ?

Quoted from Hamruni's statement through his book entitled "Strategy and fun active learning models" that in giving a lesson to our students should as easy as possible and with an encouraging atmosphere, among others by creating friendliness, intimacy, affection, or by using active, innovative and creative methods of learning. That way a given learning will be easily absorbed by students.

Then what are the things that can support the ease of distribution that is given to students. There are many things that the readers can do so that the teaching the readers provide feels easy and fun for the students. One of them is to use the method of educational games in learning, especially learning English, which is now rightly mastered by students in accordance with the demands of this increasingly advanced era. The game is a fun activity that is now much sought after by various groups , both to just unwind, have fun or for other purposes. The game has also spread to the world of education, especially for language education through games. A teacher can steal the attention of his students and even achieve educational goals through the game.

The game comes from English which means game, which refers to complex activities in which there are rules, play and culture as a means of entertainment that brings pleasure to the players. Many people think

that games only have a negative impact on children, such as making children forget their time, imitating the games they play, and leading to a mental influence on a child, this is certainly a big mistake. Games have a bad impact on children when the game is played without the supervision and restrictions of parents on children in playing the game. Games can not be separated from the life of a child because the age of the child is indeed the age of their play, it is fitting for us to be parents who actively monitor and choose what games are appropriate for our children to play. In the world of education a child-friendly game has been created and is an education - based game that can be used by teachers and parents in providing teaching to children and students, namely educational games.

Educational game is a form of game designed for learning purposes (Prensky: 2012). At present the world of education certainly cannot ignore the role of educational games in helping achieve educational goals, through learning educational game methods that students find difficult to understand will be easy and fun, even today educational games are widely used in various schools , both elementary, junior high, high school and even universities are not immune from the role of educational games in helping them to learn the subjects taught. Besides that the educational game cannot be separated from the world of education, because we certainly know that in learning there must be times when the readers come to the point where the readers are saturated

to learn. Therefore here is the role of the educational game, focusing the attention of students to return to the lessons provided. It needs to be understood by a teacher, how should the readers be able to create a pleasant learning atmosphere and use a method in its teaching, not just focus on the book alone. In addition, teachers should pay attention to the purpose of education and also demand the expertise of a teacher in stealing the attention of students so that the teaching and learning process can be smooth and in accordance with what is expected. Through this educational game method, a teacher can use it as a supporter of his teaching to his students, besides being a means to eliminate boredom during the teaching and learning process, it can also be used to achieve the educational goals expected by teachers.

Many educational games that can be used by teachers in supporting teaching, are in the form of board games, card games, simple games, group games, individual games, even video games that are now trending on the smartphone of the younger generation. But in this case the researcher focuses on an educational game in the form of card games which now in language learning plays an important role not only to teach language alone but also to develop students' language skills. Educational games in the form of card games are now widely used in learning almost all subjects, especially in English subjects, which of course requires many methods in teaching to steal the attention of students. Almost every level of school in teaching English in the present

time card education games almost never lag even though nowadays it is very rarely used because of the emergence of video games which are certainly more modern and practical to use in language learning, but that does not make the game card education lost its role in helping the world of language education.

Nowadays , many card games are used to support the development of language skills for students, in the form of picture card games, puzzle card games, vocabulary card games, fast card games, crossed card games etc. Therefore many educational games especially card games in the world of language education. There is something interesting for researchers, namely card games in the form of flash cards, this type of card game might look simple for some people who use it because they only use cards and pictures or words, but interestingly this one game has various benefits in the world of education. Because besides being able to use it as a learning support media and media for ice breaking , it can also be used to support and develop language skills such as reading, listening, writing and of course the addition of language vocabulary especially for English language education.

Flash card game is a card game invented by Glenn Doman, a brain surgeon from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, usually equipped with pictures and words. This flash card game is often used by teachers in training various kinds of abilities of students in the classroom besides being used to make learning see more relaxed therefore students do not feel

burdened in learning. Often in using flash card games students see to enjoy learning more in the class, because in its use flash card games offer a lot of excitement in learning with generally filled with interesting pictures and words and a puzzle that is fun for students related to learning material taught. No exception in learning English, educators in various schools and tutoring have never missed the use of this flash card game media. Because it can be used in terms of developing students' skills, such as writing , listening , reading, vocabulary, even speaking according to the level learned by students. But in this study researcher will examine and focus on learning writing the basic English through the use of flash card games that will be carried out at MTs Al Istiqomah Banjarmasin.

Researcher is interested in conducting research on the use of flash cards because in general, besides the use of flash cards, they can be used to develop a variety of skills in learning English while also being used as a place to return students' enthusiasm for learning, that will arrive at the saturation point in studying in class, especially now that we know that a lot of educators rely solely on books and seem to ignore the use of media in classroom learning, especially for English subject educators, causing a gradual reduction in enthusiastic student learning continued on students' neglect of the material conveyed by the teacher. Certainly we should avoid it as much as possible, as an educator, we really hope that our students can understand the lessons we provide to

achieve the educational goals that we hope for. Therefore, it is fitting for us to choose to use learning media in supporting our teaching for them, namely by using this flash card game, in addition to the tools that are prepared quite simply also will greatly help students to teach in the classroom. Indeed this is very interesting to study further, especially in terms of developing English language skills of students, it is fitting to start from the earliest possible age by using this flash card game, we hope our students will be motivated to start developing without compulsion and with a pleasant atmosphere with our help.

The researcher also choose Mts Al Istiqomah as a place of research because in this school the motivation of students to study English subjects experienced many ups and downs, there were even some classes that hardly liked English learning because of their assumption that learning English was one of the difficult and boring lessons that make them sometimes learn English with a reluctant feeling without awareness. This presumption should be changed as soon as possible, by introducing to them that English subjects can be learned with pleasure. Besides that their ability in language is still very lacking and there needs to be improvement, through this flash card media researchers besides also going to do research are also expected to be able to help teachers in finding solutions to improve their language skills in a fun and easy way. Then talking about the caregivers of English subjects there, for the use of media games, they have been done at a certain time , but now the

teacher has very rarely used them and according to some students there the teacher often sometimes only focuses on the book in teaching.

In addition researcher very interested in conducting research in this school, with the hope that this research can help educators there to find fun and simple learning methods, and therefore that students can easily develop their language skills specifically focused on basic skill. Writing English which is one of the abilities that they must dominate before continuing on to a higher level of education. Through this flash card media that we as the teacher can help them to achieve that, but we ask how to use flash card media in learning for basic writing skills for junior high school students, and whether students will be very enthusiastic in following this. This will be examined in this research how the use of flash card game media in basic writing skills, and how enthusiastic students are in using this flash card media in learning.

B. Research Question

1. How is the use of flash card games in basic writing skill at Junior High School?

C. Objective of Research

1. To find out how the use of flash card games for learning writing basic at Junior High School

D. Significance of Research

1. For teachers

Can help teachers in learning and developing the basic skill of students in writing through flash card game media, both in terms of type, effectiveness and knowledge of its use.

2. For students

Can make English learning faced by students fun, develop English language skills of students especially writing through fun and learning methods by using flash card games, and can be a motivation to continue to develop it

3. For other researchers

Other researchers can use the results of this study as a comparative study if later this research can be further developed.

E. Definition of Key Term

1. Flash Card games

Flashcard is effective learning cards games that contain two sides with pictures and text and usually measuring 8 x 12 cm until 25 x 30 cm, that are done by showing images to students one by one quickly (1 picture / 5 until 10 seconds)

2. Basic Writing skill

Basic writing skill is the basic skills of English writing that become the beginning of someone learning English writing skills, usually starting from writing words or simple sentences with beginner level.