CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter related to the topic of discussion that consists of the concept of text, concept of descriptive text, concept of writing and definition of descriptive writing.

2.1 Concept of a Text

Text is a collection of words. The words that are put together will be able to communicate the meaning and purpose to be conveyed. We live in a world that the word as crucial things to understand. When these words, phonem and sentences are put together to communicate a meaning, a piece of text is created.

According Anderson, M & K Anderson; When you write or speak to communicate a message, you are constructing a text. When you read, listen to, or view a piece of text you are interpreting its meaning (Anderson, M. and K. Anderson, 1997: 1). As said of Derewianka (1990: 17) stated that a text is any meaningful stretch of language, oral or written. Each text has its own characteristics and functions to describe in what ways they differ. Every language choices are more likely to result in an effective text, which achieves its purposes.

A more detailed explanations was given by Macken (1991:8), said that texts are determined by genre (and other semiotic systems which are part of the context of culture) and register (based on critical discourse and context situation- field, mode, and tenor). Field is the register variable focusing on what is going on (the social activity), with subject matters as a special instance when texts are describing rather than being part of these activities. It is the subject matter of the text. Then,
Mode is the register variable concentrating on how the language or the text relates to its context: is the text dialogic or dialogic and is it part of what is going on? (e.g. the talk during football training), or constitutive of what is going on? (e.g. a news story on the week-end’s fixtures) it is the channel of communication being used; written or spoken.

Another perspective, Halliday and Hasan (1984) cited that text is language that functional, means language is doing job in some context. Thus, many instance of living language that is playing some part in context of situation we shall call a text. So, text as language tool that has a lot of function to connect people.

2.2 Concept of Descriptive Text

Descriptive text is a kind of text, which is intended to describe a particular person, area or thing that is drawn in word one of genres, which must be understand by students of junior high school according to KTSP. According to Hornby (1995:314) in “Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary of Current English” states that descriptive is giving a picture in words and describing something. Hammond et.al. (1992:78), in his book “English for Social Purposes A Handbook for Teachers of Adult Literacy” states that descriptive text has social function, schematic structure and significant grammatical pattern as follows:

(1) The Social Function
This text is used to depict a particular person, area, or thing.

(2) The Schematic / Generic Structure
It consists of identification and description. Identification means identifying phenomenon (person, area, or thing) to be described. While, description means describing parts, qualities, characteristics of phenomenon (person, place, or thing).

(3) Significance Grammatical pattern

Significance grammatical pattern focuses on specific participants, the simple present tense use, verbs of being and having and descriptive adjective to build up long nominal groups. From the above explanations, it goes without saying that descriptive is a text which is used to depict phenomenon (person, area or thing) in language use.

2.3 Concept of Writing

Basic skills Writing is the way of student to generate texts in English language. Students must be able to write about what they think in their minds and express it on paper using the right procedure. Writing definition that can be studied, are: Oshima (1999:3) explained that writing is not easy for both native speakers and new learners of English. It takes study and practice to develop this skill. Writing is a process, not a product. It means that a composition is never complete, it is always possible to be reviewed and revised many times.

Kane (2005:352) cited that “description is about sensory experience how something looks, sounds, tastes. Mostly is about visual experience, but description also deals with other kinds of perception.

Meyers (2005:2) states: Writing is a way to produce language, which you do naturally when you speak”. Writing is communicating to others by paper-or by a computer screen. Writing is a partly a talent, but it is mostly a skill, and like any
skill, it improves with practice. Writing is also an action—a process of discovering and organizing your ideas, putting them on a paper, and reshaping and revising them. Writing is a way of getting things done. To get things done such as, describing something, telling a story, requesting an overdraft, drafting an essay, and so on, one must follows certain conventions of social for organizing messages, and these conventions can be depict and taught (Hyland, 2004:5).

“Descriptive text is kind of text which is aimed to describe a particular person, place or things. It can be conclude that descriptive text is a text for describe person, place or a thing by visual experience. It is used to create a visual image of people, place, even of time days or season. It may also be used to describe the outwards appearance people. It may explains about their traits of character and personal (Gerot and Wignell: 1995:208). Based on that citation, I assumed that descriptive text as a tool to tells everyone about object with the senses of human. So, it can be truly accepted by people because they know exactly that things by the complete perspectives.

2.4 Definitions of Descriptive Writing

The characteristic of descriptive is use of simple present tense focus on specific participants, elaborate use of sensory language, the series words seems rich, vivid, and lively. And the last, in the final of description is a conclusion. Finally conclusion reinforces the dominant impression and draws the essay. Generic structure of descriptive consists of :

1) identification which is identify phenomenon to be described
(2) description in which describe parts, qualities and characteristics.

(3) focus on specific participants,

(4) the use of attributive and identifying processes,

(5) the use of simple present tense.

According Sternglass (1983:109), the primary function of descriptive writing is to evoke sensory impressions of people and things.

As said with Berry (1974:110-112), three attributes of effective descriptive writing. The first is clarity of expression. It means that the writer must describe every item so clearly that the reader can see the subject completely on the first reading. The second attribute is fidelity to actual fact. The writer should tell the truth. There is only a constant and forthright attempt to be accurate. The third attribute of effective description is overall interest or appeal. One can find the qualities that first attract him by looking hard at the subject to be described. One should strive to describe those qualities in a manner that will create the same attraction for his readers.

Berry (1974:109) states that successful description makes the readers see, hear, smell, taste or feel as the particular situation demands. Description has a point of view to make readers understand the whole material of text, physical object structure, phenomena and organisms. The writers try to reach the readers' emotional responses by selecting sensory details referring to sight, heard, smell, touch or taste to create a dominant impression (Berry; 1974:109).