Chapter I
Introduction

1.1 Background of the Study

Being an international language, English is taught in every education level in Indonesia. English is also learnt by students of primary school. By this reality, Indonesian government expects a better English education since they are in the early grade. As the follow-up of learning English in primary school, teacher in junior high school are demanded to have the ability to plan, organize, and evaluate English teaching-learning process effectively in order to get a maximum students’ achievement.

Teaching vocabulary may start from elementary or kindergarten, it has a purpose to prepare students to get good ability in understanding and communicating in English. The teacher should pay attention seriously in teaching vocabulary. Most of students who have a limited vocabulary, faced some problems, such as; learning for language skills.

Improving the students’ ability in English vocabulary the teachers have to think how to make students understand English for their own purposes. There are so many approaches, methods, and techniques that can be used by the teacher.
One technique that was used by the teacher to improve the students’ ability in English vocabulary is descriptive text. Through descriptive text there are so many advantages for students and teachers in learning process.

This study examines the students mastering of vocabulary through descriptive text because Descriptive Text have been shown to have advantages and effectiveness in learning vocabulary in various ways. However, in order to achieve the most important from descriptive text, it is essential that suitable text are chosen. Whenever a text is to be conducted, the number of students, proficiency level, cultural context, timing, topic, and the classroom settings are factors that should be taken into account.

The fact, it is not easy to learn a foreign language for the students, especially in increasing vocabulary. A vocabulary is a list of words, learners will get different result of learning by different ages, for example; students who are entering school typically add between 2000 and 4000 words a year to their reading vocabularies, or approximately 17 words each day. As stated by Anderson & Nagy (1992), “Students entering school with limited vocabularies need to add an even greater number of words to catch up with their peers.”

By mastering vocabulary, it will help the students to study English easily. The real fact that happened in the class can support teacher to improve her/his role in teaching English well. The teacher is able to find a good method how to teach vocabulary to the students. To make it easier in
understanding English, teacher is able to use media as facilitator of teaching, and it will be more interesting for the students to learn English. Without using good media, the teaching learning process will be getting bored.

Vocabulary learning are about memorizing, pronouncing, and comprehending the words. Students who have learned a second language, they will know some words that seem easier to be learned. The easiest of all are more or less identical, both in their meaning and forming.

One of the aims of teaching English is to enhance students to be able to understand English words which they might find in their environment. In fact, students often find problems in learning the words. So it needs more teacher’s attention to make the transfer of the vocabulary process easier to grasp and more fun to learn. To do this hard job, teachers are hoped to have ingenuity in teaching by using any kind of teaching aids that already exist in their environment. One of those aids is using descriptive text. The writer chooses games because descriptive text help and encourage many learners to sustain their interest and work.
1.2 Identification of Problems

The students cannot master English well, because they are lack of vocabulary, the lack of motivation. Descriptive could be an effective and interesting technique that will motivate and develop the student interest to improving the communicative competence. Descriptive text hopefully could improve the student’ vocabulary skill because vocabulary is one of the language components that have to be taught to the students in learning a foreign language.

1.3 Research Problems

This study will be conducted to answer the problem that is formulated in this question,
1. What do the procedures of vocabulary learning using descriptive text?
2. What are the role of teacher and students in vocabulary learning by using descriptive text?
3. What are the results of vocabulary learning by using descriptive text?
4. What do the respondents’ opinion toward vocabulary learning by using descriptive text?

1.4 Limitation of the Study

In studying a case, it is important to make the limitation of the study in order to make no digression from the subjects. This study is limited in
analyzing the instructional goals, objectives, activities, instructional media, and assessment.

1.5 Objective of the Study

The objective of this study is to find out student vocabulary mastery improvement by using descriptive text in junior high school. The objective of the study is also to get information about:

1. To know vocabulary learning procedures in using descriptive text that applied in the classroom.
2. To know the role of teacher and students in vocabulary learning in using descriptive text.
3. To know the results of vocabulary learning in using descriptive text.
4. To know respondent’s opinion towards vocabulary learning in using descriptive text.

1.6 Significance of the Study

The result of the study is expected to be a beneficial contribution for the English department and English teachers. There are some reasons why this research considered significant.

1. For the Teacher:

He/She can improve a good skill ability in teaching vocabulary by using vocabulary games.
2. For the Students

They will get a better learning system, they will be able to improve their ability to memorize vocabulary by using game and they will get an enjoyable atmosphere.

3. For Further Researcher

The researcher can get more informations about teaching learning process in increasing vocabulary by using vocabulary games.

4. For the Institutions

The institutions can improved they method when they do teaching learning process in the class, and make the process more interesting for the students.