

students writing, the number of the students writing that are consisted of two schematic structures (identification and description) are always increasing in every meeting⁷. And also, based on the previous research conducted by Oktabety Kusjayanti in English and Art of Faculty, the title is “The use of BBC’s wildlife documentary video to improve the descriptive writing ability of the second year students of SMP Negeri 1 Tuban”, from the research can be found that student’s writing ability improvement when video of BBC’s wildlife is used in the class, every meeting from the first meeting until four meeting. And the student’s responses are enthusiast to learn about writing by using of video as a teaching material.

Therefore, the researcher wants to apply letters as teaching material to improve writing ability in SMPN 2 Buduran-Sidoarjo. Because, the student’s SMPN 1 Buduran-Sidoarjo has a problem in writing ability, especially in that school. Most of the students got bad score when the teacher conducted the test in writing whereas, they are good in components of writing such as grammar. Writing letters is one of the most difficult forms of composition and writing a letters in here that writing personal letters are one ways of activity that enhance each students creatively and courage, because they are pushed to communicate with others besides their friends by using English actively and correctly. And the principles of writing letter should be understood by everybody who has any

⁷ Yunita Alisia Rahmawati. Using Pictures of Situation to Teach Writing Descriptive Texts to the Eight Grade Students of Junior High School. (Thesis: UNESA, 2008)

knowledge of written language. According to that statement, Lado states that the ability to write creatively requires special talent and training⁸. If they can do it, they will be able to transfer what they mean to others. And writing a letter needs writing skill. A letter is a written message from one party to another; letters are usually intended to be received by other in so far away. It is also well known way in communication; it has been existed since human being was born. So, if we do not write the letter correctly, the receiver will find difficulties to convey the meaning in his/her letter and misunderstanding.

So, the study is hoped to answer apply of the letters in the teaching writing to the second year of junior high school in SMPN 1 Buduran-Sidoarjo is appropriate and can stimulate the student's creativities and also can improve the students writing ability.

B. Statement of the Problem

Based on the explanation above, the question to answer the research problem as follow:

1. How is the use of letters applied in teaching English writing at the eighth grade in SMPN 2 Buduran-Sidoarjo?
2. In what way the use of letters improve the English writing ability at the eighth grade in SMPN 2 Buduran-Sidoarjo?
3. How are the student's responses to the use of letters in writing ability?

⁸ Robert Lado. *Language Testing*. (Hong Kong: Wing Tai Cheung, 1961), P. 81

C. Objective of the Study

1. To describe the application letter in teaching English writing to the eighth grade in SMPN 2 Buduran-Sidoarjo
2. To improve the junior high school student's English writing ability using letters at the eighth grades in SMPN 2 Buduran-Sidoarjo.
3. To describe the student's responses to the use of letters in writing ability.

D. Significance of the Study

The result of this study is expected that it will be useful and helpful for English foreign language classroom, both for the teachers and for the students and given the contributions to the educational world. For the teacher, letters can be used as the best interesting way to improving writing ability and excellent way to introduce to the students in writing because letters writing can support cultural enrichment. And also it can inform the English teachers the ways to use letters as a teaching technique of writing; it can give an objective description to the teacher how to teach the students English writing by using letters as their materials and also, help their students to learn more about letters. For the students, letters can improve their writing ability since they serve pleasure, and writing can attract their interest in learning English writing.

