**CHAPTER I**

**INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 Background of the Study**

Language is a means of communication. Therefore mastering English is very essential for everybody who wants to increase his or her knowledge and technology. Furthermore, as an international language, English is used by almost people from all over the world. They use English for their communication. That is why English is very important language.

People use the language to express their emotions, feelings, and ideas. No one will be able to communicate internationally without using English since almost of scientific books are written in English. For that reason in Indonesia, English is the foreign language taught at the formal schools. Furthermore, the teaching of the language starts from the kindergarten.

English as a subject matter in school covers four basic language skills: reading, speaking, writing and listening. In every subject, students learning activities involve writing.

People communicate their ideas into two major ways, verbal and non- verbal, or written and spoken, whether directly and indirectly. These two types of communication can be run smoothly if both the communicator and interlocutor know well how to communicate effectively.

Writing, for instance, involves encoding process. The messages are transmitted in a written form when someone communicates to one another. To similar extent, Mc Crimon ( 1980 : 221 ) states that:

“Writing requires comprehensible nations of the writer himself. The rules of a good writing as well as the elements of writing, who is the reader, appropriate sentence pattern be fitting word choice (diction) and also clear and proper mechanics of writing such as spellings and punctuation”.

Writing effectively is not an easy job. It takes time. Therefore, to be a good writer needs serious practices and exercises. Experiences in composing a short paragraph will lead to better writing. Therefore, Hubbard ( 1982 : 62) states that:

“Of the four skills, writing is the skill most neglected. It is no wonder that frequently writing is taught very sketchily, if at all. All often, when written work is set, it is assumed that the students can say something they should be able to write it. Thus little preparation is done for written work in class and assignments which are far too difficult are set”.

On the best way to improve students to write either a short paragraph or a longer essay is by applying reading, especially extensive reading. In this extent, students are helped by the teacher to supply many books so that the students can choose good books, because the good books or the interesting books make motivation for the students to read. By extensive reading, the students have desire to write what they read, so extensive reading is very good for students to begin having writing competence.

Based on a survey which was done by the research at SMA Negeri 1

Peringgasela especially at the eleventh graders, the research finds that the students’ ability is poor. They can not make good sentences, they do not understand the sixteen of tenses and they can not differ class of words. Because of that phenomenon, the researcher was interested in investigating the effect of extensive reading books towards students’ writing competence

for the eleventh graders of SMA Negeri 1 Peringgasela in the school year

2013/2014.

**1.2 Research Focus**

In order to specify this study, the researcher gives scope and limitation on the subject and object of the study as follows:

a. The subject of this study is the eleventh graders of SMA Negeri 1

Peringgasela in the school year 2013/2014.

b. The object of this study is the effect of extensive reading books towards

students’ writing competence of the eleventh graders of SMA Negeri 1

Peringgasela in the school year 2013/2014..

**1.3 Research Questions**

Based on the background of the study above, the researcher formulated the statement of problems as follows:

a. Is there any significant effects of extensive reading books toward students’

writing competence for the eleventh graders of SMA Negeri 1

Peringgasela in the school years 2013/2014?

b. To what extent is the effect of extensive reading books toward students’

writing competence for the eleventh graders of SMA Negeri 1

Peringgasela in the school years 2013/2014?

**1.4 Research Purposes**

This study is intended to find:

a. The effects of extensive reading books toward students’ writing competence for the eleventh graders of SMA Negeri 1 Peringgasela in the school years 2013/2014.

b. The extent of the extensive reading books toward students’ writing competence for the eleventh graders of SMA Negeri 1 Peringgasela in the school years 2013/2014.

**1.5 Research Significances**

The significance of the study has both theoretically and practically significance as follows:

1. Theoretical of Significance

a) The finding of the researcher can clarify and support the theory about extensive reading books and writing.

b) The outcome of the research is inspired the other researcher who wants to conduct the related research.

c) As reference that will guide students to encourage their competence and experience of knowledge especially in the writing English.

2. Practical of Significance

a) The result of this study could be used as means of developing or

improving the students’ ability in writing.

b) The used of extensive reading books is expected become an alternative method for the English teachers at SMA Nnegeri 1

Peringgasela in teaching English, especially in teaching writing.

**1.6 Explanation of Key Terms**

In this part, it is important to the researcher to explain some key terms that is used to avoid misinterpretation and misunderstanding of the readers. The explanation as following:

a) Extensive reading books

Extensive reading is reading as much as possible for pleasure at a difficulty level at which you can read smoothly and quickly without looking up words or translating to English as you go but it is began from simpler books that are at or slightly below the level at which you read fluently. This lets us get used to reading more complex sentences with ease, reinforces the words you already know and helps you learn new words from context (Liana, 2007:1)

b) Competence

A competency is defined in terms of what person is required to do (performance), under what conditions it is to be done (conditions) and how well it is to be done (standards).

c) Writing

Siahaan (in Hadini, 2011: 6) states that writing is a psychological activity of the language user to put information in the written text based on the writer’s ideas.