

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the researcher's planning in conducting the research. She attempts to explain what the study talks about, which is covered in the background of the study, the statement of the study, the objective of the study, the significance of the study, the scope and limitation of the study, and the definition of the key terms.

A. The Background of the Study

Language is a means of communication. People communicate in order to maintain and establish the relationship. In daily life, people communicate with others using language, because language has many functions to show expression, idea, feeling, etc. There are two kinds of language, written and spoken language. Both of them are different in terms of classification of meanings. In spoken language, the listeners can ask directly what the speakers say or mean, but in the written language, it is difficult to clarify because it is impossible for the readers to ask the meaning directly to the writers. Besides, the understanding of written language can be various because of the diversity of human thought and the experiences.

English is one of the international languages used by many people in the world. The use and understanding on English has getting fundamental. Today, in which global exchanges have been widening, English usage has been increasingly expanding. As an international language, people use written text in English to

deliver written information, such as magazine, newspaper, brochure, book, novel, etc. Not only for communication, English is also used in science, medical, trade, cultural and technology.

Most people need technology to support their daily life. They use it every day in their daily life. However, sometimes they got a trouble when they did not know how to use it properly. One of the common problems which Indonesian people faced is the language interface. Since we know that technology is something important for human life, and the common language which is used mostly as the language interface is English, people should be accustomed to English to help them use their devices. In order to know and understand the information of the written text, the readers must find out the meaning of the text, and the only way is read the text well or trying to find out the key words. So, this is important to ensure that they comprehend well in reading the text in English.

Mobile phone and personal computer are technology devices commonly used by many people, especially students. They use these stuffs almost every day to support their study. For instance, personal computer is an essential need for them. Many high schools and universities demand their students to have personal computer in order to help their learning process. Unfortunately, they frequently find some difficulties in their language interface because of their inadequacy in English. Many students do not understand and even confused of what they find in their computer when it gets trouble, particularly when a dialog box appears on their computer screen.

Most of students in this country know English, but they only practice their English and understand it in the classroom, even they are English students. When they find text outside the class, means in the real situation, they will think that the text they found is too confusing. In some cases, they said that the text is difficult and ignore it, then. For instance, when they find texts on some dialog boxes which often appear on computer screen, they prefer click the options in the dialog boxes randomly or directly close them instead of reading them first.

Based on the explanation, there is an indication that the students do not understand some of the dialog boxes which appear on their computer screen. Their misunderstanding makes them ignore the texts and then close them. This problem does not only happen to high school students who still have low understanding on English and technology, but also this happens to college and university students who already have more knowledge. Through this research the researcher wants to know their way in comprehending the dialog boxes in order to know their comprehending text process which can be the reflection of the students learning patterns.

Based on the above problem, the researcher wants to conduct a research to know how is the students' comprehension on common dialog boxes appearing on Windows-based computer.

B. The problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study, the research problem of the study is "How is the students' comprehension on common dialog boxes which appear on windows-based computer screen?"

C. The Objective of the Study

The objective of this study is to know the students' comprehension on common dialog boxes appearing on windows-based computer.

D. The Significance of the Study

The researcher hopes that the researcher and the other students can be more aware on the importance of text understanding. They are going to learn more to improve their English in order to make them easier in using any technology devices. To the English teachers and lecturers, this research give significant contribution in emphasizing the importance of text understanding to their students. It will also to be an evidence that each student has different behavior and different way in learning and understanding. And to the further researcher, the researchers hopes that they would use this research as a basic idea to conduct the other research which focus on the broader field.

E. The Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of this research is the students' comprehension on common dialog boxes which they find on computer screen, either their translation ability or their reading ability. This research also wants to know their behavior in facing the dialog boxes and it will classified into some categories. The limitation of this research is the researcher only analyzes the students' comprehension on the dialog boxes which students commonly find on windows-based computer, and the researcher also takes the common dialog boxes only on Microsoft Word program.

So, it cannot be a measurement if it is used to know the students' comprehension on dialog boxes which appear on the other computer system programs.

F. The Definition of the Key Terms

1. Comprehension

Comprehension is the ability to understand completely and be familiar with a situation, facts, etc.¹

2. Dialog box

Dialog box is a window (= a separate area on a computer screen) that appears and gives the person using the computer information about what they are doing.²

3. Windows-based Computer

Windows-based Computer is a computer which uses Windows as the operating system.

¹ Cambridge Advance Learner's Dictionary Third Edition, (USA: Cambridge University Press, 2008).

² Ibid.