

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer presents six topics related this study. This includes of background of the study, statement of the study, objectives of the study, scope and limitation the study, the significance of the study, and the definition of key terms.

A. Background of The Study

Reading is one of four language skill that must be learned in learning English. It means reading is one skill that have to be mastered in the learning process. According to Clark and Starr (1986), reading is a difficult skill that is needed to be mastered by people. Some of us think this is a skill we should all continue to learn well into our adult lives. According to Das (2009), Reading is not simply a matter of identifying words; it also in volves comprehension, that is, understanding the words in context. This means that text comprehension in reading is the most important for students to learn and master. Not only to understand, students also have to identify the words in the text, understanding the content of the reading context and students' problems in the world of reading still play a big and very important role as a tool for conveying meaning and information through text. It is dealing that reading is one of the most important skill for students in learning process.

Reading is one of the skills that enable one to understand the information clearly. While the reading activity begins, the students should concentrate on the text or their book. Reading is a process of the readers that combines some information from a text and the background of knowledge to get a meaning. And comprehension is a goal of reading activity (Nunan, Practical English Language Teaching, 2003). On the other hand, if their reading ability is good they are easy to accept more knowledge from any sources. It means reading comprehension is an ability to read a text and process in understanding the meaning of the text. The aspects of reading comprehension are determined the main idea, find a specific information, making inferences, identify references, and understanding the meaning. Reading should be optimal to improve students' ability in learning a language. Simanjuntak (2003) in (Wahyuni, 2018) stated that reading comprehension is not just reading a text with an

aloud voice, but reading is an activity to understand the meaning of word, sentence, and paragraph as well as sense relationship among the ideas.

Reading comprehension needs some strategies and abilities. Then, the students can understand how to find factual information, find the topic and main idea, vocabulary context, and reference words to get information from the text. As we know, most of the students feel difficulty in comprehending the reading text. For some students reading is a difficult activity because it was boring. Exactly, the main problem is they do not understand what they have read before. They also do not have much vocabulary in their background knowledge, and they are confused about what should they do and the meaning of the text. The students are lazy to read the long text in English, and they still lack interest in learning English because they have an opinion that it is the new language to them. They feel difficult to get the point and message from the text and it makes them fail to answer the questions correctly. In this situation, teachers should have a strategy in teaching and learning process more interesting and effective.

Several studies were investigated by Aradi Prima in his research entitled “An Analysis of Students' Difficulties in Comprehending English Reading Text at SMP Bukit Raya Pekanbaru. The result showed that eighth- grade students at SMP Bukit Raya Pekanbaru had difficulty understanding English reading texts, especially when attempting to identify the main concept, locate supporting details, and comprehend vocabulary. However, the students only occasionally have trouble finding and drawing inferences. Then, Thabrani Azis in his thesis entitled “Students’ Difficulties in Reading Comprehension at The Second Grade of Junior High School SATAP 3 BETARA”. The result of his study showed that most of students are not understand about content of the text and they less of vocabulary mastery, grammar, and reading interest. Another research study was done by Inkholisatun Nafsiah entitled “An Analysis of Students’ Difficulties in Reading Comprehension on Narrative Text” the result showed that many students got difficulty in reading comprehension by 5 aspect line with Nuttal’s theory.

In this research, the researcher choose the eighth grade students’ of SMPN 1 Ngadiluwih as the participants because based on the short interview with the English teacher and the students’ score from the test, the students’ have difficulties in

comprehending English descriptive text. It happened because they do not comprehend the text. In this case, the researcher decided to focus on the reading comprehension descriptive text. Because, descriptive text is the material in first semester of the students who attended at eighth grade of Junior High School.

Based on the description above, the author wants to do research on Student's Difficulties in Reading Comprehension Descriptive Text to Students at SMPN 1 Ngadiluwih. This research is expected to be able to provide solutions to the difficulties or problems. The purpose of this research is, then, to find out the difficulties experienced by students while carrying out English language learning in reading and to get solutions of these problems. While the benefits of this research are that it can provide suggestions for teachers to teach more effective learning, as well as for students to study more motivated.

B. Statement of The Research

Based on the background of the research, the research problems can be formulated is what are the students' difficulties in reading comprehension Descriptive text?

C. Objective of The Study

Based on the research questions, the purpose of the research can be drawn is to find out the students difficulties in reading comprehension descriptive text at SMPN 1 Ngadiluwih.

D. Scope and Limitation of The Study

The scope of this research analysis students' difficulties in reading comprehension descriptive text. The limitation of this research is about reading comprehension in descriptive text. The participants of this research only the students of VIII-E in SMPN 1 Ngadiluwih.

E. The Significance of The Research

The result of this research can be useful in some cases as follow:

1. The research will know what students difficulties in reading comprehension Descriptive text in senior high school.

2. The teacher can know what students' difficulties in reading comprehension Descriptive text.

3. The research will be useful for readers of this study to increase more knowledge about students difficulties analysis.

F. Definition of Key Terms

1. Students' Difficulties

Difficulty is state or quality of being hard to do to understand (Hornby, 2010). Difficulties are the mistakes students face in the learning process. This happens because students are confused or do not know or do not understand the material that has been explained by the teacher. In this case, student's difficulties are a condition when the students feel difficult to understand the content of the reading text because they do not have enough knowledge and never do practice for developing reading efficiency.

2. Reading Comprehension

Reading comprehension is an activity to get information and understand the meaning of the text. It involves higher-order thinking skills and is much more complex decoding specific words (Nunan, Practical English Language Teaching, 2003). This skill should be mastered because we can get complex information and get ideas more quickly.

3. Descriptive text

According to Gerot and Wignell (1994) descriptive text is a kind of text with a purpose to give information. The context of this kind of text is the description of particular things, animal, person, or others. It mean that descriptive text is a text which describe a particular things, animal, person, or others clearly.