

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes what this study about, covering background of the study, problems of the study, objectives of the study, significances of the study, description of the product, and definition of key terms. .

A. Background of the Study

Reading is known as one of the language skills that has significant role for the human being. It cannot be separated from human daily necessities. Every day, people read many types of written materials such as advertisements, newspaper, novels, magazines, academic books, and et cetera. According to Jeremy Harmer “Reading is useful for other purposes too; any exposure to English (provided students understand it more or less) is a good thing for language student.” It means that some of the language sticks in their minds as part of the process of language acquisition. When the readers read the text surely there is some question in our brain, what is mean of the text? And the answer of the question find in the text too. Like the statement of Jeremy Harmer that Reading is an act of composition. When we read, we compare meaning in our mind.

Patel and Jain (2008) explains that reading is an important activity in live with which one can update his/her knowledge. Reading skill is an important tool for academic success. Reading is the most important activity in any language class. Reading is not only a source of information and a pleasurable activity but also as a means of consolidating and extending one’s

knowledge of language. Reading is necessary to widen the mind, again and understanding of the foreign culture.

Francoise Grellet states that “Reading is a constant process of guessing, and what one brings to the text is often more important than what one find on it.” It is mean that the reader should be taught with what they know to understand contain of reading, whether there is idea in it. In addition, Suherman (2020) states that reading is the most important skill between the four skills, as the basic tool to study about the world around the other skills. Through reading, students get more information from the text, new ideas, obtain & process the information, seek support for their ideas and broaden their interest by what they read. Learning reading in any aspects and any way is important to do to comprehend the context of material in any source of knowledge that want to know and learn and reading should accept special exceptional concentration in the teaching and learning process.

The aim of learning and teaching process are caused by several factors either directly or indirectly. At least there are four dominant factors that are included in it, namely teacher, teaching materials, methods of teaching, and learners. Moreover, there are many ways that can be the solution for the English teachers in order to increase the students’ language ability (Sada & Bunau, 2017). Besides, the development of reading material for the certain topic related to the difficult material is needed.

Additionally, nowadays the government of Indonesia implement the newest curriculum, namely Merdeka Curriculum. The reformation of Merdeka Curriculum is commonly conducted, and it is caused by many factors such as

low learning outcomes, number of drop-out students, stress level of teachers and students and lack of skills to meet labor market (Gouédard., et al, 2020). Then the principles of implementation new curriculum must be based on those principles (Muhammedi, 2016). The changing of curriculum in Indonesia has been based on the principles above.

Teachers have to be selective in using the material that will be used for teaching reading. The term material in language teaching and learning refers to everything used to help teaching language learners (Tomlinson, 1998), and to facilitate teachers and learners in the language learning (Richards and Schmidt, 2002). It can be in the form of linguistic, visual, auditory, or kinesthetic. It may be presented in print (a textbook, a workbook, a photocopied handout, so forth), audio or video form, on CD-ROMS, on the internet or through live performance or display. Basically, everything that presents or informs about the language being learned (English) can be used as learning materials (Tomlinson, 1998).

According to the observation that is conducted by the researcher before, there are some problems in SMK Negeri 1 Kras that is related with reading skill specifically about narrative text. The students feel difficult to understand the material because the material in the book is incomplete, and do not recover all the material clearly. Based on the preliminary study that the researcher conducted on May 4th to May 23rd, 2023 at SMK Negeri 1 Kras, the researcher discovered a number of problems that contributed to students' low motivation in reading especially about narrative text.

At the time of observation, the researcher interviewed an English teacher of tenth-grade students named Mrs. RYS, S. Pd who teaches English for the tenth grade in SMK Negeri 1 Kras. She stated that the constraints while teaching English are lack of learning material as well as the school facilities to support the teaching process. She continued by stating that students lack motivation to learn English, which prevents them from concentrating on their learning. She explained that the major constraint while teaching English is the transition of the curriculum, that is Merdeka curriculum, because the book that is being the source for the student of the tenth grade, that is based on the Merdeka curriculum is not arrived yet. She also mentioned that the material in the previous book is not complete yet.

Based on the problems that is faced by the students above, the researcher can help them to overcome those problems by developing a supplementary reading material related with narrative text, moreover in Merdeka curriculum the need of innovation material should be created by the teacher to increase the students' reading skill based on their interest. In addition, this research will develop a reading material especially about narrative text based on the newest curriculum, Merdeka curriculum.

B. Research Question

Based on the background of this research, the problem can be stated as follow: How to overcome the students' problem in learning narrative text by developing a supplementary reading material for tenth-grade students in SMK Negeri 1 Kras?

C. Research Objective

From the research question stated above, the objective of this study is to overcome the students' problem in learning narrative text by developing a supplementary reading material for tenth-grade students in SMK Negeri 1 Kras.

D. Scope and Limitation

This study focused on developing a supplementary reading material to face the tenth-grade students problem in learning narrative text.. The reading material is created for tenth-grade students in SMK Negeri 1 Kras. The contents of the reading material is about Narrative Text based on Merdeka curriculum and syllabus that is given by the English teacher in SMK Negeri 1 Kras. In conducting this study, researcher used ADDIE model, introduced by Branch, which has 5 steps, they are analysis, design, development, implementation, and evaluation.

E. Significances of the Study

This research is aimed to be beneficial for:

1. Students: The result of this research is aimed to minimize the students' difficulties in learning narrative text and also provide a reading material especially about narrative text.
2. Teachers: The result of this study offers the teachers to create a reading material for their students in the process of reading teaching and learning.
3. Further researchers: The result of this study is aimed to be a reference in conducting further study.

F. Previous Studies

In conducting this research, the researcher found some previous studies to minimize the plagiarism. The first related research is a thesis by Devilia Indah Kusuma (2020), entitled “Developing Supplementary Reading Materials For English Course Program Of Grade XII At SMAN 7 Malang”. This study is aimed to create a teaching material which compatible for students of grade XII in following the English course program. The purpose of this research was to develop a product that can be applied in educational program in English teaching and learning. Devilia’s research similarity with the research conducted by the researcher is the same as developing a reading material. The difference lies in the content and the subject under these research. The researcher developed reading material for tenth-grade students while Devilia’s developed reading material (module) for English course program of grade XII.

The second previous study is Nur Fadilah Rahman (2018), entitled ”Developing English Reading Materials Through Web Blog For Students Of English Education Department At State Islamic University Of Alauddin Makassar”. The research is about developing Web Blog in learning and teaching English reading materials. There are three aims in this research. The first, this research purposed to describe teaching English reading materials for students of English Education Department in term extremely need. The second is to create the blue print of Web Blog that contains of English reading materials. The third, this research purposed to examine the effectiveness of the application and implementation of Web Blog as a media in teaching and

learning English Reading Materials for students of English Education Department intake academic year 2015/2016.

The research design used was Research and Development (R&D) to obtain a new knowledge that it might used to create a new product. The development model that used is Dick and Carey models it consist of ten phases. In this research, due to the limited times and funds the researcher simplified the ten phases of Dick and Carey models into three phases. They were analysis, design, and evaluation. Nur's research has similarity with the research conducted by the researcher is the same as developing reading material. The difference lies in the content and the subject under research. The researcher developed reading material for tenth-grade students while Nur's developed reading material for students of English Education Department intake academic year 2015/2016. Besides, Nur's used web blog as the reading material, while the researcher used reading material that is edited using Microsoft Word Application.

The last related research is Maya Andriani (2020) entitled "Developing An English Reading Material Using A Genre Based Approach For The Tenth Grade Students Of Computer And Network Engineering At Smkn 1 Padangcermin". This research was adapted the ADDIE model proposed by Robert Maribe Branch. The steps of this research were conducting needs analysis, designing the product, developing the product, implementing the product and evaluating the quality of the instructional products and processes. The objectives of this research were designing, developing and knowing the feasibility also the attractiveness of English reading materials for the tenth

grade students of Computer and Network Engineering at SMKN 1 Padang Cermin.

Maya's research has similarity with the research conducted by researcher is the same as developing reading material. The difference lies in the content. The researcher developed reading material for tenth-grade students based on the Merdeka curriculum while Maya's developed reading material using genre based approach.

After studying and combining the ideas and theories from the previous studies found above, the researcher has a theoretical reason for creating this reading material. Based on the literature review, reading material designed for tenth-grade students based on Merdeka curriculum is limited because it is the newest curriculum. However, research on the construction of reading material has been conducted. As a result, this project aims to create a reading material specifically for students in the tenth-grade in vocational high school especially SMK Negeri 1 Kras that implements the Merdeka curriculum.

G. Definition of Key Terms

1. Reading

Reading is the process of looking at a series of written symbols and getting meaning from them. When we read, we use our eyes to receive written symbols (letters, punctuation marks and spaces) and we use our brain to convert them into words, sentences and paragraphs that communicate something to us.

2. Reading Material

Reading material in class is, without a doubt, the most crucial component because it will provide guidance and familiarity with the teaching method. To complete the learning process, high quality reading materials should foster clear relationships between students and teachers as well as between students themselves.

3. Vocational High School

A vocational high school is a kind of educational institution, that refer to secondary education and is created to give technical skills or vocational education needed to perform the requirements of a particular and specific career.