

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses some topics, they are the background of the study, the statement of problems, the objective of the study, the significance of the study, hypothesis, scope and limitation and the definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Reading is an important and inseparable activity for academics. Reading provides benefits for academics such as students because it can improve critical thinking. That matter because in the process, reading involves prediction skills, checking, in-depth analysis, idea development, as well as two-way communication between the reader and the reading (Goertel, 2018). Reading is not an easy skill to master because it involves many processes in it (Chettri and Rout, 2013). Need a habit in reading activities so that they can go through the reading process smoothly and effective. Interest in reading needs to be grown first so that reading can be achieved become a habit for students, especially reading scientific articles.

Scientific articles are unique writing and integrated from facts or evidence that are outside the author and personal understanding resulting from the author's thoughts (Hamid, 2001). The use of scientific articles is very important for students, because by reading scientific articles it will add insight and knowledge of these students. Scientific articles are also a reference for students to complete their college assignments.

The study about the correlation between reading interest and students ability to find the main idea in a short text a study of second year students' at SMAN 4 Malang was conducted by Fitriani (2008). This graduating paper is conducted to find out the level of reading interest and their ability to find main idea in a short text. The finding of this research shows that there was significant correlation between reading interest and students ability to find the main idea in a short text.

Second, research by Ewo Priyo Susanto (2017) about the correlation between students' reading interest and students' reading comprehension. The sample of the research consisted of thirty students of second grade at SMAN 1 Punggur. The results of this research showed that the coefficient correlation was 0.673 and coefficient influences value of both variables was 0.434. It was shown when the students got high score in interest score, they also got high score for their reading comprehension. Based on the results of the research it could be concluded that there was correlation between students' reading interest and their reading comprehension. By having high reading interest, students were able to read better than those who have low interest.

The last previous study was the correlation between students reading interest and reading ability at the first year students of SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Sendang Agung Lampung Tengah conducted by Nurul Habibah (2013). The research only focused on wheter there was correlation between reading interest and reading ability. The results show that r observed was higher than r critical,

that was $0.74 > 0.37$. This score proves that hypothesis null (H_0) is rejected and alternative hypothesis (H_a) is consequently accepted.

Therefore, this study investigates the correlation between reading interest and reading ability in several ways. First, previous study only focused on reading interest in general, it was not explained what reading material was the object of research. This study focuses on the interest in reading scientific articles. Second, the sample of research in the previous study was senior high school students, in this study the sample to be studied are college students. Students at the university should have a wide and unlimited source information. But sometimes a lot of students think that books are the only source of information that can be used as a reference in doing assignments. Even though there are many other sources of information that can be taken, such as scientific articles.

Based on explanation above, the researcher would like to know the correlation between English students' reading interest in scientific articles and their reading ability, and researcher propose the research an titles: "The Correlation Between English Students' Reading Interest In Scientific Articles and Their Reading Ability".

1.2 Statement of Problems

Based on the background of the study, the research problem can be formulated as following “Is there any significant correlation between students’ reading interest in scientific articles and their reading ability?”

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the problem of the study, the main objective of this study is the researcher’s attempt to know the correlation between students’ reading interest in scientific articles and their reading ability.

1.4 Significant of the Study

By conducting this research, the researcher hopes that the research can give benefit to those who reads this research paper. To give support for students so that students enjoy in reading interest and reading ability, also to give information to English teachers about the correlation between students reading interest in scientific articles and their reading ability.

1.5 Hypothesis

Hypothesis is smart guess based on knowledge, but instant guess is not hypothesis. The hypothesis which is formulated in this study as follow:

a. H_0 : There is no significant relationship between X (students’ reading interest) and Y (students’ reading ability) variable. The hypothesis can be accepted if r value is lower than r table.

b. H_a : There is significant relationship between X (students' reading interest) and Y (students' reading ability) variable. The hypothesis can be accepted if r value is higher than r table.

1.6 Scope and Limitation

To avoid a general discussion, the scope must be limited in order can get focus and easy to understand the study. Here the study attempts to know the correlation between students' reading interest in scientific articles and their reading ability of English Department in IAIN Kediri. The subject of this study is the third semester students of IAIN Kediri. The limitation of this study is the researcher will not do the reading test face to face to assess the student's reading ability because of this covid condition, the researcher will do the test through online test.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

About the title of this research, the researcher shows the definition of some key terms to avoid misunderstanding and make the reader understand what the researcher writes.

1. Reading

According to Patel and Jain (2008), reading means to understand the meaning of printed words i.e written symbol. It means that reading is a way of getting the meaning or knowledge from the

printed page such as textbooks, newspaper, magazine, novel, article, etc.

2. Reading Interest

Interest is situation or condition of paying attention and enjoying in some activities and contents (Slamento, 2003). This definition tell us than an interest is shown by paying attention and enjoyment in any activities, including paying attention to interest in reading scientific articles.

3. Reading Ability

According to Johnson (2008), reading ability or reading comprehension is strategies readers use to retrieve information and construct meaning from expository text. They are thinking processes, broken down into steps, that are used to comprehend.