

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. Background study

Reading skill is one of the skills that should be the priority because from reading students can gain more information for themselves in learning (Retno Widowati, n.d.) For upper-secondary students, reading skills are crucial since it determines how well they acquire new material. Reading skills are also important for success in higher education and the workforce. In addition, strong reading skills can improve critical thinking and communication abilities. Students have a lot of trouble understanding when reading. As a result, having reading skills will enable them to learn new things, increase their vocabulary, and improve their communication abilities. As it is stated by (Ismail et al., 2017) reading is one of the receptive skills which is essential to be mastered by the students because it can improve students' general language skills in English and also it can improve students' English vocabulary. Students are better equipped to handle complicated texts and analyze the wealth of information they come across thanks to the improvement of their reading abilities.

As a result, having reading skills will enable them to learn new things, increase their vocabulary, and improve their communication abilities. Students are better equipped to handle complicated texts and analyse the wealth of information they come across thanks to the improvement of their reading abilities. Moreover, reading skills is not only essential for academic success but also for personal growth. By being able to comprehend complex texts, students can broaden their horizons and gain a better understanding of the world around them. They can explore different perspectives, cultures, and ideas through literature and nonfiction. Additionally, reading can also be a form of relaxation and entertainment, allowing students to escape from their daily routine and explore new worlds through the pages of a book. For example, a student who is able to comprehend complex texts may read a book about the history and culture of a foreign country, gaining insight into the lives of people from different backgrounds. They may also find solace in reading a fictional novel, allowing them to temporarily escape from the stress of their daily lives. Therefore, as teachers, we must have innovation and creativity in teaching. So, in order to increase students' interest in learning, teachers use the learning media as a tool for learning.

Currently, education is being improved mostly through complex and advanced innovative learning. Those of the educators are required to be able to integrate media and learning technology to create an interactive, memorable and fun classroom situation. Interactive learning by utilizing technology is carried out to improve student communication and can make it easier for them to understand the presentation of material easily through the use of digital platforms. Furthermore, the *Mentimeter* platform has its own advantages and charms since it has a variety of visuals and percentage displays that draw attention, instill confidence, and increase student learning results.(Samad & Munir, 2022)

Learning media is defined as a tool of hardware or software which used to support learning process so that the goals of learning can be achieved (Puspitarini & Hanif, 2019). It is important for teachers to use learning media in the learning process because it can make students engage in the learning process. In addition, learning media can also enhance students' understanding of the material and provide a more interactive and dynamic learning experience. By incorporating various types of learning media, such as videos, interactive games, and simulations, teachers can create a more stimulating and effective learning environment. Therefore, it is crucial for educators to continuously explore and utilize various learning media to improve the quality of education and, ultimately, the academic success of their students. Moreover, incorporating technology in the classroom can also help students develop important digital literacy skills that are essential in today's society. By providing a diverse range of learning experiences, teachers can cater to different learning styles and enhance student engagement and motivation.

Using the *Mentimeter* application is a great way to incorporate technology and learning media into the classroom. It is reported that *Mentimeter* is an easy-to-use application that is free and does not require any installation nor download (Harris et al., 2018) (Puspa & Imamyartha, 2019) By using this platform, we can create a very fun and interactive presentation model or question model. in this application they have many interactive features and templates that can be edited according to the wishes of the presenter to make a visually attractive and interactive presentation.

Students' reading skills have been proven to improve as a result of the *Mentimeter* online application. This is because of its interesting and dynamic features,

which enable students to take an active role in their education. The tool also offers real-time feedback and evaluation, allowing teachers to keep track of their students' development and modify their teaching methods as necessary. Overall, the *Mentimeter web-based application* is a useful tool for teachers who want to improve their students' reading skills and foster a more engaging learning environment. Teachers may design a more individualized and efficient learning environment that encourages student achievement and engagement by utilizing its special features and capabilities.

Moreover, the *Mentimeter web-based application* is highly customizable, allowing teachers to tailor their lessons to meet the specific needs and learning styles of their students. *Mentimeter* is equipped with a presentation menu with various models such as multiple choice, word cloud, open-ended, and others (Harimurti, 2018) which can be used to engage students and promote active participation. Furthermore, the real-time feedback provided by the application enables teachers to quickly identify areas where students may be struggling and provide targeted support and guidance. With its user-friendly interface and powerful features, the *Mentimeter web-based application* is a valuable resource for educators seeking to enhance their teaching practices and improve student outcomes. Overall, incorporating *Mentimeter* into reading instruction can be an effective way to enhance student engagement, comprehension, and skill development. Moreover, *Mentimeter's* real-time feedback feature allows teachers to track their students' progress and adjust their teaching strategies accordingly. This means that teachers can tailor their instruction to meet the unique needs of each student, providing targeted support where it is needed most. Besides that, *Mentimeter's* user-friendly interface makes it easy for teachers to create and customize quizzes and polls, ensuring that they are aligned with their curriculum and learning objectives. As a result, students are more likely to stay engaged and motivated throughout their reading activities, leading to improved outcomes and increased academic success.

*Mentimeter* is a *website-based application* that can be used to carry out learning activities or seminars. The benefit of *mentimeter* is to be able to give the effect of student interest during the learning process as a support media for data collection, a media for opinions, and a media for the creation of interactive issues (Nidaul Khasanah & Sari, 2021b). According to (Lusiani, 2021) *Mentimeter* is a *web-based application* that can be downloaded easily from a cell phone or laptop. besides that, this *meterimeter* application can be used for various contexts, such as conferences and meetings. The

Student Response System (SRS) can provide direct feedback on the content being taught, inform learning to students, practice directly and make students more active (Trees & Jackson, 2007). This interactive tool can be used to engage students in real-time polls, quizzes, and surveys, making the learning process more dynamic and stimulating. By using *Mentimeter*, another advantage is that teachers can compile computer-based and paper-based questions at the same time. (Seraj & Wong, 2014) Moreover, this application can also help students develop important digital literacy skills that are essential in today's society. Thus, the utilization of *Mentimeter* in the classroom enhances the quality of learning since it encourages the students to interact and discuss specific topics, even the most introverted students (Crump & Sparks, 2018)

The researchers conclude from the discussion above that the employment of *mentimeters* in instruction is crucial. It may be more pleasurable and entertaining to educate online. The teacher and the students can both view and remark on the compositions of the pupils. The kids may learn from the opinions of their peers, which brings the lesson to life. In light of the aforementioned context, researchers need to investigate the effect of *Mentimeter* in teaching reading texts to students at MA AL-FATICH SURABAYA who use an online learning system. This research was carried out at MAS AL-FATICH SURABAYA using learning media. The researchers were interested in performing a study with a title based on their background. "The effect of *mentimeter web-based application* to EFL students reading skills".

## **1.2. Problem statement.**

Based on the background above, we can conclude that of the many students at MAS al-fatich Surabaya, there is a very great lack of interest in learning English. because, according to this student, it is very difficult to understand meaning, reading, and writing. So, in this learning environment, students feel bored and lack a spirit of learning because of this factor. Therefore, the researchers tried to use *mentimeter* media to find out students' reading abilities. Specifically, the research problem is about "Is there significant of *mentimeter* application on improving reading skills for the 10th grade of senior high school at MAS AL-FATICH SURABAYA".

### **1.3. The purpose study**

Based on the explanation of the researchers above, the purpose of this writing is to learn about the effects of using the app *mentimeter* to improve the reading skill of students in the 10th grade at MAS AL-FATICH SURABAYA.

### **1.4. Significance of the study**

The results of this study are expected to be useful both in theoretical and practical terms. In this case, those involved in teaching English would create more accurately read material that would support the theory of development. It's interesting if a *mentimeter* application can cultivate reading materials that can lure many teachers to apply this media in their teaching. It can also help students understand the meaning of easy-to-understand text. There are two meanings in this study: theoretical and practical.

Theoretically, the researchers first expected that the results of the use of *mentimeter* applications to enhance this reading ability could inspire readers to develop other English language skills. For other researchers, this research could also be taken into other action research for the implementation of reading skills.

Practical significance: in this research, we are hopeful that this app can make a good contribution to a teacher's teaching in high school. This app can be useful as a brand media for teaching English. The second group are students, who can easily and pleasantly absorb the submitted material and its components.

### **1.5. Scope and limitation of the study**

The scope of this research is to develop the ability to read students for the 10th grade of senior high school in MAS Al-Fatich Surabaya using a *mentimeter web-based application*. The final product will contain readings in the form of a text and its structure. There will be general classification and description in the text. The researchers will develop materials based on the curriculum and syllabus, consisting of materials and exercises related to the text.

## 1.6. Hypothesis of the study

The researcher's hypothesis that:

H<sub>0</sub> There is no significant effect on student activity during learning activities.

H<sub>1</sub> There is a significant effect on students' reading skills after using a *mentimeter* application.

## 1.7. Definition of key terms

There are three keywords to help the reader determine the focus of this study: (1) reading skills; (2) *mentimeter*; and (3) *web-based applications*.

Reading skills are included in the essential ability to master one of the skills. By reading, students can improve their general language skills in English and their English dictionary. Therefore, with the presence of reading skills, they will acquire knowledge, expand their vocabulary, and also be able to develop skills in communication. Reading skills are a good way to get new ideas, information, and experiences to help the students enrich their insight into the English language.

*Mentimeter* is an interactive learning media. *Mentimeter* is an Audience Response System (ARS), and this media provides many features within it that can be used by the presenter to interact with his audience. Word clouds are one of the features in the media *mentimeter* most commonly used. This feature can help presenters or teachers collect data from their audiences in a short time. In addition, using this media does not require downloading the application first because, by arranging the presentation, it only needs to open on his website and he can share a code or link accessible to his audience. After learning is completed, presenters can download the results of the discussion to evaluate them in the available format.

A *web-based application* is an application that is connected to a network through a web browser when connected to the Internet network. A *web-based application* is very easy to access because it is not necessary to install the application; just the Internet media network can be used easily.