

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer would present about an introduction of the study, it is divided into several parts: background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, scope and limitation and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Reading is one of skills that have to be mastered by students among listening, speaking and writing. Students will get more information through reading. It is supported by Harvey (2012) stated that reading as one of important skills that have to be acquired by students who learn English language. Reading is a way of getting information from something that is written. Reading involves recognizing the symbols that make up a language. Information gained from reading can include entertainment, especially when reading fiction or humor quoted from “wikipedia.com”.

Meanwhile, Nunan (1989) mentioned there are two aspects of reading are mechanical skill and comprehension skill. Mechanical skill covers the recognition of words sound, phonetics and spellings (reading aloud and reading slowly). Comprehension skill is the recognition of the messages or information in a reading text. The two aspects of reading are very important to be learned in order to recognize the word sounds and also to comprehend the information in the text.

In reading activity, students not only reading aloud but they have to understand the content or main idea related to the text. Furthermore, Anderson (1985) also stated that reading is the process of constructing meaning from written

text. Based on the statements above, the writer can conclude that the purpose of reading is to catch the content or main idea from the text, it is called reading comprehension. Reading comprehension is very important because to gain the information or the content of the text, the reader should understand about the meaning of words, phrases or sentences. It is supported by Mehpour, Razmjoo, & Kian (2011) stated that comprehension is understands the meaning of something. Snow (2002) also supported that reading comprehension is the process of simultaneously extracting and constructing meaning through interaction and involvement with written language. Comprehension is important in teaching and learning activities because it can influence students' success in the process of learning. Besides that, many factors influence reading comprehension. According to Torgesen (2006) stated that difficulties students in reading influenced by Oral language skills (vocabulary, linguistic comprehension) and Motivation (Motivation to understand and interest in task and materials).

In senior high school students especially for the first grade, most of them are 15-16 years old. In this case, students are in the teenagers. According to Hurlock stated that teenagers has puberty's period, usually in this period called "negative phase". He also mentioned many tendencies of negative phase; one of them is boredom. Based on the statement above, the writer can conclude that teenagers have problem by themselves, they will easy to bore with uninteresting thing. At senior high school level, students are expected to comprehend many types of text. Based on the school curriculum there are many kinds of text that should be acquired by students for the first grade. Such as: narrative text, descriptive text and news item.

Senior High School of SEMEN Gresik is the place where the writer did a study about reading comprehension. The writer has conducted an interview to the teacher and gave questionnaires to students. The English teacher in this school stated that the students of this school were weak of reading comprehension especially reading narrative texts for X-1, X-2, X-4, X-7 classes it can be seen from their score in reading. A narrative text is the text that has to be learned by the students as reading materials. In this text, they have to comprehend the main idea and other information of stories. In narrative text, the students should find the main ideas or contents of Orientation, Complication, Resolution and Reorientation (Cohen, 2000). In Orientation the students need to know the scene and the characters. Then, in complication, the students should find the problems happen in the story. For resolution, the students will find how the problems are solved. The Last, reorientation refers to the conclusion of a story.

Based on the result of interview and questionnaire, in teaching reading at Senior High School students in Semen Gresik for the first grade especially of narrative text's material, there are two problems that faced by students, those are: first, students are lazy to read the text or read not seriously because the text too long and uninterested (the story is general such as; Malin Kundang, Toba Lake etc). They prefer to read a book with pictures than textbook because pictures can help them to comprehend the text and can build their motivation also interesting. Second, students are difficult to comprehend the text although they have read because they less vocabulary. So, they diffculted to answer questions related to the text. Based on the problem above, the writer can conclude that the ability of students in reading are still low because the course book that they used is

uninteresting yet, the stories of narrative text are general also written in paragraphs or long text. In teaching narrative text teachers cannot be separated by media because media is one of the important things that make students have new spirit and interest, motivate and stimulate in the process of learning and help teacher to deliver material until easy to be understood by students stated Sadirman at all (2003).

Comic strip is a sequence of pictures that arranged in interrelated panels to display brief humor or narrative, often serialized, with text in balloons and captions quoted from “wikipedia.com”. It means that comic strip is media of sequence picture to tell humor or story in the boxed by using balloons for the text. According to Waluyanto (2005:51) stated that comic as media in the process of learning is a tool to deliver materials. In this case, learning is a process of communication between students and comic as media in the process of learning. According to Sudjana and Rivai (2009: 69) stated that pictures are identical to fun, interest and concrete things. It can attract the reader to read the story further. If the reader is motivated to read the whole story, then the implicit aim of reading the comic (entertainment or education) can be reached easily.

Based on the statements above, comic strips can be a potential media in teaching and learning process to motivate students’ interest because comic will combine pictures and text arranged in a plot of the pictures’ story. It can make materials easy to be accepted and easy to be followed and memorized by students. Among visuals genre, comic strips is more communicative, popular, accessible and readable.

Study investigating by Darmawan (2013) in his thesis by the title *The Use of Comic Strips to Enhance Students' Comprehension of Narrative Text*. He did the study in the eighth grade students of Junior High School in Bandung consist of two classes contained 60 students. Students often asked to read a text and let them answer teachers' question based on the text, in order to motivate students to read he used comic strips. The result showed that the use of comic strip indicated can support reading comprehension acquisition. Besides that, the use of comic strip is effective for students. Students were interested, motivated and fun in teaching learning process.

Based on the explanation above, the writer wants to develop reading material of narrative using comic strip as a media to teach reading in order student more interest to read because comic strip has good appear than course book in general, so it can make students fun and easy to comprehend the content or main idea of the story.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the study above, the problem statement is how to develop reading material of narrative using comic strip for the first grade at senior high school students in Gresik.

1.3 Objective of the Study

The objective of the study to develop reading material of narrative using comic strip for the first grade at senior high school students in Gresik to be more

interest, fun, enjoy and easy to comprehend the content or main idea of the text by using comic.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The result of this study is expected to give contribution in teaching and learning reading and give benefit for the theoretical and practical significance as follow:

For theoretical significance, first, the writer expects that the result of this study is expected to give contribution to others to be more creative and innovative in developing English lesson especially narrative text lesson.

For the practical significance, first is for teacher, the result of this study can make teacher more creative to set reading materials for students and to teach reading easily. Second is for student, this media of learning can improve their motivation and achievement in comprehending narrative text material. The last is for school, it can give positive input especially for the head master to raise the quality of English lesson in the school.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

In order to make the discussion more specific, the writer gives the scope of this study in developing reading material of narrative using comic strip for the first grade at senior high school students in Gresik. The limitation, the writer will develop materials based on the curriculum and syllabus KTSP consist of narrative text materials and questions related to the text. The materials that would be developed are for one semester.

The writer chooses narrative text especially for stories of “Kebomas”, “Kramat Inggil”, “Tlogopatut”, “Balongpanggang”, “Let Me Love You”, and “Arabian Princess with Three Sheiks”, “The Song of Blue Whale” also “Porcupine Balloon Fish”. The writer chooses more stories of legend based on the student’s expectation and interview to the teacher, she tries to focus in students’ environment in taking story of legend because students often visit in the local historical place in their region but they did not understand how the story of this place created.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid any misunderstanding about the problems the writer defines as follow:

1. Reading comprehension is reading a text loudly or silently and find out the main purpose of the authors’ write, catch more information from the text and understand it well.
2. Narrative text is stories written to entertain the readers or audiences include of many characters and sequence generic structure of the text.
3. Comic strip is series of pictures drawn inside boxes that tell a story and the text written in the balloons.