

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### **A. Background of the Study**

Now days, international relationship becomes the fundamental need for all nations all over the world. It is impossible for a nation to stand by its self without any help from other countries. All countries depend on each other in many aspect of life. In modern era. It is important to communicate with other countries. In this case a language is needed to maintain international communication.

There are many languages in the world and every language is different one to another's. Sometimes, one language influences another one. Language is one of the subject for the students at any school. People learn many languages to communicate with that people from other countries. It is a vital area of study for a better understanding. Learning a language is a window to the outside world, especially English.

English is an international language. It plays a very important role in all aspects of human life such as in the science and technology, education, politic, economic, etc. In short, all nations often use English even in science and technology. The government of Indonesia has decided that English is the first foreign language and put it in the school curriculum. English as a subject matter in school covers the four basic language skills. Such as speaking, writing, listening and reading.

Reading English is very important for student, because text books for most sciences and technologies are written in English. This means that learners are expected to be able to understand English text books. In this case, learners of English as a foreign language often need reading ability.

Reading ability is useful for learners to comprehend the text. In reading comprehension, there should be interaction between the reader and the writer. The writer expresses his ideas in the form of written language and the reader interpret the writer's idea. This is called communication. In other words, reading becomes a bridge for understanding English books they read.

Reading comprehension is the heart of reading evaluation in the most school. Comprehension test are instruments for assessing the ability of a reader to understand the content of a selection read. Teachers can build comprehension tests by constructing various kinds of reading matter or by writing short selections following up questions on the facts or ideas given (Kennedy, 1991: 282). Comprehension is difficult to evaluate because it involves so many different kinds of skills. Though observations now ever, teachers can get a general indication of the pupil and ability in understanding reading text (Kennedy, 1981: 268).

Reading ability involves a variety of skills, which are the keys to comprehend the text. Based on the above description, students should master those reading skill.

Knowing the fact that testing comprehensions is difficult, the writer is interested observing the reading ability for SLTP Islam Sudirman Tengar

Semarang, which is focused on the reading skills. Therefore, the writer will choose a research entitled: *A Descriptive Study on the Reading Ability of the Second Year Students of SLTP Islam Sudirman Tengeran, Semarang in Academic Year 2005 / 2006.*

#### **B. Problem Statement of the Study**

The writer formulates the problem as follow:

1. What is the reading ability of the second year students of SLTP Islam Sudirman Tengeran?
2. What is the most difficult reading skill faced by the second year student of the SLTP Sudirman Tengeran in understanding reading text?

#### **C. Objective of the Study**

Based on the formulation of the problem mentioned above, the objectives of the research are:

1. To describe the reading ability of the second year students of SLTP Islam Sudirman Tengeran, Semarang.
2. To describe the most difficult reading skill faced by the second year students of SLTP Islam Sudirman Tengeran in understanding text.

#### **D. Benefit of the Study**

It is known that everything done always has advantages. The are two benefits as follow:

1. Theoretical Benefit
  - a. The result of the study can give a valuable contribution to the attempt of improving English teaching and learning.

- b. The result of the study can help English teacher to prepare appropriate teaching learning process in reading ability.
- c. The result of the study will improve the quality of the students reading ability of SLTP Islam Sudirman Tenganan.

## 2. Practical Benefit

- a. For the readers:

It is expected that they will get a large knowledge of reading ability.

- b. For the English teachers:

They can get large more knowledge about students' reading ability in teaching English.

- c. For the students:

They can get knowledge about new information of reading ability.

## **E. Research Paper Organization**

In order to make this research understood, the writer divides it into the following: Chapter I is introduction. This chapter deals with the background of the research, problem of the study, limitation of the study, the objective of the study, the benefit of the study, and research paper organization.

Chapter II is review of related literature. This chapter covers previous, study the notion of reading ability, the definition of reading, the purposes of reading, the type of reading, the model of reading process, the main text type, reading techniques, reading techniques and exercises types, curriculum.

Chapter III is research method that consists of type of research, place and time of the study, the subject of the study, technique of collecting data, and the techniques of analyzing data.

Chapter IV is data analysis and discussion of the data finding. Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion.