

**AN ANALYSIS ON THE COMPATIBILITY OF READING TEXTS
OF *LET'S TALK* FOR THE FIRST YEAR STUDENTS OF
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL WITH THE SCHOOL BASED
CURRICULUM**



RESEARCH PAPER

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by

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In Indonesia, English as a foreign language is not only used as a means of communication and maintaining relationship with other nations but also as a subject learned at school. By studying English, it is hoped that Indonesian people can keep pace with the progress in the world. People are also expected to be able to master science and technology needed in national development. In the recent years, the study of English continues to occupy an important place in our educational curriculum. It is regarded as the first foreign language to be taught at elementary school as a local content, and at secondary school as an additional subject.

Beside the curriculum, the presence of a text book is necessary to support the teaching learning process (Brown, 1994: 145). The most obvious and common material to support language instruction comes through text book. It means that text book is the most common factor that support the success of teaching learning process. Text books are best seen as a source in achieving aims and objectives that have already been set in terms of learner needs (Cunningsworth, 1995: 7). In other words, a text book means a created material designed as materials for teaching learning process in order to increase the learners' knowledge and experience.

A textbook as a teaching medium is really needed to present the material in school. In English teaching, it supports the teaching-learning process. The appropriate English textbook is very important for the teacher to support the English teaching and learning process.

Reading skill is one of the four skills contained in textbook as the material. It is very important in English teaching-learning process. Teaching reading is to develop basic comprehension skill, so that students can read and understand texts of general nature, to be able to use reading to increase their general knowledge, to be able to decide the reading purpose and to adopt their methods of reading, and to develop the ability to read critically.

Nowadays, there are many English textbooks published to fulfill the need to learn English. Because of this, English teachers have to choose a textbook that is appropriate with the learners, because there is no perfect book that can fulfill various kinds of learners needs. As Cunningsworth (1995: 5) maintains “no course book designed for a general market will be absolutely ideal for particular group of learners”. Therefore, the analysis of English textbook is really needed to get the English textbook that is suitable with the learners’ needs.

There are many English textbooks for Junior High School published by different publishers. The writer chooses *Let’s Talk* for SMP 1. The textbook is published by PAKAR RAYA Publisher. There are many reasons why the writer chooses this book. Firstly, the book is used in many schools such as SMP Muhammadiyah 8, SMP Bintang Laut, and SMPN 1 Gatak. Secondly,

the book is designed to fulfill the requirement of the English syllabus, which is matched with School-based Curriculum. Next, the book contains many exercises needed to improve the English learners' skill. Besides, some English teachers consider that the book is suitable with the learners needs.

The standard of material English competency for Junior High School is the students are expected to be able to comprehend various meaning in written texts in the forms of descriptive, narrative, and recount. Descriptive text describes a particular person, place, or thing. Narrative text is used to amuse, entertain, and to deal with factual or vicarious experiences in different ways. Recount text is used to retell events for the purpose of informing or entertaining. Therefore a variety of texts in the English course for Junior High School must concern with the three types of the texts.

In this research, the writer emphasizes her analysis on the material of reading texts. There are many textbooks rely on the teacher to present a reading exercise and reading texts often used not just for practicing reading, but also for presenting new language. That is one of the reasons, the writer chooses to analyze *Let's Talk* textbook especially on reading material.

The writer compares the material of reading texts in the textbook with School-based Curriculum, whether the reading texts in the textbook are compatible with School-based Curriculum. Based on the reasons, the writer decides to conduct a research paper entitled **AN ANALYSIS ON THE COMPATIBILITY OF READING MATERIAL OF *LET'S TALK* TEXT BOOK WITH THE SCHOOL BASED CURRICULUM.**

B. Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study, the problems of the study are formulated as follows:

1. Are the reading texts compatible with those required in School-based Curriculum?
2. Do the reading texts facilitate the students to achieve the reading competencies?

C. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are:

1. To clarify the types of texts and reading texts in the textbook entitled *Let's Talk* for SMP 1".
2. To describe whether the reading texts in the textbook entitled *Let's Talk* for SMP 1 are suitable with School-based Curriculum or not.
3. To describe whether the reading text facilitate the students to achieve the competencies or not.

D. Benefit of the Study

1. Theoretical benefits
 - a. The result of this research can give input to improve the English textbook especially for reading materials so that the next English textbook can be designed better which put genres as the main tool in language learning today.

- b. The result of the study can be used as the reference for those who want to evaluate the other textbooks.
2. Practical benefits
- a. The writer hopes that the teachers will know the appropriate textbook that can be used in teaching-learning process, and also the teachers know how to evaluate a textbook.
 - b. The teachers know how far the textbook follows the curriculum demand.

E. Limitation of the Study

The writer focuses her research only on the types of reading texts in the English textbook entitled *Let's Talk* for SMP 1 used for first year students of Junior High School-based on School-based Curriculum.

F. Research Paper Organization

The organization of his research paper is arranged as follows:

Chapter I is introduction. It consists of background of the study, problem of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, limitation of the study and research paper organization.

Chapter II is review of related literature. It covers previous study, English text book, school based curriculum, genre, and reading comprehension skill.

Chapter III is research method. It discusses the research type, data and source, method of collecting data, and technique for analyzing data.

Chapter IV is data analysis and discussion. It presents the data analysis and discussion.

Chapter V presents conclusion and suggestion based on the discussion of the research finding.