

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

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

Teaching language skills in English Department is a very important thing, because in English there are four language skills which should be understood by the students. Those four skills are reading, speaking, listening, and writing. Because of the importance of those skills, the various methods are needed in teaching English. In college, English is used as a second language especially in English Department of University Muhammadiyah of Surakarta. Teaching foreign language is not an easy work. There is a different structural system so it has more attention in transferring material. Indonesian students will get difficulties in learning English because they do not really understand the structural system.

In Indonesia, English is a foreign language. People of Indonesia feel difficult in learning English. There are different structural system and vocabulary. In other words, they are interested in learning English, they want to know international language like English and they want to get unique structural systems. Learning English involves the four language skills; reading, writing, speaking and listening. Reading is one of the important skills, with reading people can know everything in the world. English reading is learned by all grades in education, because English is a primary lesson.

Reading is a key to know all things in the world. Reading can be said as a primary way to access all knowledge and information around the world. Reading makes us have more knowledge and information. Reading makes us know everything which we do not know before. Through reading we can expand our view about things, people and events. So reading must be taught to all people and all ages. With reading mastery, everybody can dominate the world.

Reading is one of the skills in learning English. Reading is a complex way in learning. In reading, the students should have a competence to comprehend and understand text. Students should understand the structural system and vocabulary so they can understand and comprehend the text. Mastering the structural system and vocabulary make the students easier to understand the meaning and the message of the text.

Reading is one of language skills that are learned by understanding not only the content but also the pronunciation and the intonation. To be effective in reading, a reader should have knowledge, knowledge of the language system, and also literacy skill. The lecturer should develop skills in order that their students could use skills to communicate or express their thought, feeling, and opinion in English. The success in education is mostly influenced by their success in reading.

Teaching reading in Indonesia focuses on the students' ability in communication. The ability to communicate covered the four skills in learning language. The skills are interrelated each other. Students should have the abilities in reading and listening to support their speaking and writing conversely. When Indonesian students master these four skills, they can learn language easily.

Students should have mastery on reading skill. Good achievement in reading is important for the students. Students will get information and ideas which can enrich their vocabulary and ideas. To enrich their vocabulary and ideas, the English lecturer needs appropriate methods in teaching reading, in order to produce good reading ability. The lecturer usually has some methods in the teaching-learning process. Teaching methods are needed in teaching-learning process especially in teaching reading. Interesting method in teaching-learning make students comfort and have good spirit to join the class.

In that case, the lecturer is supposed to be creative in developing their teaching-learning process to create good atmosphere. To improve the students' reading skill, the lecturer should give attention to the elements of reading and make the lesson more exciting. Lecturer also should have at their fingertips a set of exercises, tasks or activities that they can use with their classes whenever they use English. In teaching-learning process, reading has become the major skill since the students who have good capability in reading will be able to expand their knowledge easily.

Students must master reading skill especially in English reading. Students who have mastery on English reading will understand everything that they need universally, so the lecturer must help the students to have the good ability of reading. To get a better result on teaching reading, teaching has to be developed by improving the quality of the lecturer and learners' communication because they will manage the classroom condition.

Teaching language skills in English Department is a very important thing, because in English there are four language skills which should be understood by the students. Those four skills are reading, speaking, listening, and writing. Because of the importance of those skills, the various methods are needed in teaching English. Various methods in teaching make students feel enjoy the class and the teaching-learning process can run well. In English Department of UMS, students are taught all about English.

The second semester students of English Department who just study for a short time in university, so they still have less knowledge of English compared with the upper semester students. The writer is interested to analyze the teaching-learning process of the second semester students especially in reading. Reading in English Department is an important subject which has developed until fourth semester. Specific skills are needed by the English Department students to comprehend reading compared with students of other departments who do not have basic knowledge about English.

Based on the background above the writer decides to carry out a research entitled: **A STUDY ON THE METHOD OF TEACHING READING AT THE SECOND SEMESTER OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT OF MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA IN 2011/2012 ACADEMIC YEAR.**

**B. Limitation of the Study**

In this research, the writer limits the study of the teaching-learning process of Reading at the second semester of English Department of UMS which focuses on the methods and the strength and weaknesses of the methods.

**C. Problem Statement**

The problems of this research are as follows:

1. What are the methods used in teaching-learning process of Reading to the second semester of English Department at UMS?
2. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the methods used by the lecturer?
3. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the methods for the students?

**D. Objective of the Study**

The objectives of the study are:

1. To describe the methods used in teaching-learning process of Reading to the second semester of English Department at UMS.
2. To describe the strengths and weaknesses of the methods used by the lecturer
3. To describe the strengths and weaknesses of the methods for the students.

## **E. Benefit of the Study**

There are two kinds of benefit of the study, namely:

### **1. Practical Benefit**

There are some practical benefits:

#### **a. For the lecturer**

The result of the research gives additional input for the lecturer especially in the method of teaching Reading to the second semester of English Department of UMS. The lecturer can evaluate their teaching practice and solve some weaknesses in their teaching.

#### **b. For the students**

The result of this research will enrich the students' knowledge all about method of teaching Reading, especially in the second semester of English Department of UMS.

#### **c. For the other prospective researchers**

They will get more knowledge and information about descriptive study on teaching-learning process of Reading to the second semester of English Department of UMS which focuses on the methods and the strengths and weaknesses of the methods. They can use this research as the reference for the next research.

### **2. Theoretical Benefit**

The writer hopes that this research as one as of references for another researchers who conduct the same object with different perspective.

## **F. Research Paper Organization**

The writer organizes this research paper by dividing it into five chapters. Each of them is concerned with different issues but it is related to each other:

Chapter I is introduction, which presents the background of study, limitation of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, benefit of the study and research paper organization.

Chapter II is review of related literature that contains previous study, notion of reading, notion of teaching reading, principles of teaching reading, method of teaching reading, active learning, wall poster, jigsaw learning, and drilling.

Chapter III is research method which deals with type of the research, object and subject of the study, data and data source, method of collecting data, and technique for analyzing data.

Chapter IV is research finding and discussion. It discusses of data analysis and discussion of the result.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion. It consists of the conclusion and suggestion of the research.