

CHAPTER V

DISCUSSION

This chapter is devoted to the discussion about the previous or existing theories or findings with the findings of the study. Measuring the readability is to help someone in knowing the readability level of text for certain reader. In this study, readability formula is used to predict the difficulty of text which affects its readability.

A. Flesch Reading Ease Scale formula

Flesch Reading Ease is a formula used to measure readability. Readability refers to the degree to which texts are considered to be readable by a target population (Rudell, 2008:58). The term will show easy or difficult a text is to be read and understood by its readers. It is important to assess the right level of readability level for the right reader or student level. In this case, the researcher discusses the analysis result of reading text in English textbook entitled "*Forward an English (Course for Vocational School Students Grade XI)*". The researcher has measured all of the reading texts in English textbook. The textbook consists of 13 reading texts. One of the formulas used by the researcher to measure the readability of 13 reading texts is Flesch Reading Ease Scale formula. Based on the results, there are four categories of readability level of reading texts which found in this research based on Flesch Reading Ease Scale formula.

1. Readability Level Range Score 60 – 70

Based on the result finding, there are 7 reading texts that include in this level; *“Smoking Ban in Public Places, Why do we need enough sleep?, Public Transport is a Real Winner, Making Flat Glass, How Does the Water Cycle Work?, Text D, and Text E”* categorized as readability level for the result range score 60 – 70. It can be classified into “Standard” level.

2. Readability Level Range Score 50 – 60

Based on the result finding, there are three reading texts which belongs to this level, they are *“Fast food, Text A, and Should We Wear a Protection When We are Under the Sun?”* categorized as readability level for the result range score 50 – 60. It can be classified into “Fairly Difficult” level.

3. Readability Level Range Score 30 – 50

Based on the result finding, the reading text entitled *“Playing Extreme Sports”* categorized as readability level for the result range score 30 - 50. It can be classified into “Difficult” level. Actually, when the text belong to “Difficult” level, it is created for some Senior high school or college.

4. Readability Level Range Score 0 – 30

Based on the result finding, there are 2 reading texts, those are *“Text B and Text C”* categorized as readability level for the result range score 0 – 30. It can be classified into “Very Difficult” level. When the

texts belong to “Difficult” level, it is created for “College graduate” and to the estimated school is for college students.

B. Flesch Kincaid Grade formula

Based on the research results using readability measurement instruments of the Flesch Kincaid Grade formula show that the 13 reading texts also had different result. There were 7 text (54%) have low readability level; *Why Do We Need Enough Sleep?*, *Public Transport is a Real Winner*, *Making Flat Glass*, *How Does the Water Cycle Work?*, *Text E*, *Fast Food*, *Should We Wear a Protection When We are Under the Sun?*. Those 7 reading texts belong to range level for 7th - 10th grade students. Then, other 2 texts, *Text B and Text C* (15%) have high readability for the Vocational School in a grade XI. Those two texts are actually appropriate for college students because of the level of the reading text are too high or difficult for the students. There were only 4 reading text (31%) which is suitable for Vocational School in a grade XI. Thus, it can be concluded that the readability of English textbook entitled “*Forward an English (Course for Vocational School Students Grade XI)*” are low.

C. The Appropriateness of Reading Text

1. Readability Level Range Score 60 – 70

The reading texts entitled “*Smoking Ban in Public Places*, *Why do we need enough sleep?*, *Public Transport is a Real Winner*, *Making Flat Glass*, *How Does the Water Cycle Work?*, *Text D*, and *Text E*” are created or suitable for 8th or 9th junior high school. It is based on the theory proposed by Zakaluk (1988:21). But the researcher finds a different thing. The researcher realizes that in the English textbook, there are 7 reading

texts that belong to this level are not readable or suitable with the students grade XI. The reasons are that the language used in the reading text is too low or easy and the vocabularies and the structure of the texts are also too easy for them.

2. Readability Level Range Score 50 – 60

In this case, there are three reading texts; *“Fast food, Text A, and Should We Wear a Protection When We are Under the Sun?”* are created or suitable for 10th – 12th Vocational School students. There are 3 reading texts of 13 reading texts are readable or suitable with the XI grade students. The reasons are the English language level used in the text, the vocabulary, and the coherence of the text are equivalent for Vocational School students in grade XI.

3. Readability Level Range Score 30 – 50

The reading text entitled *“Playing Extreme Sports”* is created for some Senior high school or college. The researcher found that the “Playing Extreme Sports” text is not readable or suitable with the students in a grade XI. The reasons are the vocabulary used and the coherence of the texts are difficult to be understood by the students.

4. Readability Level Range Score 0 – 30

There are 2 reading texts; *“Text B and Text C”* which are created for “College graduate” and to the estimated school is for college students. Thus, the reading text B and Text C are not readable for the Vocational School in a grade XI. It is caused by the structure of the text, the

vocabulary, and the coherence are too high or difficult to be understood by the students of Vocational School in grade XI.

Paying attention on the result of the study, the readability of the texts cannot be separated from the factors behind it. It is about the students' prior knowledge about something presents in a text which may not catch their interest to read. It is because the text seems strange for them. This issue is in line with the statement of Brown (2001:299) who said that the reader brings the information, knowledge, emotion, experience, culture to the printed word. In the same case, other research has shown that student interest in the subject matter plays a significant role in determining the readability of materials (Pikulski, 2002:2).

In addition, the reader also has more understanding if the content is familiar with the things around them (Sadoski (2004:75). Moreover, the reasons why the texts are not suitable with the students in a grade XI due to its complexity covering the language used, the vocabulary, the structure, even its coherence. It is undeniable matter that linguistic factor also causes the text readability since they are foreign language learners. Day (1994) proposed some lexical factors which might influence the readability of text. They are the lexical, syntactic appropriateness, organization, discourse phenomenon, and the length of the text.

This matter is supported by the result of the study conducted by Budiarti (2014) that the other factors that we cannot avoid of readability case are physical factor which related to the condition of the students when they are required to read a text, the students' intelligence which might improve when the teacher is able to apply suitable method or procedure in teaching reading. Then, creating good atmosphere will also affect the students' willingness to read. The last is

psychological factor that plays as a vital aspect because it is related to the students' motivation to read (Richards & Schmidt, Johnson: 1998). The students will be difficult to be required to read if they do not realize the importance of reading.

However, regarding to all the result findings, it is very essential for the students in all level to always keep their reading to be able to gain as many as information from various sources. Reading also may improve the readers' sensitivity towards a text because a text is actually a message delivered in the form of written by the author as mentioned by Alderson (2001) that reading is the interaction between the reader and a text.

Regarding to this matter, the role of teacher to facilitate the students to read is necessary to improve the students' reading level and interest. As widely known that in teaching and learning process, reading is done not only for searching information but also to learn, to understand, to integrate information, to evaluate, to critique, and to use the information (Grabe, 2009:8). Therefore, teacher must teach the students the basic skill of reading. They also may apply various technique of reading in the instructional process. However, the students are also responsible for their own learning progress because sometimes the strategy of learning used by their teacher is not effective or suitable which make them bored. (Nurhayati, 2020).

Regarding to the textbook entitled "*Forward an English (Course for Vocational School Students Grade XI)*", it is needed to revise or reconstruct the content of the textbook. As elaborated in the previous theory stated by Tarigan & Djago Tarigan (2009:27:28) that criteria of a good text book are increasing the

reader enthusiasm which means that the textbook must catch the students' interest. Then, it can motivate to the reader and stimulate students' activity. Just imagine that the students are not motivated to read, the instructional activity cannot run well. Brown (2001:142) also argued that a good textbook has general content that deals with the authenticity of the language, the appropriateness of the topics, situation and context, and the proficiency of the right level.

It seems that using textbook has some disadvantages. Looking at this condition, the teachers should have initiative to construct or create their own reading material. However, authentic material for reading is something common nowadays that consider as interesting way to teach reading since the topics presented are familiar topics or phenomena happened in recent situation.