

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The researcher of the study provides some materials in this chapter. They are the background of the study, formulation of research question, purpose of the study, formulation of hypothesis, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and definition of key term.

1.1 Background of the Study

Learning English for Indonesian students is very important because English has become the international language. Also, there are so many benefits that someone can get when they are good in English. First, they will have more opportunities to get jobs because there are some business companies where English becomes the dominant language. It means that English is used more often there. Furthermore, if people master English, they will get wider knowledge. It happens because there are so many literatures written in English so people have to master English to understand those. Hence, learning English is very important.

English is not only spoken but also written. Thus, students should have four skills in English. They are speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Those skills are very important to be studied. Also, there are some English components that should be learned. They are vocabulary, grammar, and functions. To master English we should learn those skills and components.

However, in this research, the researcher will not discuss all of those, but reading.

One of the linguistic skills that language learners should master is reading. According to Gibbon (1993) reading can be described as an act of getting information from written text. Also, there is interaction between writers and readers. It implies that reading is an activity which involves interactions between writers and readers through written text. Furthermore, reading is very useful since it can enhance the readers' knowledge. Therefore, it can be seen that reading is very important and should be mastered by every language learner.

Reading has some purposes. There are some purposes of reading according to Fredrika and William (2002). First, reading to look for information, it implies that reading is an activity that is used to look for information through texts after that the information got can be arranged and we can share it with others. Next, not only reading is used to look for information, but also to learn from texts we are reading. Furthermore, reading can be used to critique texts so while we are reading we can also critique the texts. Hence, reading is important and it is not an activity which has no meaning in it.

From the purposes of reading above, it can be summarized some benefits of reading. First, reading brings wider knowledge. by reading, someone can get new information which makes their knowledge wider. Also, it strengthens memory and focus. Reading exercises brains since they are

trained to think. Therefore, reading can strengthen memory and focus so people will not forget something easily. Moreover, reading will make people's writings better. It happens because they will get materials and inspiration from the texts or books they have read. So the more you read, the better writing skill you will have. Another benefit is that reading can reduce stress. Every person often feels stressed during their days. Thus, they need something to do to forget or reduce their stress. One way that they can do is reading. Hence, it cannot be doubted that reading is a very useful activity.

There are many text types in reading. Some of them are descriptive and narrative texts. Rebecca (2003) states that narrative text can be described as a series of events organized chronologically. Things that should be considered in narrative text are senses of theme, plot, characters, events, and how they relate. Also, Anderson (2003) explains that narrative text can be defined as a text which tells a story in order to entertain the readers. Some things that are involved in narrative texts are characters, settings, and actions. Narrative text begins with the introduction of characters, settings and problems of it. The high point of the text is placed in the middle and it will be resolved in the end. Different from narrative text, descriptive one can be defined as a text which describes people, places, animals, or things. It is important for language learners to learn narrative and descriptive texts by understanding their purposes, characteristics and structures. By understanding those, reading will not be so difficult to do.

However, in language classes, it cannot be denied that some language learners feel it difficult to understand the text that they are reading. Some researchers find factors which cause students' difficulty in reading. Melandita (2019) explains some factors that cause reading issues among students are the lack of language proficiency, motivation, background knowledge of learners, reading process, and lack of reading strategies. Furthermore, Hidayati (2018) states that the most difficult thing that students face in reading is finding the main idea of the text. In addition, Radzuwan and Qarqez and Radzuwan (2017) explain that students' difficulties in reading are when they encounter ambiguous words, unfamiliar vocabulary, and lack of time to process the text cognitively. Thus, it is important for every English teacher to choose appropriate ways that they can use to help students solve their reading problems so that they can improve their reading skill.

There are some ways that the teacher can use to help students students improve their reading skill. One of them is by using Internet sources to teach reading. Here, the teachers will look for the materials on the Internet or Application then they will use those source to teach their learners. It is thought that using using that media can help learners' reading abilities.

There are some websites on the Internet that teachers can use as learning sources to help them teach reading to their students. One of those websites is Extensive Reading Central (ER-Central). ER-Central is a website which provides free reading and listening texts for those who want to improve their reading skill. Also, this site provides questions related to all texts so that the

readers can try to answer them in order to examine their understanding on the texts they have read. Furthermore, students can choose their reading level so that they will understand the texts they read are about. In addition, there are some games that the users can use to improve their vocabulary mastery. This site sure is useful.

According to the previous statements, the researcher used ER-Central as sources to teach reading. In this study, the students were asked to sign up into ER-Central site and then the researcher asked students to find a story that they want to read after that the students told the other students the summary and moral values of the stories they read in group. Also, they may answer questions related to the stories that they read provided by ER-Central. By using ER-Central, it is hoped that students will not be bored easily during reading class.

Actually there are some researchers who have discussed that teaching English by using online websites is effective. Rianggara (2015) in his study *“The Effectiveness of Using www.Englishspeak.com Learning Website in Improving Students’ Speaking Skill”* states that using online websites in teaching is effective since through the activity using www.englishspeak.com learning website, students’ speaking ability was enhanced. Also, Kartika Aprilia Ulfa (2020) in her study, *“The Influence of Using Web Blog Towards Students’ Writing Ability in Descriptive Text at the First Semester of the Tenth Grade at SMA Al Kautsar Bandar Lampung in the Academic Year of 2020/2021”* finds out that web blog make the students’ writing ability in

descriptive text enhance. Haron, Ibrahim, and Zaid (2015) in their study, "*E-Learning as a Platform to Learn English among ESL Learners: Benefits and Barriers*" say that learning English as the second language through e-learning may be beneficial for students. Moreover, Ta'amneh (2014) in his study, "*The Effect of Using Educational Websites on First Year Students' Achievement in English Grammar in Badr Community College*" states that using educational websites Achievement in English grammar in Badr Community College is effective. Ahlan (2021) in his study, "*The Use of E-Learning Media in English Language Teaching at 7th Grade Students in MTs Ma'arif NU 1 Wangon*" states that e-learning media is crucial in education, not just now, during the Covid 19 pandemic, but also for the coming generation. Furthermore, Abramova and Casablanca (2019) in their study, "*Exploring the Potential of online English Websites In Teaching English To Non-Linguistic Major Students: BreakingNewsEnglish As Example*" state that News websites enhance all linguistic processes and learning abilities. Ardillah (2019) in her study entitled "*Teaching Reading Using Extensive Reading Central Site*" states that Extensive Reading Central is effective for teaching reading. Another research has been conducted by Gestuti (2019) entitled "*Using Web (e-learning) as a Secondary Study in English Learning Process at Darwan Ali University Sampit*". She explains that website offers students an engaging and alluring learning environment that can aid in the improvement of their English skills. Those are some previous studies about Internet as sources of teaching reading. From those studies, the researcher wants to test the theory

that English educational online websites can help students on their reading skills.

Although those studies show that using Online websites has become support media which helps students learn English and develop their skills and using online websites to teach English is significantly effective, there is still few researchers who have discussed ER-Central website as sources for teaching reading. Also, the researcher chooses SMKN 1 Udanawu because the English teachers state that students still have their difficulties in reading and there is no teacher who has tried this way in teaching English. Moreover, in SMKN 1 Udanawu, students are able to bring phone which becomes support tool in this study. Thus, in this study, the researcher would like to investigate whether the previous study that was conducted by Ardillah (2019) that states Extensive Reading Central is effective for teaching reading and whether using ER-Central as sources for teaching reading is effective for improving students' reading skill at SMKN 1 Udanawu in narrative texts or not.

1.2 Formulation of Research Question

Based on the previous background of the study, the research question can be formulated as follows “Is there any significant difference score on the first grade students' reading achievement at SMKN 1 Udanawu that are taught by using Extensive Reading Central Website source and those that are not taught by using Extensive Reading Central Website source?”

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to find out the significant difference score on the first grade students' reading achievement at SMKN 1 Udanawu that were taught by using Extensive Reading Central Website source and those that were not taught by using Extensive Reading Central Website source.

1.4 Formulation of Hypothesis

The following can be used to formulate the research's hypothesis:

1. Null Hypothesis H_0

H_0 : There is no significant difference score on the first grade students' reading achievement at SMKN 1 Udanawu that are taught by using Extensive Reading Central Website source and those that are not taught by using Extensive Reading Central Website source.

2. Alternative Hypothesis H_a

H_a : There is significant difference score on the first grade students' reading achievement at SMKN 1 Udanawu that are taught by using Extensive Reading Central Website source and those that are not taught by using Extensive Reading Central Website source.

1.5 Significance of the Study

It is expected that the study's findings can be beneficial so that it can give contribution for English teaching-and-learning practically, especially for English teachers, students, and other researchers.

1.5.1 English teachers

It is hoped that this research will be beneficial for English teacher that using ER-Central website as sources for teaching reading is an alternative strategy.

1.5.2 Students

It is expected that by using ER-Central site as sources in teaching reading can help students to overcome their problems in reading.

1.5.3 Other researchers

It is hoped that this research will be beneficial for other researchers so that they are able to use this research as a reference for further studies.

1.6 Scope and Limitation of the Study

In this study, the researcher makes a limitation since there are two features provided by ER-Central and they are reading and listening. Therefore, this study focuses on the effectiveness of using Extensive Reading Central Website as teaching resources on students' reading achievement. Also since there are so many text types, this research focuses on the narrative text. The first grade students of SMKN 1 Udanawu are involved in this study.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

There are some definitions of key terms that the researcher made to avoid misunderstanding of the readers while reading this research entitled "The

Effectiveness of Extensive Reading Central Web as Learning Resource on Students' Reading Achievement in Narrative Text at the First Grade of SMKN 1 Udanawu" as follows:

1.7.1 Effectiveness

According to Erlendson (2002) effectiveness can be defined as the extent in which objectives are met. In this study, the effectiveness is if there is significant difference score between the experiment and control groups.

1.7.2 Extensive Reading Central Website

Extensive Reading Central is a site which provides free reading and listening texts for those who want to improve their reading skill. Also, this site provides questions related to all texts so that the readers can try to answer them in order to examine their understanding on the texts they have read. Furthermore, students can choose their reading level so that they will understand the texts they read are about. Also, ER-Central provides games so that the users will not feel bored easily.

1.7.3 Reading Narrative Text

Reading can be defined as an activity of getting information or knowledge through written words. Narrative text is a text which tells a story and its purpose is to entertain the readers.