

## **CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION**

### **A. Research Background**

Reading is a top priority in improving the quality of education which in turn has an impact on improving human resources. By reading, we would get a lot of information, as well as increase our knowledge and knowledge. Therefore, reading becomes a very important habit, meaning that every citizen must get used to reading. Based on Patel and Jain (2008: 113 – 114) states as follows: “Reading is an important activity in life with which one can update his/her knowledge. Reading skill is an important tool for academic success. Reading is the most important activity in any language class. Reading is not only a source of information and a pleasurable activity but also as a means of consolidating and extending one’s knowledge of the language. Reading is very necessary to widen the mind, again and understanding of the foreign culture”. Meanwhile, according to Alfiah (2014) people who like to read gain new knowledge and insights that would further increase their intelligence, so they are able to face life's challenges in the future. Reading is one of the demands in the life of modern society. Through reading activities we can know and master various things.

The purpose of reading according to Nurhadi (1987) that the purpose of reading would affect the acquisition of reading comprehension. If the stronger a person's purpose in reading, the higher the person's ability to understand what he reads. To achieve this, many aspects must be considered. Good text reading comprehension. These aspects relate to students' vocabulary mastery, students' interests, students' abilities to use effective reading strategies, teaching techniques, materials and media. From this area arise reading comprehension disorders. Comprehension becomes difficult when one or more of these aspects does not sufficiently support the reading process. At SMA N 1 Sukadana, several of these aspects become obstacles to students' reading comprehension. These aspects are students' vocabulary mastery, students' interest, and students' ability to use effective reading strategies and teaching techniques. Most students have a limited understanding of vocabulary, the main aspect that supports reading comprehension. Then, they are also less motivated in reading activities. They can not focus on what they read. The next question relates to reading strategies. The teacher teaches them some strategies, but they rarely use them because they prefer to use google translate to translate texts in their mother tongue. The final problem relates to teachers'

teaching techniques that fail to meet the needs of their students. Therefore, reading comprehension disorders cannot be overcome.

This of course leads to low levels of knowledge and information. Many Indonesian teenagers are still not aware of the importance of reading. In addition, youth are the next generation to maintain the dignity of the country. One must be able to think critically and be open-minded in order to be able to compete with regions and even other countries. It should be noted that there are several factors that cause the low interest in reading among adolescents in Indonesia. Likewise, no reading habit is developed from childhood. Second, educational facilities are not evenly distributed and there is a lack of quality educational facilities. It is undeniable that there are still many children who drop out of school and educational facilities that do not support teaching and learning activities around us. This indirectly hampers the development of quality literacy in Indonesia. As a result, the Master needed a way to solve the problem. One way that can be used by teachers is to use media that can improve students' reading skills. Marwatoen (2015) states that methods and media are important elements in the learning process. Furthermore, Marwatoen (2015) explains that interesting media can create an active and fun atmosphere for students so that it can arouse students' interest and motivation to learn. One of the media that can be used is image media. Image media is media in the form of images accompanied by words or sentences underneath. With this picture, students would be stimulated to know the meaning of the picture and try to read words or sentences. thus making students more active in learning.

Based on these problems, researchers argue that it is necessary to improve the learning process for students. This is done with the aim that students can play an active role during the learning process takes place. students exchange opinions and explain the problem. We need a learning model that can activate students during the teaching and learning process. The learning model that encourages more understanding, activeness, independence and responsibility for students is a learning model with picture media. Through the application of learning media learning models are expected to increase understanding, activeness and student achievement in descriptive text material. In accordance with the description above, the researcher conducted a study with the title "Improving students' reading comprehension in descriptive text using picture media (Classroom Action Research in Grade 10 Students of SMA N 1 Sukadana Academic Year 2022/2023)" This research was conducted to find out

whether learning media with learning images can improve students' understanding, activeness and learning achievement, especially in descriptive text material.

### **B. Research Problems**

1. How can picture media improve students reading comprehension ?

### **C. Research Purposes**

Based on the problem formulation above, the objectives of this classroom action research are:

1. To find out students' understanding of descriptive text material through the application of the PM learning model

### **D. Significances of Study**

The results of this class action research are expected to provide benefits, namely:

1. Theoretical Benefits

The results of this study are expected to contribute to the development of science and add references to study material for further researchers related to the field of education

2. Practical Benefits

- a. For lecturers

As a consideration in determining the learning model with the aim of increasing students' understanding and active learning.

- b. For students

As a new vehicle in the process of increasing understanding and active learning in descriptive text material

- c. For researchers

As the development of knowledge about research in learning descriptive text

### **E. Research Scope**

1. Research Variable

- a. Input Variables: Class X students of SMA N 1 Sukadana, Sukadana District, North Kayong Regency
- b. Process Variables: Using Image Media
- c. Output Variable: Improving reading ability

2. Terminology

The researchers provided the following explanations which are used in this research the terms are below:

a. Reading Activities

Reading is a process that is carried out and used by readers to get messages to be conveyed by writers through the media of words/written language (Hodgson in Tarigan 1986:7). Reading is a basic need in the current era of globalization which can shape student behavior. By reading one can add information and expand knowledge and culture. Reading activities are closely related to reading interest itself, if there is no interest then students would not be interested in reading. Interest is a very important factor in the existence of every man. While the motivation is strong, if there is no interest, we certainly don't do something that inspires us.

b. Picture Media

According to Utami (2018, p. 141) "image media is wrong one of the most commonly used learning media and is a common language that can be understood and enjoyed everywhere. Then according to Aningsih, et al (2013, p. 3) "picture media is a visual media that can foster student interest and can provide a relationship between the content of subject matter and the real world".

c. Class X SMAN 1 Sukadana

The target of this research was class X SMA Negeri 1 Sukadana students, the target class was class X D, totaling 23 students. The reason this class was chosen was because after conducting an interview with the English teacher there, he said that this class was indeed rather weak in terms of reading comprehension, also seen from the results of the students' grades when the learning took place. This research was conducted in the 2023/2024 academic year.

d. SMA N 1 Sukadana

Geographically, SMA Negeri 1 Sukadana is located on model road No. 11 Sukadana in the village of Sutra Sukadana District North Kayong Regency West Kalimantan Province. SMA Negeri 1 Sukadana was founded in 1986, then burned

down and was rebuilt in 1989 with the help of Mr. Dr.H.Osman Sapta Odang, until now in carrying out the educational process it is supported by adequate facilities and infrastructure, but in the development of future educational demands it feels not enough in the sense that there is development and there are additional facilities and infrastructure that support the development of science and technology.

#### **F. Action Hypothesis**

Based on the research on the theory and framework above, the following research hypotheses can be proposed: Improving Students Reading Comprehension Of Descriptive Texts By Using Picture Media ( A Classroom action research on the tenth grade students of SMAN 1 Sukadana Academic Year 2022/2023)