

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Research Background

Comprehension in reading is a process of extracting and constructing meaning simultaneously through interaction and engagement with written language. The existence of many indicators or aspects in analyzing reading text makes students experience difficulties learning to read (Permana et.al, 2019). In reading, sometimes students have difficulties in comprehension of the text conveyed by the author from the composed text. Through reading comprehension skills, one can understand what the author means and then construct meaning from the text read. In the 2013 curriculum, English skills are prioritized in teaching and learning English for students as an activity that is expected in the 2013 curriculum to introduce students as often as possible to use English with various themes, contexts, and topics. In this condition, students can use communication skills to be a top priority in the 2013 curriculum in terms of communication goals.

Realizing that reading comprehension is very important for students to achieve reading skills, then the difficulties in reading comprehension must be known and solved jointly by students and teachers. Because these difficulties will harm their ability and can motivate students to achieve reading targets. Every day educators have to deal with children who do not fully understand what they have read. However, this problem is not always presented in terms of a specific difficulties in reading or some kind of disability. Difficulties in reading comprehension are often an aspect of learning disabilities or developmental cognitive difficulties more generally (Cornoldi and Oakhill, 2013).

Difficulties can be defined as something difficult. Difficulties to do or comprehension, causing difficulties and confusion. It takes skill and persistence to overcome, solve and achieve. Difficulties are something complicated to do. This will be seen from the mistakes of students in the learning process so many high school students often experience difficulties in reading comprehension. These

difficulties resulted in poor student performance when working on reading comprehension questions.

Difficulties is a situation where students find something but it is not easy to understand. According to Oberholzer (2015), reading difficulties are a problem faced by students when they discover new vocabulary and do not understand the contents of the reading text. Difficulties occur when students experience some obstacles in learning. Most of the difficulties in learning are caused by several things, namely when students do not understand the learning material and students are passive in the learning process. Difficulties is a situation experienced by students during the learning process in class. This causes students to feel confused or not know the material explained by the teacher during the teaching and learning process.

From this understanding, the researcher believes that it is important to conduct research on this topic with the assumption that every students has various difficulties in reading comprehension. SMK Negeri 1 Nanga Pinoh was chosen because this phenomenon occurred in students at that school. In this study, the researcher used descriptive text. The researcher chose descriptive text because this text has been studied by students. In general, descriptive text is the text that describes people, places, and things. Descriptive text is a functional text which is quite difficulties for students to learn (Delfi et.al, 2020). Many students have difficulties in reading comprehension. Reading without understanding the text is an empty act. This means that text comprehension is the most important aspect of reading.

The researcher wants to know about the difficulties experienced by the students in reading comprehension, particularly by eleventh grade students. This study is entitled "An Analysis of Difficulties in Reading Comprehension" (A Descriptive Study to the Eleventh Grade Students of SMK Negeri 1 Nanga Pinoh in the Academic Year 2022/2023). The researcher hopes that the results of this research can be used by students and teacher to improve the process of teaching and learning English.

B. Research Question

Based on the preliminary explanation above, the researcher concludes that the research problem of this study:

What are the difficulties that the students face in reading comprehension at the eleventh grade of SMK Negeri 1 Nanga Pinoh in the Academic Year 2022/2023?

C. Research Purpose

Based on the problem above, researcher has a goal research as follow:

To find out the difficulties that the students face in reading comprehension at the eleventh grade of SMK Negeri 1 Nanga Pinoh in the Academic Year 2022/2023.

D. Significance Of Research

The importance of this research can be seen in terms of theoretical and practical aspects, as explained below:

1. Theoretical Significance

To get the research results disclosed in previous studies that discuss the difficulties in reading comprehension. Relating to previous research would be suitable to help the new researcher find gaps in previous research. The research results will be useful for summaries who want to know the difficulties in reading comprehension of the eleventh grade students of SMK Negeri 1 Nanga Pinoh.

2. Practical Significance

a. To English Teachers

This research can be useful for teachers to diagnose Students difficulties in reading comprehension.

b. To Students

This research will be useful for students to help them return to active reading and motivate them to read as often as possible.

c. To Other Researchers

The researcher hopes that through this research other researchers will get references to complete the deficiencies that exist in this study.

E. Scope of The Research

This study uses two variables, namely the main variable and the affective variable.

The explanation of these variables is as follows:

1. Research Variables

Research variables are research conducted on commodities, people, or phenomena that you want to measure in a certain way. (Creswell, 2012: 112) states that when a variable varies, it means that the score will assume different values depending on the type of variable being measured. The type of research used is quantitative research, the researcher realizes that students difficulties in understanding reading are a research variable. The researcher tried to find out whether reading comprehension difficulties had an impact on students reading abilities with the final results showing students difficulties in comprehending reading in English. To obtain the results of this research, the researcher contacted the eleventh grade English teacher to obtain a study students document related to the focus on reading comprehension and the researcher distributed a close-ended questionnaire to eleventh grade students.

2. Research Terminology

In this section, the researcher explains the variables that be used for his research.

a. Difficulties in Reading Comprehension

In general, many students have difficulties in reading comprehension, especially if the reading text is long with complex structures. Students scored low in reading comprehension admitted that they had difficulties finding main ideas and supporting paragraphs. They also experienced difficulties in implementing reading strategies in their reading conditioning (Harida, 2014). Thus, the impact of this problem is

that students who cannot understand the English text will feel they have failed to comprehend the main ideas presented in the reading text.

b. Descriptive Text

Descriptive text is text that describes something, someone, or a place in more detail. The purpose of this text is to describe, represent or reveal a person or an object, both abstract and concrete. Descriptive text is also written using simple and concise language so that the contents of the text are easy for readers to understand.

c. Students of SMK Negeri 1 Nanga Pinoh

In this study, the researcher took participants from SMK Negeri 1 Nanga Pinoh. Students at SMK Negeri 1 Nanga Pinoh are students enrolled in the eleventh-grade students at SMK Negeri 1 Nanga Pinoh, Melawi Regency.

d. SMK Negeri 1 Nanga Pinoh

SMK Negeri 1 Nanga Pinoh is a Vocational High School located in the city of Nanga Pinoh, Melawi Regency. SMK Negeri 1 is located at Sidomulyo Street, Nanga Pinoh District, Melawi Regency, West Kalimantan.