

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Research Background

In this globalization and internationalization era, people could easily in getting the information from all part of the world. It's like a necessity for people to update the information through reading various media such as newspapers, magazines, books and the internet. Reading seems to be the main activities for people in their daily activities. They could get the knowledge and other benefits of reading. As Nunan (2003) mentions that reading is a dynamic process in which the reader combines information from a text with their own prior knowledge to construct meaning. By reading a book, the reader could spend their time and doing a positive activity.

In reading activities, usually everyone will have a different type, which is done according to their own convenience. Brown (1988) explains that in intensive reading, people will focus on grammatical and usually it will take more time. Whereas in extensive reading, the reader will usually read a large amount of the text, and it can be done quickly so that readers can read at once (Bamford et.al, 2004). For other types of reading namely, reading aloud, the reader will carry out the reading process by producing sound, and reading silently, the reader will read quietly without producing sound (Patel & Praveen, 2008). People unwittingly may use these types of reading when they are reading a book. Although there are many types of reading, but

actually it is used for the same purpose of reading to get an information and a knowledge as well as for hobbies or enjoyment.

Furthermore, reading skill is regarded as an activity which cannot be separated from the teaching and learning process. Without reading, it is impossible to succeed in the teaching and learning process. Besides, the success of reading also depends on the way how the students build their reading habit. The lack of student reading habits can effect to literacy skills, ability to develop academic thinking, knowledge and insight, and individual mentality. Moreover, a UNESCO study published in 2013 stated that the reading interest of Indonesian people is equal to one in a thousand. This indicates that the reading habit of the Indonesian people is still far behind compared to other developed countries (Wulandari, et.al 2021).

In addition to that point, developing effective reading habits could give a significant positive impact for the students. It is stated by Iftanti (2012), EFL students' good reading habits in English are defined as a desired reading behavior that becomes second nature to the EFL students. Moreover, to find out a good reading habit, it can be seen from fluency and automaticity (Morris et.al, 2006), accuracy (Schwanenflugel et al., 2004), a significant amount of reading, highly enjoyable reading habits, and strong English language skills (Akyay & Ogeyik, 2009; Renandya, 2007), good reading habits, conscious reading, and having a teacher who also enjoys reading (Park, 2006), self-selection of books, a desire to read, and a desire to receive books as gifts (Jamnik, 2005), as well as consistent reading outside of school hours (Adetunji & Oladeji, 2007).

Regarding the importance of having academic reading habits for the students in teaching and learning process and the impact to the students' literacy skills, academic thinking, insight and individual mentality, the researcher is interested in analyzing at students' reading habit experienced by students at English Education Study Program Universitas Jambi in academic year 2021/2022.

1.2 Research Question

From the background of the research, the research question can be formulated as;

How are the reading habits of EFL students in Reading for Academic Purposes at English Education Study Program Universitas Jambi?

1.3 Purpose of the Research

According to the research question above, the purpose of the research is:

To find out the reading habits of EFL students in Reading for Academic Purposes at English Education Study Program Universitas Jambi.

1.4 Limitation of the Research

This research will be focused on analyze students' reading habits in particular at the attitude of EFL students in reading, kinds of books they read, and how they spend times to read the books. The reading skill will be concerned on Reading for Academic Purposes.

1.5 Significance of the Research

This research is expected to give significances theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this research serves important information about student's reading habits at English Education Study Program Universitas Jambi.

Practically, for the lecturers, this research can be additional information related to students' reading habits and can be used as a reference in teaching reading or other subjects. Furthermore, for the students, this research can help them to know more about things related to reading habits. For other researchers, this research can be used as a reference for those who want to take the same theme.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

To clarify the terms used in this research, the researcher provides the definition below:

1.6.1 Reading skill is the ability or skill to understand the information contained in a text.

1.6.2 Reading habit is an activity that is done regularly and consistently.