

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

In English learning, there are four skills should be mastered by the students. They are listening, speaking, writing and reading. These skills need to be mastered in order to communicate each other. Reading as one of four skills in English is also important to be teaching. It is important for the students to be able to read such as journal/essay, textbook, and news paper, etc. Reading is probably the hardest but most important skill that needs be mastered by anyone living in the present era. Furthermore, the importance of being able to read in the English language cannot be denied as it is the dominant international language Mohamed & Darus (n.d: Online).

Reading is useful and important skill too. Reading ability can also increase students' knowledge by reading many kinds of English textbook. By reading, students can develop their knowledge and get many kinds of information which is related to their studies through reading textbooks, storytelling, newspapers, novels, legends, poems, magazines and advertisement in the internet. Nuttal (1996, as cited in Alberti 2014) says that reading is an activity that essentially concerned with the transfer of meaning from mind to mind, a message from a writer to a reader. Reading needs comprehension to understand the context and get the new information of the texts.

As it is stated in school-based curriculum (KTSP) of Junior High School for the eighth grade, one kind of text types that the students should achieve is narrative text. According to Anderson (1997, as cited in Alberti 2014), narrative text is English text type that has a purpose to entertain the reader or listener.

There are some problems in reading comprehension narrative text that may cause students hard to read it and understand it, sometimes students are confused how to start reading story and understand the stories which make them hesitate in starting reading. In other side, they have difficulties to understand the context and get the information of the story so the students failed to understand longer reading materials such as stories. They got low motivation in learning English especially in reading class. Consequently, the students got difficulty to understand the grammatical construction in the text they read, they did not know the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary. Hence, it is difficult for the students to comprehend the text (Rizka, 2014)

And then, most students have an ability to translate the individual words without conveying the message what the author extends. The students are lack of motivation in reading English text. Consequently, they spent much time to answer the comprehension questions related to the text and copy their friends' work.

Reading at Junior High School is an important thing to teach. Because some of the books for the students that read such as the newspapers, magazine or written in English form. From the preliminary observation and some interviews with the English teacher and some students at eighth grade of Junior High School N 1 Batanghari, the researcher found a problem in the English teaching and learning process. The problem is related to the students' reading narrative text. The students found that reading narrative text is the difficult subject for them.

Based on the explanation above and the researcher's experience in teaching practicum, the researcher believe if some students have the problems in the reading, especially in reading of narrative text. Because of that, the researcher interest to investigate the problems on reading narrative text for eighth grades at Junior High School N 1 Batanghari.

1.2 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the background mentioned above, the research question is formulated as follows:

- What are the students' problems on reading of narrative text for eighth grades at Junior High School N 1 Batanghari?

1.3 The Purpose of the Research

The purpose of the research is to determine the problems on reading of narrative text for eighth grades at Junior High School N 1 Batanghari.

1.4 The Limitation of the Research

This research focuses on the problems on reading narrative text for eighth grades of Junior High School N 1 Batanghari. In English learning there are some problems in students' reading narrative text for eighth grade in semester 1.

1.5 The Significance of the Research

This research can provide significance advantages theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the result of this research can add the knowledge learning English; especially in teaching and learning process increase the students' reading of narrative text. Practically, this research can contribute to the reference material relating to the problem of students' reading of narrative text.