

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter discusses the background of the research, statement of the problem, objective of the research, significance of the research, and operational definition.

#### **1.1 Background of The Research**

Linguistic ability, cognitive process, and knowledge source require comprehensive abilities. One of them is reading that must receive comprehensive instruction (Perfetti & Adlof, 2012). Reading is a complex behavior of humans to engage. Many reading theorists explain the ways to realize the skill comprehensively (Perfetti & Stafura, 2014).

For teaching reading in Islamic Boarding school especially in seventh grade, the students still have difficulties in reading comprehension because still have little vocabulary. So the teacher needs to have a different and appropriate way to make the students understand the text. The researcher chooses Small Group Discussion to solve the student's problem.

Learners of Islamic boarding school, the seventh graders, must struggle to comprehend reading because they lack vocabulary. Thus, it requires teachers to think of the solution for them and came up with a Small Group Discussion. The method allows learners to discuss, organize, and structure their thoughts with each other. It is possible because the method supports the socio-behavioral perspective motivation, social cohesion, and positive socio-cultural values. This model also emphasizes the elaboration, prior knowledge source, and experience for the cognitive perspective. Thus, learners will have cognitive collaboration on collaborating learning so that they can process the information comprehensively (Zuriati, 2018).

This model allows learners to learn in groups and engages them in a mutual classroom interaction to solve problems. The model also allows teachers to instill good characters for the learners with simple cooperative learning techniques.

## **1.2 Statement of The Problem**

The researcher proposes the following statement of the problem: "Is there any significant difference between the students reading comprehension of the seventh grade students of Islamic Boarding School Qudsiyyah Putri Kudus before and after being taught with Small Group Discussion (SGD) in the academic year 2020/2021?"

## **1.3 Objective of The Research**

Based on the problem, the purpose of the research is to find out if there is a significant difference between the students reading comprehension before and after being taught by using the Small Group Discussion (SGD) technique in the academic year 2020/2021.

## **1.4 Significance of The Research**

The researcher hopes the research contributions for both students and teachers.

### **1. For students**

Students could experience the benefits of learning reading comprehension with the Small Group Discussion.

### **2. For teachers**

The teacher could use the research results as the reference to improve his or her reading teaching.

## **1.5 Scope of The Research**

The scope of the research deal with reading comprehension and descriptive text as the material. The subjects of the research will be the seventh graders of Islamic Boarding School Qudsiyyah Putri Kudus, in the academic year 2021, taught with Small Group Discussion (SGD).

## **1.6 Operational Definition**

The researcher defines the research terms, as shown below, to avoid any further readers' misinterpretation.

1. Reading comprehension is an individual comprehends and puts meaning on the reading comprehensively.
2. The descriptive text refers to a text with descriptions of a particular object which has a systematic and orderly process of characteristics, such as name, classification, attribute, behavior, and function.
3. Small group discussion is a learning model that allows learners to recall information that they will discuss with their partner in group.
4. The seventh-grade students of Islamic Boarding School QudsiyyahPutri Kudus are students who study in Islamic Boarding School QudsiyyahPutri Kudus in the 2020 /2021 academic year.

