

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Research

Spoken and written English are varieties of English. Both of them can be delivered orally or in a written manner. The written variety can be also delivered by spoken or writing as well. However, nowadays, writing is more powerful than speaking. We can read more information through sites, articles, or probably newspapers in our daily life. The reason some people prefer to read something is – it saves time and is trusted to construct a background of knowledge. For example, if someone wants to cook something, she will read the recipe. Perhaps she will read the ingredients first, and it will construct her background of knowledge. It depends on what level texts are addressed.

The same thing will happen when the English education department students are asked to do compose a final project. They will read the abstract written in English. An abstract is important because an abstract is a concise summary of a research paper or an entire thesis (Hernon & Schwartz, 2010). The other study about the importance of abstracts was conducted by Baird (1981). Abstracts are important because they give the first impression of a document that follows. Abstracts allow readers to decide whether they want to continue reading. Abstract show them what to look for if they do.

The word abstract comes from the Latin *abstractum*, which means a condensed form of a longer piece of writing (Lowe, 1981). According to Azariadis (2017), an abstract is a fact written in a variety of research contacts

that contain 250 to 300 words. An abstract is about short text and it contains a summary of the research paper.

An abstract is of a background of the research consists of a summary of a research paper that must have other things related to their research. For college students, writing an abstract in English will be useful for them because it will take the writing for a wider readership.

English bachelor thesis abstract in English Education Department of Universitas Muria Kudus describe things done by the students' in an essay from scientific research. The English bachelor thesis abstracts is important in a thesis because help the reader understand the contents of the research and findings from the results of the research so that the reader easily determines and decides whether the reader needs to read references to the results of the scientific work or not.

Thus, the readability of the English bachelor thesis abstract is important. A research related to this issue has been conducted by Perekeme, Bertola A. D and Agbor, Catherine (2012). This study investigated the readability of English Language Textbooks prescribed for Junior Secondary Schools and Students. The results of this study revealed a lack of preparation students have in reading will cause them to become poor readers in the next level of education. Moreover a study about readability was ever done by Srisunakara & Chunworatayee (2019). They explored readability levels and the linguistics characteristics of reading passages in English. The results revealed a mismatch in readability levels and linguistics characteristics.

There are similarities and differences between the previous studies and this research. From the similarity the researcher will find out the readability level but the difference is about the data of research. The researcher will take abstract as the data of this research.

In this research, the researcher will analyze the readability of English bachelor thesis abstract written by English Education Department students of Universitas Muria Kudus.

### **1.2 Statements of the Problem**

Therefore, this research has two questions:

1. What is the English bachelor thesis abstract readability category written by English Education Department students of Universitas Muria Kudus?
2. How do the students narrate their English bachelor thesis abstracts?

### **1.3 Objectives of the Research**

1. The first objective is to find out the readability category of English bachelor thesis abstracts written by the students of English Education Department students of Universitas Muria Kudus.
2. The second objective is to explain how the students narrate their English bachelor thesis abstracts.

### **1.4 Significance of the Research**

Knowing the importance readability of English bachelor thesis abstract, it could make the students of the English Education Department of Universitas Muria Kudus will write their English abstract appropriately. A readable abstract will help the readers understand about the whole content of project.

### **1.5 Scope of the Research**

The scope of this research were taken from the English bachelor thesis abstract written by English Education Department Students of Universitas Muria Kudus. There were 15 English abstracts to promote this research, from 5-last year abstracts from 2014-2019.

### **1.6 Operational Definition**

In order to have the same idea and concept in this study, the researcher tried to explain some related terms as follow;

a. Readability

Readability was designed to assess the levels of English bachelor thesis abstract written by English Education Department students of Universitas Muria Kudus. Readability in this research is defined by measuring English bachelor thesis abstracts category by English Education Department students.

b. English Bachelor Thesis Abstract

This English bachelor thesis abstracts written by English Education Department students of Universitas Muria Kudus. This English bachelor thesis abstracts consists of writing skill from students of English Education Department. This abstracts of this research refers that used to analyse the readability levels.