

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

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

1.1 Background of the Research

Reading is one of the important skills that must be learned by students in Indonesia to master English well. With good reading comprehension, students can easily work on various kinds of questions on exam questions. Being a teacher must be clever to selectively choose the media used for learning in reading comprehension. The teacher must create a fun learning English condition, so that students don't get bored easily. According to research results from Rokhayani et al., (2014) that using comics can improve reading comprehension skills. Learning reading comprehension by using appropriate comics as a media makes it easier for teachers to convey material. Because comics have good visual graphics, short dialogues accompanied by easy to understand pictures, as well as pictures and scenes able to design the imagination of students to describe past events in his own mind and can reach the highest level of learning, such as independent learning.

According to Madjdi & Sukirman, (2022) in the world of education reading is very important for student and teacher. Most of students' reading problems are because they do not understand what is in a text. They are less able to understand or have difficulty understanding the contents of the text of a reading. These reasons cause students to get unsatisfactory scores on an exam. The causative factor of students who are unable to understand or have difficulty understanding a text is that they are bored of reading. Because reading is monotonous so they will quickly get

bored and it will be difficult to understand the reading. So, they will be lazy to read and it will be difficult to understand the contents of the reading. Especially for those who do not really understand reading in English, they lack vocabulary and also do not understand the meaning.

This research was based on motivated by the way of learning at SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Pati, which had never previously used comics when learning English reading comprehension. According to questions and answers conduct by researchers with teachers, there are problems including students' low interest in reading which makes it difficult for them to understand the content of the reading. With this experience, the writer intends to use comic media as a teaching of reading comprehension. Getting students to focus on reading comprehension is also not easy. A teacher must have effective teaching so that students can improve their abilities and continue to grow. Of course understanding a foreign language is not easy for students, especially if students are not interested in learning it. They have to understand new vocabulary that is different from their language. It would be difficult to understand with their imperfect knowledge of English. With knowledge of those who are not very proficient in English, they will find it easier to master and understand reading comprehension using comics. As a teacher, we must make learning activities as conductive and effective as possible.

There are various kinds of media that can be used as media for reading comprehension. One way to improve students' reading skills is by using and utilizing comics. Comics have several advantages, one of which is easier to read and understand than other literary books. Comics not only present a reading but also have real pictures or illustrations in comics. According to (Patricia, 2018) Comics are a narrative that is told through images arranged in horizontal lines, dashes, or boxes, which are called panels, and are read like verbal text from left to right. When comics reach the form of novels as stories whole, not just a bundle of jokes, the parameters of a structure appear. When a story comic books are lived as a whole, the enumeration of its elements form the character of a language.

Reading comprehension is a process of searching for meaning, thought, and interaction in writing. Mikulecky and Jeffries (2004) also claims that important to learn reading to improve the students' general language skills in English and could help the students to think English, enlarge the vocabulary, increase the reading speed, gain more knowledge, and a good way to find out about new ideas, fact and experiences. In addition, why reading comprehension is

very important and must be master by students is one of the requirements to meet the expectations of English based teaching curriculum.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The statement of the problem this research is :Is there any significant difference between reading comprehension of the XI 2 SMA Muhammadiyah Pati in the academic year of 2023/2024 before and after taught by using comic?.

1.3 Objective of the Research

The objectives of this experimental research include: To test whether there is student an increase in reading comprehension abilities of the XI 2 SMA Muhammadiyah Pati in the academic year of 2023/2024 before and after taught by using comic.

1.4 Significance of the Research

- a. Theoretical Significant
 1. The results of this study will provide information that there is an increase in students' reading comprehension skills using comic media.
 2. This research will be useful and can be used as a reference for further researchers.
- b. Practical Significant
 1. This research will make it easier for teachers to convey material and create a conducive atmosphere in the classroom.
 2. This will help students to understand more easily and increase interest in reading comprehension

1.5 Scope of the Research

The researcher conduct this research on students of grade XI 2 SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Pati. Students will be given a test question related to narrative text in which there is a comic strip that has been scrambled. The questions to be given consist of 15 multiple choice questions and 10 essay questions.

1.6 Operational Definition

Teaching of English is concerned with the acquisition and development of the four fold skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. So, while

teaching English, the teacher must pay emphasis on the development of these four skills.

Reading comprehension is reading by understanding and thinking about the contents of the reading so that the reader can know the essence of the contents of the reading.

Comics are a series of stories in which there are pictures in each story line and we can using comic media to overcome difficulties in understanding language.

