

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. The Background of the Study

Reading is one of the skills that should be learned well by the students because by having reading skill they will be easy to get information, knowledge, and science. Grabe & Stoller (2002:9) elaborate that reading is a way to draw information from printed page and interpret the information appropriately. As a result, their knowledge will be increased and developed. Grabe and Stoller (2002) state that through reading, student can get many various' information, such as: social, politics, environment and life style in local or international. So, if we have understood the reading text, we will easy to comprehend listening, speaking and writing skill.

Reading is a skill, which everyone must have to survive in this world, and knowing how to read in English is a skill that is no longer useful only for English speakers. English has become the lingua franca of the world and without knowing how to read in English, survival in the world is going to be very difficult (Al-Beckay and Reddy, 2015). So, that is the importance of reading.

In fact, the abomination of learning English is reading a text or passage. Most of students are too lazy to comprehend a text through having a reading activity. A long text or passage makes them so bored to read; furthermore, the material is not interesting for them because it is not related to their environment. Material is one of important thing that can make English teaching and learning become effective. Appropriate materials refer, to materials that meet the student's

needs, particularly vocational school that have different goal with other regular high school students. Material will give a direct impact to the teaching and learning process since the student can relate what they learn in English to the real world they are facing. Students are also expected to pay more attention to English subject and realize the advantages of reading for their lives.

Based on the writer's preliminary observation, particularly for the subject of English which are used by students of SMK Negeri 10 Medan done to know the level of students' comprehension in reading text. This observation was done through interview the students and English teacher also observe the book that is used to support their material in SMK N 10 Medan. The writer has found that the teaching materials were not specified for any certain vocations. In fact, students who take cosmetology program were taught by using teaching materials which were unrelated to the cosmetology. The English reading materials that they use is the same with other major, culinary, multimedia and fashion design program. One of phenomena happened is that the students were taught by using teaching materials about English in General; it was irrelevant to their department. The texts which are not suitable and it is proven by the data taken by from the Students' English book that published by Education and Culture Ministry 2016, in which one of the reading materials genre of Descriptive text (Taj Mahal and Tanjung Puting National Park), was not related to Cosmetology Program.

Tom Hutchinson and Water (1987:8) says that learners were seen to have different needs and interests, which would have an important influence on their motivation to learn and therefore on the effectiveness of their learning. This lent support to the development of courses in which 'relevance' to the learners' needs

and interest was paramount. English is needed by a particular group of learners could be identified by analyzing the linguistic characteristics of their specialist area work or study we can conclude that English is also used for the specific purposes.

By seeing the preliminary data we can conclude that there are many students were not interesting with the existing materials just because all the topic of the texts are unrelated with their environment, meaning that the function of ESP itself can decrease that problem, through ESP the teachers can analyze their students' needs and they also can design the appropriate reading materials for their students, the students will get the relevant materials based on their study.

From the background above, it was suggested that the teacher is not only has to teach in the class or give the lesson for them, but the teacher should consider the English materials that are suitable for the students if he or she finds that the existing materials can't work well to fulfill the students' needs, so, the teacher will teach reading skill easily and it can grab the students' interest in the teaching learning process as well.

## **B. The Problem of the Study**

By seeing the background above, the problems of the study are formulated as follow.

How to design English reading materials, which are suitable for students of cosmetology program at SMK Negeri 10 Medan?

### **C. The Objective of the Study**

As mentioned in the problems of the study, the objectives of this research is.

To design English reading materials based on students' need of students of cosmetology program at SMK Negeri 10 Medan.

### **D. The Scope of the Study**

The scope of the study is to develop reading materials based on students' need, especially in descriptive text. It was applied in the grade X students of cosmetology program at SMK Negeri 10 Medan.

### **E. The Significance of the Study**

The research is expected to give a meaningful contribution to some parts:

- a. The English teachers, this research hopefully can give ideas for the ideal reading materials used in cosmetology program. The teachers also can use this study as one of the sources of teaching and learning process in the classroom.
- b. The students; hopefully this study can improve their motivation in learning English and can comprehend reading materials that are based on their needs.
- c. The readers, hopefully this study may provide information as well as references about developing English reading materials for vocational school.