

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

English, as an international language plays a great contribution in human life. It is one tool that supports people to know this world. There are four skills that should be achieved in learning English, namely: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Reading is one of the most difficult language skills in learning language. In reading, the students are expected to be knowledge able and familiar with what the teacher has explained in the context; where as in comprehension the students are expected to have more skills than to explain individual text or passage after comprehending them.

In fact, many students think that reading is a difficult skill. Based on the researcher did observations to students in SMP SWASTA BANDUNG, students' achievement in reading is still very low. Most of the students can't reading a text. Its caused they don't own idea, so that they face problem in building a text. And also they lack of vocabularies, so that they can't choose the right words, and using the grammar in organizing the text. Teacher also only gives the topic to the students and then explains it and asks them to answer the questions based on the text. Without use media in learning process.

There are some factors which influence the students' difficulties in reading comprehension. First, the students have a language problem. The students can

understand the text if they understand the language. Second, the foundational skills of reading such as reception, decoding, and learning have not been mastered by students, they will get difficulties in reading such as reading haltingly. At last, the students are unable to decode the written words. The decoding of the written words is a very important aspect of the reading act. Without being able to decode the written word, reading comprehension is impossible. In order to make teaching and learning process interesting and effective, teachers need good techniques. They will help the students to learn faster and to remember information for a long period of time. For this purpose, the researcher proposes a technique named comic strips is defined in this study as series of pictures inside boxes that tell a story.

The writer found the same problem with students in SMP SWASTA BANDUNG. The problems are students still feel strange and face some difficulties with English lesson, especially in developing reading comprehension. The problem face in the class is sometimes the students have difficulties to find out the main of a sentence in a text. The Minimal Completeness Criteria (KKM) applied for the eighth grade (VIII) by school is 75. Most students get the score under Minimal Completeness Criteria (KKM) of English lesson for Junior High School. The score of reading test from the students can be seen in table 1.1

Table 1.1 the Second Grade (VIII) Students' Score of Narrative Test

Semester	Score	Students	Percentage
1 st Semester 2015-2016	< 75	17 students	61
	≥ 75	11 students	39
2 st Semester 2015-2016	< 75	10 students	35
	≥ 75	18 students	64

From the data above, it can be concluded that the students' ability in reading in that class is still low. It can be seen from the mean of the students' score where the mean is still under the Minimal Completeness Criteria.

B. The Problem of the Study

Based on the previous discussion in background of the study above, the problem of the study is formulated as "Is there any significant effect of comic strips as media on students' achievement in reading comprehension Narrative Text?"

C. The Objective of the Study

The objective of the study is to find out the significant effect on students' achievement in reading comprehension narrative text by comic strips as media.

D. The Scope of the Study

This study focus on identifying the effect of comic strips as media on students' achievement in reading comprehension narrative text of SMP Swasta Bandung at grade eight.

E. Significance of the Study

The findings of the study are expected to be useful:

1. Theoretically for:

Theoretically this study has significance for those who are interested in this study to provide the information by looking at the result.

2. Practically for:

Practically this study has significance to English Teacher and Students.

English teachers who want to get the further information about the technique in reading comprehension and enlarge their experience in teaching reading comprehension.

Students who want to improve their skill and stimulate them in their reading ability in reading comprehension.