

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Reading is one of the important basic skills in learning English besides listening, speaking, and writing. Reading activity is one of the ways to catch up information, to know enough science concepts, to know more knowledge, to understand scientific books and technology written in English language. Through reading, the reader may have satisfaction and comfort. In short, reading is an activity by which we can improve our general knowledge, get information, and pleasure.

As one of the English language skills, reading is a very important skill in learning English because without a good reading skill, one cannot obtain many kinds of information printed in the form of media such as bulletin, magazine or newspaper (Koda, 2005). Moreover, students in countries where English taught as a foreign language usually prefer focus on information in written form rather than oral. Therefore, in countries posing English as a foreign language, such as Indonesia, one can absorb more knowledge by reading.

Alderson (in Arka : 2013) defines reading as an enjoyable, intense, private activity, from which much pleasure can be derived, and in which one can become totally absorbed. Additionally, Nunan ( in Arka : 2013) states that reading is fluent process of readers combining information from a text and their own background knowledge to build meaning. However, reading always has a purpose. It is something that we do every day, it is an integral part of our daily lives, taken

very much for granted and generally assumed to be something that everyone can do. After reading the words in a text, students can try to practice them in speaking or other language skills, reading can really change someone's English. The students will be easy to use English, because their brain will only repeat the things that have been seen many times. By reading a book in English, they have given their brain thousands of English sentences.

Talking about reading it cannot separate from the texts as the materials. In the curriculum 2006 of Vocational high school required students to be able to mastering some kinds of genre. They are narrative, recount, descriptive, report, explanation, analytical exposition, hortatory exposition, procedure, discussion, reviews, anecdote, spoof, and news item. The focus on this study was grade XI.

Based on the reason above, the procedure text is one of genre that must be mastered by students in learning English especially in grade XI. Then theoretically, according to Anderson (2007), procedure text is a piece of text type to explain how something can be done. Meanwhile, Derewianka (in Hastomo 2010) argues that procedure text is a kind of text designed to describe how something is achieved through a sequence of actions or steps. From the two statements above, the writer infers that procedure text is a kind of text that gives us instructions to do something through a sequence of actions or steps.

In the world of education in Indonesia, there are two categories of secondary schools, namely the senior high school (SHS) and the vocational high school (VHS). Based on the Act of the Republic of Indonesia Number 20 Year 2013 on National Education System, the vocational high school is a secondary school, which is the continuation of the basic education. In a vocational

highschool, the students are prepared to be able to master a number of vocational skills needed for specific employment. Based on the structure of the curriculum in vocational education, it aims to improve the students' competence, knowledge, personality, character and skills in order to be autonomous and able to continue their education based on their vocational study programs.

In addition, the main difference between the vocational high school and the high school in general is the preparation for the students to get particular jobs soon after they graduate. It is, thus, a necessity to consider carefully the choice of English learning materials to teach at the vocational high school given the curriculum and students' expectation. Learning materials are the main factor that determines the success of English teaching and learning at schools. For vocational high school students, the English learning materials should be developed based on the characteristics of each department without ignoring the core competence (CC) and the basic competence (BC) in curriculum 2013, and also the specialties they will use in doing specific jobs in the future.

In accordance with the aims of education in the vocational high school, English teaching and learning should have relevancy between the knowledge and the needs. Regarding these, the learning materials also need to be contextualized with the students' needs.

In fact, Based on the researcher observation interview with the teacher of SMK S YWKA Medan, the teacher said that most of student's reading skill in that school is still low. The writer found their English learning materials are focus on textbook only. The English learning materials in textbooks actually is general in which not related to their major, that makes them lazy and uninterested to read

the materials. As electrical engineering students, they always related to electricity and their activities are dominantly in their machine shop. But the researcher found the procedure text in their textbox is : **How To Make A Cake**

The reading material such as procedure text above was general; that topic was no related to their major. he students of electrical engineering cannot get the appropriate exposure of English, which is needed for their future. There are no considerations about the target situation and the target needs of the students. Moreover, the texts or inputs are taken from general English course books. As a result, the course books contain very general input which is not contextualized for electrical engineering. Concerning these, the English learning materials should be designed based on the students' needs in order to support the English learning process especially procedure texts materials. Besides, the learning procedure texts materials should be contextualized based on their study program. In line with this, Purnamasari (2015) *Developing English Learning Materials For Grade X Students Of Beauty Study Program* and Wirdani (2017) *Developing English Reading Text Materials For Culinary Art Students Of Smkn I Kisaran* also found the same cases that English reading materials used to teach students with different program is exactly the same.

Based on the condition above, the writer wants to try to develop procedure text reading materials for the second grade students of electrical engineering in SMK Swasta YWKA Medan .The English procedure text material developed is hopefully contributed to help the teaching and learning process in order to improve and develop the students' reading skill for the students' need in the future.

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

Based on the background of the study above, the problem of the study was formulated as follows :

- 1) What is appropriate English reading of procedure text materials for electrical engineering students?
- 2) How to develop English reading materials of procedure text in which suitable for electrical engineering students?

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

Related to the problem of the study , the objective of this study were :

- 1) To find out suitable reading materials of procedure text for electrical engineering students.
- 2) To develop English reading materials especially about procedure text based on electrical engineering student's need.

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

The scope of this study was developing reading materials of procedure text based on the students' needs and major of electrical engineering students grade XI in SMK S YWKA MEDAN

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

The result of this study were expected not only to be the merely data aggregation but something more advantageous theoretically and practically. It can be described as follows:

Theoretically, the result of this study can be a reference for those who are interested in developing English reading materials for another major. Practically, the writer expects this study will be useful for:

1. The students ; hopefully this study can improve their motivation in learning English and through this research the students can comprehend reading materials that are based on their needs.
2. The teachers ; this study was aimed to help teachers find advantageous information based on the contents and findings of this study, which is related to developing English reading materials and to make them easier to teach the materials.
3. The other researchers; this study is intended to be one of their resources to make other developing English reading materials, and give additional information for the next related study.

