

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Language is a system of communication. People around the world use language to communicate each other. Since human is categorized as social creature, it is impossible to live alone without making contact with anyone else. Although there are so many languages in the world, it is possible to communicate with other people from another country. If Indonesia which has a lot of tribes with their own languages, it has Bahasa to keep the citizen unite, this world also have English as an international language to make people communicate each other easily. There are thousand countries with their own languages, but people from Indonesia can communicate or even talk with people from Mexico, or another country by using English.

English becomes the most essential language in the world. People use it as their first language or their second language. In Indonesia, English is used as the second language. English becomes one of subjects of study that has been taught in school. Indonesia's government has made English as a subject in primary to senior high school. But recently there is a new policy; English in primary school will be deleted from the curriculum. Even so, primary students also can learn English in school as an extracurricular.

In studying English, there are four skills that are needed to be learnt, they are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Speaking and Writing are called productive skills because those two skills insist the students or learners to produce language whether it is in spoken or written form. Listening and Reading

are called receptive skills because those skills make the learners receive the message from what they have heard what one spoke and from what they have read what one wrote. So those four skills are related to each other.

The students' ability to read is one of the most important things in learning English, because by reading they may improve their knowledge and they may get many information. They only can speak or write if they read something before. It means that by reading, students may get some information to be shared to others.

English subject in National Examination has a number of questions from reading text. The students are insisted to comprehend the text well so they are able to answer the questions from the text. Reading comprehension is not only found in National Examination, but also in Test of English as Foreign Language (TOEFL). Nowadays it obviously can be seen that there are many students are not able comprehend a text. Most of them do not have interest in reading especially in reading comprehension. They may read the text well but they can not answer the question related to the text, it is related to a statement from Otto (1979) which says that many children can read the words in a passage perfectly, but are unable to answer questions that call for making inferences or for identifying main idea.

Based on the writer's experience in her teaching practice in Senior High School, students' problem in reading is lack of interest. They were not interested in reading text and answering the question. It was just making them talking each other instead of doing the task. Harmer (2004) says that most students will not do a lot of extensive reading by themselves unless they are encouraged to do so by their teacher. Since, the students' reading comprehension is bad. The researcher

got data about the score of the students' of SMA Negeri 2 Pematangsiantar in last two semester.

Semester	Score	Students	Percentage	Means
1 st semester '13/'14	<70	25	80,64%	52,04
	≥70	6	19,35%	
2 nd Semester '13/'14	<70	21	67,74%	69,03
	≥70	10	32,25%	

These data give proof that the ability of the students is still below the standard. The table shows that the students who do not achieve the KKM is more than the students who reach the KKM. Their learning style must be changed to get a better result.

There are some methods in teaching to make learning process in the classroom become more interesting and even fun. There are so many strategies, technique and methods that can be applied in classroom to improve students' interest in learning process. Slavin (1995) says Cooperative learning refers to instructional methods in which teachers organize students into small groups, which then work together to help one another learn academic content. There are some methods of Cooperative learning, such as Jigsaw, Talking Stick, Team Games Tournament, and so on. One method of cooperative learning which is suitable in teaching reading comprehension is cooperative script.

Students who are taught with cooperative learning have a more enjoyable learning experience and are motivated to continue learning beyond school, especially from and with other (Kagan, 2009). By working together in a group, students can be more active in the classroom than working by their own. It is because they can make interaction among group members so the learning process is more active.

There are many researches conducted by using Cooperative Script method. A student of English Department of State University of Medan, Nasution (2014) had done a classroom action research at SMP Swasta Perguruan Karya Bhakti Medan related to the use of Cooperative Script Method to improve students' reading comprehension. The result is the students were more active, enthusiastic in working in pairs. The Cooperative Script Method can improve the students' reading comprehension achievement in descriptive text.

Rianti (2012) conducted a research at SMAN 1 Guguak in purpose to find the effect of using Cooperative Script in teaching reading. She compared two methods of teaching on two different classes, one of them was taught by using Cooperative Script method while the other one was taught by using Choral Reading method. As the result, she found that Cooperative Script method was more effective in teaching reading than Choral Reading method. It also helped the teacher to improve the students' reading ability and made them more active in English class.

Another research was conducted by Tusino (2013). He conducted a research to find out whether the use of Cooperative Script is effective to improve students' speaking skill. He took two classes as the sample, one class was taught by using cooperative script method (experiment group), and the other was taught by using drilling method (control group). After conducting the treatment, the improvement of experiment group was higher than the control group. It means that the use of cooperative script is effective in enhancing the students' speaking skill.

There also was a research conducted in Junior High School. It was done by Fakhri (2013) at SMP 31 Padang. His purpose was to find out students'

achievement on Mathematic subject after they are taught by using cooperative script method. And the result was the score of students' who were taught by using cooperative script was higher than the score of the students who were taught without cooperative script.

Even though there have been so many researches were conducted by using Cooperative Script method, the researcher wants to use this method to be applied in SMA Negeri 2 Pematangsiantar because the students need motivation and new learning method in their learning process to help them get a better achievement in reading comprehension.

Those three studies had given us proof that Cooperative Script is able to motivate students and helps them to be more active during learning reading comprehension. So the researcher intends to find out the effect of Cooperative Script method on students' reading comprehension.

B. The Problem of the Study

The problem of the study is "Is the students' reading comprehension taught by using Cooperative Script method higher than the students' reading comprehension taught by using explaining method?"

C. The Scope of the Study

The study focuses on the Cooperative Script Method in affecting the reading comprehension of second grade students of SMA N 2 Pematangsiantar

D. The Objective of the Study

The purpose of the study is to find out whether Cooperative Script Method significantly affects the reading comprehension of second grade students of SMA N 2 Pematangsiantar

E. The Significances of the Study

The findings of this study are expected to be useful for :

1. University students who want to conduct research related to reading comprehension and Cooperative Script method, because this research is expected to give proof that Cooperative Script can give affects on students' reading comprehension.
2. Teachers as their references as a way in teaching reading comprehension in the classroom to motivate students in getting a better achievement in reading comprehension.