

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. The Background of the Study

Learning is a change in appearance as a result of the practice, for example by reading, watching, imitating and so on (Sardiman,2004). In learning someone has tendency to have one favour style. It calls learning style. Identify learning styles are also important toward in learning process. Recently a new thought comes up, that is teaching must be taken care of student's learning styles. If a student's learning style is known automatically the teacher can determine appropriate teaching strategies based on students' learning style. Style into classroom. But teacher rarely teaches their students based on the learning style of their students in the classroom. Different preferences, tendencies, and ways among students in learning show that students have their own learning style types which also influence their learning result.

DePorter & Hernacki (1992) divide into three, they are visual learning style through what they see, auditory learning styles through what they hear, kinesthetic learning styles through how they move and touch. But in reality, everyone has these three learning styles, but most people have one dominated style. The observation has done in SMA SWASTA Teladan Medan by giving 10 questionnaires for 10 students for first grade.They tend to auditory than visual or

kinesthetic, the result showed that 7 students are auditory, 3 students are visual and no one is kinaesthetic. After saw the result of the data it shows that no one of student who truly an auditory learner, truly visual learner or kinaesthetic learner but they tend to have one of learning styles.

Therefore, people must realize one learning styles dominating him so that could be an advantage to be developed in the achievement of learning (DePorter & Henarcki, 1992). Learning style helps students success in their school achievement. The students can also be an effective problem solver. The successful individuals is the person that can faces her/his problem and solve it and can control her/his life and she/he will responsible for her/his life (Purhossein, 2012). When students know their learning style definitely the learning process will consistently. They know what they need to learn and "how". This awareness can change their point of view on learning something new (Purhossein, 2012).

Dunn and Dunn (1992) define learning style as 'the way in which individuals begin to concentrate on, process, internalize and retain new and difficult academic information'. It means that, every student should know their learning style, to be able to take information easily and fast that related with academic. Pritchard (2009:41) defines learning style as habits, strategies, tactics and the way that individual shows in learning process.

Each individual has a unique style in learning, as an educator it's our responsibility to know the styles of our students because it may help them to identify and solve the problem among students to be an effective learner. Learning styles also needs in reading comprehension. In learning language, one of the aspects that should be improved is reading. In daily life, it is very important to get information from every reading passage, especially in learning English. Therefore, when the students learn to read, they should be able to comprehend reading during the process of reading. They need to comprehend reading deeply.

Snow (2002) defines reading comprehension as the process of simultaneously extracting and constructing meaning through interaction and involvement with written language. This skill permit students to build their ideas to communicated with people in different location and eras, and give the opportunity to improve their knowledge (Karang, 2014).

The ability to comprehend something from reading materials for students who learn a foreign language needs to be improved in order to make them easier in reading process and to give them enough time in developing ability (Karang, 2014). Although reading is important but students still have any difficulties in mastering reading, in SMA SWASTA Teladan Medan Tembung find that students are lacking in reading English passage.

It is observed that the lack of ability of the tenth grade students in SMA SWASTA Teladan Medan in reading English is influenced by several factors.

First, Students have difficulty in understanding English word, phrase and sentence in English. Second, the students have difficulty in finding the main idea of the text they read. Third, Students are not accustomed to practice reading in the classroom and everyday life. Last, teachers not identify their students' learning styles. When do the observation at the tenth grade students in SMA SWASTA Teladan Medan, it was found that the teacher just asked the students to read whole of the text and asked the students to found the main idea of the text, after students finished it the teacher asked one student to collect it without explains what is exactly the text about.

The reality is the teachers feel so hard to teach their students based on the learning style. There are so many things should be prepared such as, the material that appropriate with students' learning styles, the way how she/he applies the material and how to be a good entertainer to their students to provide the material. Whereas if the teachers identify the learning styles of their students exactly the teachers will find the right method to provide the materials for students to learn reading. Students and to know which students' learning style shows fastest in reading comprehension.

Based on the prolem above it is necessary to identify the learning styles at the tenth grade students in SMA SWASTA Teladan Medan based on visual, auditory, and kinaesthetic learning styles, especially in reading. VAK model is choosen to analyze the students' tendency toward in learning something. VAK model is one the simplest models, that includes vision, hearing, and feeling. Vision

learning style prefer to learn by seeing, auditory prefer to learn by hearing, and kinaesthetic prefer to learn by doing. Therefore, it is necessary to do research on students' learning style in reading comprehension at the tenth grade students at SMA SWASTA Teladan Medan.

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

In order to focus on the research, the inquiry would be guided by the following questions about:

1. What is the most dominant learning style in reading comprehension at the tenth grade students at SMA SWASTA Teladan Medan Tembung ?
2. Which is the fastest student's learning style in reading comprehension at the tenth grade students at SMA SWASTA Teladan Medan Tembung ?

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

This study therefore has the following objectives:

1. To find out the most dominant learning styles at the tenth grade students at SMA SWASTA Teladan Medan Tembung
2. To find out the fastest students' learning style in reading comprehension at the tenth grade students at SMA SWASTA Teladan Medan Tembung

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

It is necessary to limit any kind of study. This research only focuses on students' learning style. Visual, auditory, and kinaesthetic learning styles is one of the simplest models that includes, vision, hearing, and feeling. Visual learning style prefer to learn by seeing, auditory prefer to learn by hearing, and kinaesthetic prefer to learn by doing. In this study use VAK model. The text that will be used is narrative text to test reading comprehension of students. The students who will observe in this research are all of the students at the tenth grade students at SMA SWASTA Teladan Medan Tembung.

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

The researcher expected that the findings of the study will be significant for:

1. The students: to make them know what learning styles are they and so it can influences their reading comprehension.
2. The teachers: as a reference to improve his/her teaching and learning process and to choose the most appropriate teaching method based on his students' learning styles.
3. The researchers: as additional information and knowledge of experience in education, and to be a better English teacher.