

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. The Background of the Study

Education is a way to educate students, where education must reflect the process of humanizing the human. The process of humanizing the human meant is by the actualizing their potential to be utilized in their daily life or in their social life. Actualizing the students' potential can be implemented by giving them education start from primary until secondary where it begins from kindergarten, elementary, junior high school, until senior high school or vocational high school.

The formal educational institutions which prepare the graduates to have excellence in job market through vocational education is Vocational High School. Recently, Vocational High School is being incessantly developed by Indonesia government. This policy was pursued after observing the fact that 65% of educated unemployed are secondary graduates which can be interpreted as the lack of skill of secondary graduates to face the job market. Vocational High School (SMK) is designed to prepare students or graduates who are ready to compete in the job market directly and able to develop a professional attitude capability in the field. It is proven by the achievement of the alumnus of vocational schools that having skills to compete in the job market. It happens because in Vocational Schools, students decide the study program as their want. Then, their study program material and their learning activity will be

implemented based on their needs. Moreover, Vocational High School is demanded not only as a provider of man power who is ready to work on the job that suits the need of industrial world but also required to develop themselves to be an entrepreneur.

English is one of important lesson that have to be taught at school. It is because nowadays, people realize that English become an important lesson to be learned since it has been used as foreign language. Furthermore, english is common used in every field such as secretary, information and technology, science, international relationship, economics and much more. By seeing the fact, people are going to try to master the international language. Mastering English will be useful for the future because it will help for getting a better job. That is why English subject is still existing in the school.

Moreover, there are 2 kinds of curriculum that are used in Indonesia, they are : K13 (Kurikulum 2013) and KTSP (Kurikulum Tingkat Satuan pendidikan). But, the object of this research is SMK Sandhy Putra Medan which is actually implemented K13. In implementation of K13, the goals of English subject in the Vocational High School is to communicate by using intermediate level of English. Then, to reach the goal, students in Vocational High School must pass three standard of competencies that have provided in the curriculum, such as : to communicate by using novice level of English, to communicate by using elementary level of English and to communicate by using intermediate of English. In the other words, English subject in vocational

high school aims to develop students' abilities in communication by using the target language, both oral and written.

In learning English, there are four skills that the students need to be mastered, they are listening, reading, speaking and writing. Amirian & Reza (2013:20) clarify "certainly, if we consider the study of English as a foreign language around the world, the situation in which most English learners find themselves, reading is the main reason why the students learn the language". It means, before mastering another skills, reading should be mastered first. Because by having reading skill, they will be easy to get information, knowledge, and science. To support that statement, Grabe and Stoller (2002:9) elaborate that reading is a way to draw information from printed page and interpret the information appropriately. If students don't have any knowledge in reading, students will fail in listening, speaking or even writing.

Moreover, Reading will be taught to students in every level from elementary, junior high school, senior high school, vocational high school until in a higher education. So, every level has their own reading competency standard that should be achieved by the students. Based on BSNP (2007), the reading competency standard for Vocational High School is the students are able to understand the meaning in interpersonal and transactional discourse, both formally and informally in form of recount, procedure, report for daily life. Then, the English use for Vocational High School is also different with the English use for Senior High School. Senior High School implement English for General Purposes (EGP) while Vocational High School implement English

for Specific Purposes (ESP). It is proved by the definition of ESP, “ESP is an approach to language teaching in which all decisions as to content and method are based on the learner's reason for learning” Hutchinson and Waters (1987:19). It means that English reading material taught to students of Vocational High School is different with English reading material taught to students of Senior High School. Furthermore, there are many study program of Vocational High School as it is existing in Indonesia such as Tourism, Accounting, Pharmacy, Technology, etc. By seeing those department and its different needs, It will be better if the topic or theme of English materials should be different for each study program. For instance, the English materials for students of technology department – multimedia, computer and networking, access network program will be different with the English materials for students of tourism department – culinary art program, hotel accomodation program, etc.

Based on the writer's preliminary observation, the writer has found most of students were not good in comprehending the texts. They were hard and difficult to understand the texts. Then, the writer checked their English textbook and got the result that their English reading materials are totally inappropriate with their study program. Furthermore, they got confused with the vocabulary that are unfamiliar to their study program. For example, there were some texts under the title “How to make orange juice” and “How to plant jasmine” which are more appropriate for students of culinary study program and agricultural study program but it is inappropriate for students of access

network program. So, it can be concluded that the reading materials don't fulfill students' needs. In line with this, Sri Lestari Setiawan (2016) found that English reading materials especially in procedure text were not appropriate for students of Office Administration Study Program at SMK Panca Budi 2 Medan because there were so many procedure texts which do not explain more about their study program. Then, Citra Indah Maharani Laoli (2017) also found that there were irrelevant existing reading materials especially in procedure text for eleventh grade students of Computer and Network Engineering at SMK Harapan Stabat Medan. The developing implemented because procedure texts which consisted in students' textbook were general as Senior High School had, not specific for the students' study program. So, the procedure texts were developed based on students' needs.

Based on the fact above, the researcher can conclude that there are materials which are not related to their study program. Furthermore, ESP is expected to decrease that problem, because through ESP, teacher can analyze students' need so that teacher can provide the appropriate materials for students. If the materials are appropriate with their needs, they will have interest in learning English. Then, when they have interest in learning English, exactly they will have high motivation. If they have high motivation, hopefully learning process will run smoothly. So, the teacher role here is as facilitator who has responsibility to facilitate the students in teaching learning process, not only as facilitator, but also as provider who consider the suitable materials for students. Moreover, if the existing materials do not work, so the teacher should change

and take another optional material which can fulfill students' needs. Not only the materials will support the successful learning process but also the method used by the teacher will affect the successful learning process.

Actually, the English reading materials especially for students of access network study program are related to telecommunication. So, it is included about computer, cabling, central of telephone, data communication, cellular communication, networking (LAN, MAN, WAN), and so on. It is because they will be prepared as skilled and competent switching engineer in the future. So, to support the students to be skilled and competent engineer in the future, it should be supported by the textbook as their source of information which provides reading texts related to students' study program. Then, Nuttall (1996) asserts that there are three main criteria of choosing the texts to be used in the classroom; they are suitability of content, exploitability and readability. Hopefully, if their textbook contains the provisions above, students will have interest and high motivation in learning English. Finally, they can be skilled and competent engineer in the future.

In this research, researcher will put fully concern to the eleventh grade students of Access Network Program. The students admit that they had difficulties in understanding and comprehending the materials, especially in procedure text. It is because of the fact that show procedure texts in their textbook are not related with their study program. So that, they have less motivation in learning English. Moreover, the task provided on reading material in their textbook is not a well-designed task because it uses a single

task. Then, the task doesn't encourage students to think critically because most of the questions are arranged in the low order of thinking. If the tasks are arranged from the low order of thinking until the higher order of thinking, it will influence the students' creativity in answering every questions and it will give knowledge which can increase their comprehension. It should be ideal if the input is followed by a sequence of task and the task should relate one to another. Then, all these tasks are designed in a formal framework or procedure where every stage in the procedure provides a clear outcome as stated by Willis and Willis (2007). The sequence of task is also added by Nunan (2004) that task is therefore assumed to refer a range of work-plans which have the overall purpose of facilitating language learning-from the brief and simple exercise type to more complex and lengthy activities such as group problem-solving or simulation and decision making. So, designing the Reading materials based on Task-Based Learning is absolutely needed as the only one solution for the problem above.

Furthermore, the English Reading materials for students of Access Network Program will be developed based on students' needs which can give impact for them. One side, they can learn English as their provision to get English science and knowledge in order to compete in getting a better future job, and on the other side, by learning English, English can contribute in mastering their productive subject (subject that related to study program).

## **B. The Problems Identification**

From the problem background above, it can be identified several problems as follows :

1. Students don't have interest in learning English and students have less motivation because the textbook doesn't provide related material to their study program.
2. Students feel hard and difficult in comprehending and understanding the texts because they are confused with the unfamiliar vocabulary.
3. The tasks are not a well-designed task because of single task and the tasks don't encourage students to think critically because most of the questions are arranged in the low level of thinking.
4. The textbook doesn't provide related material to their study program because it is a general textbook from Educational Government (it is the same textbook for Senior High School and Vocational High School).

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

Based on the problems identification above, the problem of the study is "how are the English reading materials through Task-based Learning developed for the students in eleventh grade of Access Network Vocational High School?"



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

As mentioned in the problem of the study, the objective of this study is to design the English reading text materials for the students in eleventh grade of Access Network Vocational High School based on Task-Based Learning.

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

The scope of this study is the developing of English materials from students' textbook specifically in reading materials. The focus of this study is developing procedure texts especially 'how to make something' and 'how to do something' based on Task-Based Learning which will be taught for eleventh grade students of Access Network Program. The materials will be arranged based on the 2013 curriculum (K13) as the curriculum implemented at SMK Sandhy Putra Medan.

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

The findings of the study are expected to give theoretical and practical contributions. Theoretically, the findings of the study will extend and enrich the horizons in theories which related to the areas on how to develop reading materials to English for Specific Purposes learners.

Practically, the researcher of this study is expected to be useful for:

1. Teachers, the development of this materials is aimed at helping the teacher to have more relevant and appropriate materials used to teach students of access network program especially at SMK Sandhy Putra Medan.

Hopefully, the developed materials can be benefits as additional reading materials which are enriched with technical terms of access network.

2. Students, the developed materials are expected to be recommended reading materials that can help students to get knowledge with terms in access network as their study program in order to motivate their enthusiasm in learning English.
3. 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.



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