

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of Study

Reading materials play an important role to the English language teaching (ELT). Therefore, reading skill is needed to achieve the ability to understand English Text. Anderson in Chen (2005) emphasizes the mastery of reading skill could help learners have success not only in English learning but also in other content class where reading was required. Materials of reading become substantial in learning English in the class. As reading materials play an important role in English learning, they should the real life problem that will be faced by students later.

Students in general school learn four skills of English language (Speaking, Listening, Writing and Reading) in grammar, expressing of doing something, reading comprehension, types of reading, etc. They are expected to learn about English in general. Students in Vocational school especially in Teknik Komputer dan Jaringan (Computer Engineering and Network major) really need to be taught appropriate materials based on their needs which associated by the students' course. Therefore, teacher needs to find out the solution relate to the teaching learning materials. Moreover, the students of Computer Engineering and Network study program should mastery the English materials especially related to their major to be competent in the future. But, in reality they have not

learned the appropriate material related to their major in the school. It means that the students should accept suitable English teaching materials by using ESP.

English for Specific Purposes (ESP) commonly used in the teaching of foreign languages for specific using in certain professions and sciences focuses on designing courses based on specific needs of learners. According to Nunan (2004:7), adds that ESP is an important subcomponent of language teaching that has its own approaches to curriculum development, material design pedagogy, testing and research. ESP will provide the information include content and also method based on what the learners need to be learned. Some examples from the use of ESP such as ESP for Computer Engineering and Network, Accountant, Pharmasic, Tourism, Architecture, Nurse, Engineering, etc.

An interview was conducted by the researcher on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018 to the English teacher and grade X students in SMKN 1 Percut Sei Tuan to get the preliminary data. Some questions were given to the teacher, for instance about the curriculum and the English textbook that were used for grade X students.

Based on the teacher's responses related to the interview session, it is known that the school implemented 2013 curriculum of revised edition. The textbook used for the X grade students is develop by government entitled Bahasa Inggris 2016 of revised edition. It also found that the teacher mostly dominated the teaching learning process by tutoring and the materials just from the book. The existing textbook does not provide with the relevant some descriptive, recount, and narrative texts. The materials especially in reading text do not match with the

students' major. So, from the problems, one of the ways that can be achieved to solve the problem is the text book itself. This is due to the fact that textbook is one of the most important as teaching instruments that can be used by the teacher to enable the students to achieve learning goals. In addition, it functions as a daily guidance or instruction for the teacher (Posner, 2005). As a result teaching and learning process can be purposeful and meaningful.

Based on the observation and interviewed to the teacher at SMKN 1 Percut Sei Tuan, the researcher analyse the syllabus in teaching materials were not specific for some vocational school. There, the English teachers used one textbook to initiate teaching and learning activities because the school implemented the Curriculum 2013 Revision 2016 which the book is only provided by the government. While in fact, reading text material that is used by Computer Engineering and Network students are not suitable with their major. Based on syllabus, there are three genres that will be taught by the teacher. They are descriptive, recount and narrative text. The texts of descriptive text are "Taj Mahal" and "Tanjung Puting National Park". In recount text, they learn "Meeting My Idol" and "B.J Habibie". And on narrative text, they learn "Isshumboshi" and "The Legend of Malin". Based on the explanation above, the reading materials that vocational students learn especially Computer Engineering and Network students are not suitable with their needs and their major.

Based on the background, it is believed that it is important to find ways to overcome the problem. It is recommended that teachers have to develop reading materials based on students' needs. Dealing with the phenomenon above, the

researcher focuses on developing english reading materials for grade X students of Computer Engineering and Network at SMKN 1 Percut Sei Tuan.

### **B. Identifications of The Problems**

Based on the background of the study, some problems can be identified:

1. The content of the reading materials do not cover and provide students' need. As a result, some of students are not interested and lazy to read.
2. The teacher mostly dominated the teaching learning process by tutoring and the materials were dominantly taken from the book.

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

Text are classified interpersonal, transactional and functional texts. Further, functional text are divided into short and long functional texts. The scope of the study is to the long functional text, there are 3 kinds of long functional text to be discussed namely descriptive, recount, and narrative text.

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

The problems of the study are formulated as follows:

1. What reading materials are needed by the students of to Computer Engineering and Network department in SMKN 1 Percut Sei Tuan?
2. How are English reading materials suitable for grade X students of to Computer Engineering and Network department in SMKN 1 Percut Sei Tuan developed?

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

In line with the problems of the research, the objectives of this study are:

1. To investigate what reading materials are needed by the students.
2. To develop English reading materials based on the needs of Grade X students of to Computer Engineering and Network at SMKN 1 Percut Sei Tuan.

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

The findings of the research can be useful for teachers and also the students. For teachers, the findings can give the references for the teachers especially teachers in Computer Engineering and Network department so they can make good English reading materials which are suitable for their students' need in teaching and learning process.

For students, the findings of the research are able to make students easier to understand English reading materials because they have been associated with their courses in Computer Engineering and Network and their needs as Computer Engineering in future. The findings will be useful for the next researchers who want to conduct a research of developing English reading materials based on students' need.