

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Language is a main way for human beings to communicate each other in the social process. Language brought an information, an ideas, purposes, feelings, and opinions in oral or written way. Interaction took place in daily life through language till nowadays. It means all of human activities were conducted through language even in education process.

Education is a way to improve student's knowledge and produced good human beings through education and makes them to be able to get a good occupation in the future. They would be prepared since Junior High School until Senior High School and Vocational High School. Vocational High School focused on their major is available for students before they got into job career. It provided for specific studying programs and spesific subjects.

There are many subjects in Vocational High School such as, multimedia, culinary, cosmetics, office administration and etc. The achievement from this purpose came from the learning process of specific programs to build a professional capability in their major. For example a student of Vocational High School in multimedia study program would get more subjects about media such as. Graphics, visual effects, and etc. Even they would get more subjects about their majoring, English is one of the subject that can't be separated from

educational process because English is formally as the main language in the world.

English as a foreign language in Indonesia was containing four core skills that should be mastered by students namely: listening, reading, speaking and writing. By mastering those skills they will have good English ability. As one of them, reading is an important skills and should be mastered well by the students.

Reading is one of skills which is really important to learn well because it helps students for getting information and knowledge easier. It is necessary for students to get information and any other knowledge from textbooks. For that reason, to support and facilitate the needs of students and to improve their reading skills, the reading materials in this case the textbooks should be appropriate for the student's capacity and especially for vocational school that should be appropriate for the student's major.

Unfortunately, there was found that some teaching materials were not suitable for student's need. Those teaching materials were not related to student's major. O'Neill emphasizes that teaching materials help a teaching and learning process, the teaching materials must be suitable for student's need, even if they are not designed specifically for them, the teaching materials should make it possible for students to preview and prepare their lessons, and the teaching materials should allow for adaptation and improvisation. It can be said that teaching materials is one of important causes of classroom teaching process.

Facing this phenomenon, the teaching materials which are used in teaching process and not relevant enough for student's need should be evaluated because

the teaching and learning process of the classroom can't be running properly if the teaching materials were not suitable for students' needs and the learners would get low interest cause of it.

Based on the researcher's preliminary observation on SMK BM Bina Bersaudara Medan, it was found that the teaching materials are not suitable enough for students because it's exposed the different topic from their study program. It can be seen from the book that distributed among their school for students hand book "Communication Builder, English for Vocational School for Intermediate level (grade XII)", there was found a material that was not suitable to their needs as office administration students.

Actually, the students having vocation of office administration need to study English to support their vocation, the English materials should be relevant to their specific purpose so there is no gap between the English materials and what the students' need about English related to the vocational that they have and that is why there is a term ESP (English for Specific Purpose).

The applying of ESP that considered to improve the needs of students in learning process of reading text. Through this ESP students will be helped to find out the teaching materials which are related to their needs. In Indonesia, ESP was applied and there are many vocational highschool in Indonesia and it is essential to design the material that suitable for them. The teacher can analyze their students' need and they also can design the appropriate reading materials for their students through this ESP.

Since the focus of the study is on SMK grade XII, the level of ability in communicating is intermediate (BSNP: 2006), it means that the students should be able to communicate English related to their vocation and they are in third-year as well so they have to prepare themselves to face working life which is based on with their major.

Badan Standar Nasional Pendidikan (BSNP) stated that the purposes of English subject in Vocational High School are, (1) mastering the basic knowledge and skill of English to support the students in achieving the competency of their expertise program. (2) applying their knowledge and skill of English to communicate in both spoken and written communication in intermediate level.

From the explanation above, a teacher has a responsibility in learning process to facilitate the students to get their interest of material and give the suitable material for students based on their needs.

B. The Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the study above, it can be identified some problems as follows:

1. The reading materials which used on office administration study program was not related enough for their major.
2. The existing materials expose different topic from office administration study program.

C. The Scope of the Study

This research is focus on developing reading material based on students' need. The material focus on reading skill especially procedure text. The

scope of the study is limited on developing English reading material for grade 12 students.

D. The Problem of the Study

1. What English reading materials needed by students of office administration?
2. How should English reading materials be developed for students of office administration?

E. The Objective of the Study

1. To design English reading materials needed by students of office administration.
2. To develop English reading materials for students of office administration.

F. The Significance of the Study

1. The teachers can produce English reading materials that appropriate to the students' in vocational school.
2. The students can enlarge their reading skills by using the suitable material.
3. Researchers, to make further research related to the study.

