

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Learning is a conscious effort of individuals to a change in behavior. Spector, (2012, p.6) defines that learning involves a change of what is believed by a person from what has not been previously owned. Meanwhile, Sanjaya (2010, p.215) defines learning as a series of concerted effort which is structured to facilitate the students' learning process. Prawiladilaga (2009, p. 18) defines learning as interaction between teachers and learner whose goal has always developed on the basis of competence or performance to be possessed by students after they finish studying. The learning process should be designed to provide maximum opportunity for students to learn.

Teachers should be able to create language learning as a process of learning in a communicative and interactive way. It can be implemented with the use of communicative and interactive language learning methods and by providing teaching materials that can encourage students to communicate. Teaching material is an important aspect in the success of a learning process. Meanwhile, the development of teaching materials is a systematic process for determining teaching materials to be used in instructional activities in accordance with instructional needs (Suparman, 2001: 206). The instructional material designers need to consider the attractiveness aspect, the appropriat

topics, the level of learners, the cultural and geographic elements of the students, as well as the students' needs in developing the teaching materials.

English is one of the compulsory subjects in Indonesia. It has been taught broadly from elementary schools to senior high schools or vocational high schools. The guidance to teach English is stated in the standard of competence and the basic of competence which is issued by the government. An English teacher has to be familiar with the standard of competence and basic of competence before teaching in the classroom. For each school, the standard of competence and basic of competence are designed differently, so the English teacher has to be careful in preparing the syllabus, lesson plan, and instruction materials for teaching.

The aims of teaching English in vocational high school are to prepare the students with communicative competence to support them in achieving their competence skill and prepare the students to develop their communication skill to the highest level. The other aim is to prepare the students to be able to apply their English skill to communicate in the intermediate level, either written or spoken. There are three aspects of teaching English in vocational high school; those are basic communication of novice level, basic communication of elementary level, and basic communication of intermediate level.

In Indonesia, English has been used as a foreign language. English consists of four skills which have to be mastered by the students, they are listening, speaking, reading and writing. In this case, the learners are required

to comprehend (listening and reading) the language and produce (speaking and writing) the language. In teaching the language, between comprehending the language as well as producing the language is exactly have a relationship. Before producing the language, students need to have some vocabularies, those vocabularies are gotten by the process of comprehending the language.

Among the four language skills, reading is one of the skills that should be learned well by the students because by having reading skill they will be easy to get information, knowledge, and science. Grabe & Stoller (2002:9) elaborate that reading is a way to draw information from printed page and interpret the information appropriately. Meaning that the students will find out the information from the text as efficient as possible.

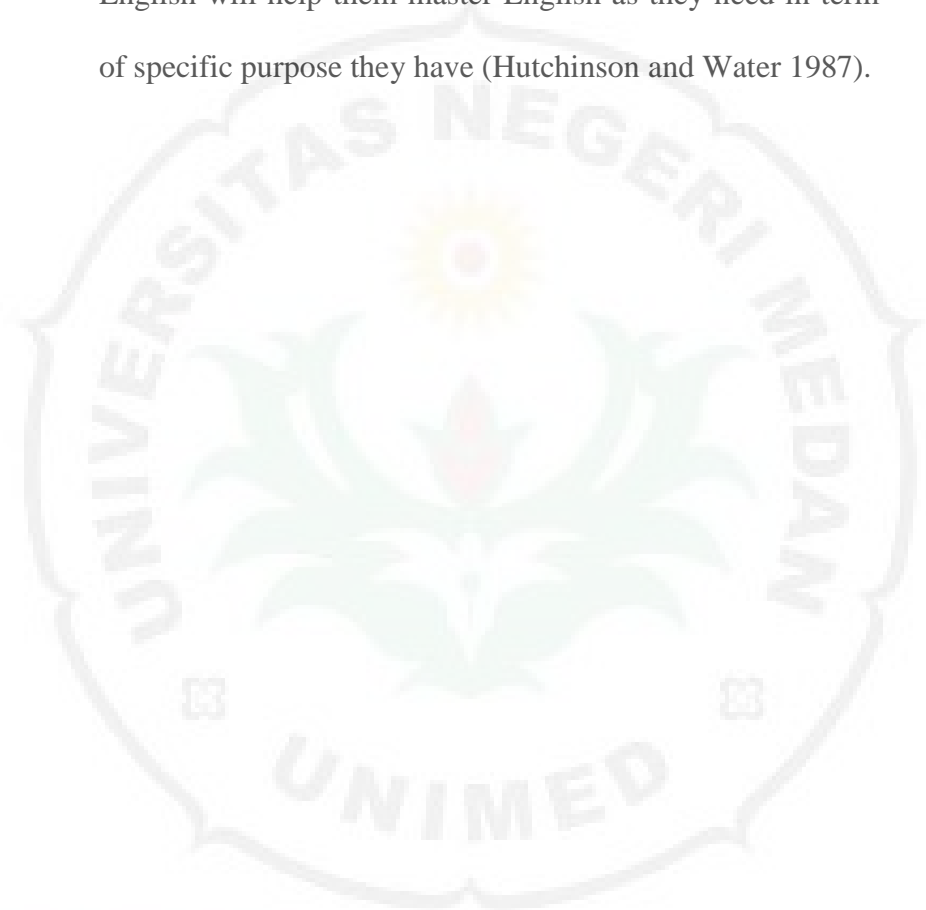
Based on the writer's preliminary observation SMK Swasta Eria Medan, it was found that the reading materials on the book they used "*Get Along With English*" published by Erlangga did not completely fulfill the need of Office Administration students. The students actually need the text about office, such as the procedure in handling a telephone call, procedure of arranging meeting, how to make a formal letter, etc. This is because, students in office administration major are insisted to know English and communicate with English in order that they are easy to get a job in the workplace later.

Reading materials as one of the parts in English learning materials are considered essential since they can help students to get more exposure in English as well as learn something new about their discipline. Through reading, the students can learn English as a language and they can also expand

information about the rapid development of technology presented in English. By having a good proficiency in reading skills, they probably can know something new they have never known before and build the curiosity of certain terms or vocabulary related their subject study. They will not see English simply as a subject they must go through during the school, yet they will consider English as something they have to learn in order to support their better career and future. The students are at least expected to know office administration terms in English that they will find later on once they face the real working field. In addition, when they have their vocational competency practice test later, it is better for them to use English. While, there is still no reading materials completely serve the content about the office especially steps in doing some works in office. So, as the case above, it is really needed to develop the reading materials based on the student's need and the materials that represent the real life problem possibly they will face in their workplace later.

To say the least, the material which is provided by teacher is too general. The material given to the vocational high school students ought to be more specific compared with other educational institutions. It is related to the

purpose which the students want to achieve. It means that vocational high school is undertaking the ESP which has the specific purpose in learning English. The specification of English will help them master English as they need in term of specific purpose they have (Hutchinson and Water 1987).



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Hutchinson and Water 1987 state that what distinguished ESP from General English is the awareness toward the students' needs.

It is because the graduates of vocational high school are expected to be able to face the global competition without entering college. To reach this goal, they must be equipped with English.

Based on BSNP (2006), English in vocational high school is aimed to improve knowledge, attitude, and skills of the students in order to equip them to live autonomously and to continue their education based on their skill programs. It also mentioned that the graduates should be able to maintain communication based on the workplace condition.

By mastering English, students can increase their value and be more appreciated in the job field. To achieve this objective, one of the important things to help students learn English is the relevant materials provided in the worksheet as the students' learning companion.

Business and Management study program is one of departments at SMK Eria Medan. The students of this study program learn the concept of management, marketing, cost of goods, job order costing, process costing, loss and profit, manufactured goods, and so on.

Based on the observation at SMK Eria Medan, the researcher found that the reading materials used by teacher in English Language Teaching is not proper to use and does not meet the target needs in the class ESP. Hence, it is necessary that reading materials for technology and information study program to be developed based on schema approach.

B. The Problem of the Study

Based on the focus of the study, the problem of this study can be formulated as follows:

- a. How to develop English reading materials especially procedure text based on scheme based approach for office administration program at SMK Eria Medan ?

C. The Objective of the Study

As mentioned in the problem of the study above, the objective of the research is:

- a. To develop an appropriate English reading materials based on scheme based approach for students of Office Administration program at SMK Eria Medan

D. The Scope of the Study

The scope of this study is reading text especially in procedure text of students in the Office Administration grade XI of SMK Eria Medan. The material will be arranged based on scheme based approach.

E. The Significances of the Study

Findings of the study are expected to be significant and relevant theoretically and practically.

- a. Theoretically

The result of the study can be a reference for those who are interested in developing English reading material.

b. Practically

The findings are contributed to:

- i. For the students of Office Administration Study Program, the result of this research can be useful to improve their reading skill in order to prepare them to face the work field.
- ii. For the English teachers of Office Administration Study Program, the developed materials from this research can be a guidance to improve the students' reading skill. The result of this research can also be useful to give an idea to develop other learning materials.

For other researchers who focus on Research and Development study, this research will encourage them to conduct relevant studies in

