

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. The Background of the Study

In today's interconnected world, English language has become the key to connect everyone. With English language, people can interact with other people across the globe. In this era, new challenges emerge, English has become the dominant language across the world, and English needs for specific purpose also rise. English has become one of the main subjects in every Indonesian high school and vocational school and all students are required to learn all four English language skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

Reading, writing, listening, and speaking are the four English language abilities that students must master. Koda (2005) stated Reading is an essential ability in learning English since without it, many types of information printed in media such as bulletins, magazines, and newspapers are unavailable. With that definition in mind, reading is an activity that can we do to gain more information and knowledge. In this interconnected era, people can read lot of information that happens simultaneously in real time.

Providing appropriate reading learning materials is one of the efforts to boost the standard of students' reading skills. According to Harsono (2007) Learning materials are one of the most crucial components that must be present in order to carry out the teaching and learning process. Appropriate learning tools are required to help pupils get more familiar with English that they will need in the future. Reading

materials are one of the components of English learning materials that can help students improve their English skills while also learning new information about their study programs. According to the syllabus of grade XI for vocational school, Report text is one of the text genres that students study about. According to Dirgeyasa,(2016) A report text is a part of writing that describes how things in our environment are described. It is more likely to describe and supply information in order to improve the reader's knowledge.

To acquire preliminary data, the researcher conducted an interview with a teacher about student motivation in the teaching and learning of English. The transcript of the interview is available here.:

Interviewer : Does the school use English Textbook specifically for tourism study programs

Interviewee : No, we use the same book that used by senior high schools.

Interviewer : According to Miss, How were the students' motivations in the process of teaching and learning English?

Interviewee : Some of the students were motivated but sometimes they were passive, because the topic in the text book was not appropriate with their study program.

Tourism study program is one of study programs in SMK Imelda Medan.

Researcher also conducted an observation in the text book that used by the students.

One of the topics in the textbook reading material that is not appropriate for tourism study program is the topic about report text. Because of the content of the textbook that given by the governments is too general for vocational school students its make

the students have low vocabularies and low interest in reading. During the observation, researcher also found that that students consist of various culture group, such as Tobanese, Karonese and, Malay. The topic in the report text should have related to the tourism study programs and the students culture.

According to Smith (2003) cultural tourism is all about the history and heritage of a certain destination with its people. Indonesia has big potential in its diverse culture, with cultural tourism Indonesia has an opportunity to improve its national development. This will give a strategic opportunity for Indonesia to improve its nationals. With this rich culture students prepared for the information they need in their future workplace. A research that conducted by Nambiar, R (2020) found that by using local culture to develop reading material made the student enjoyed the material and increased the students' confidence levels and kept them motivated in the learning process. Cultural tourism can increase students' interest in the teaching and study of English by using local culture as the foundation for generating English reading materials. The students can understand their culture more and could use the knowledge about the culture in their tourism related workplaces. Therefore, the focus on this research is "Developing Report Text Material of Cultural Tourism for Eleventh Grade Student of Tourism Vocational School".

## **B. Identification of the Problem**

From the background of the study, researcher identifies several problems:

1. The existing reading materials that used by the students were too general for students studying in tourism programs.
2. The textbook reading materials, particularly in the tourism study program, were not fulfilling students' needs.
3. The reading materials in textbook were not appropriate to students' needs, interests, demands, especially in tourism study program.
4. The materials in the students' text books do not support the students' tourism students' need. Students require more customized materials that address their unique needs at their future workplace.

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

Based on the background of the study, the problem of this study can be formulated as follows: *“How are the English reading materials of report text of cultural tourism developed for students of grade XI of Tourism Study Program?”*

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

In line with the to the problem of the study, this study aims to develop a report text reading materials of cultural tourism for grade XI students of Tourism Study Program at SMK Imelda Medan.

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

This study focuses on the designing report text material of Tobanese, Karonese and, Malay cultural tourism for grade XI student of vocational school needs in learning reading skill.

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

The findings of this study are intended to contribute both theoretically and practically.

#### 1. Theoretically.

The English reading materials can be useful reference in providing information and theories about developing reading resources for tourism study programs.

#### 2. Practically

1. For the English teacher, as appropriate reading resources in the teaching and learning process.

2. For the students, to encourage students to learn English and expand their knowledge in areas linked to their studies.

3. Other researchers can get some data and sources about developing material in vocational school