

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### **A. Background of the Study**

The acquisition of four essential English language skills, namely listening, speaking, writing, and reading, is considered foundational for English learners. Among these skills, reading is recognized as one of the four language skills that are instructed for English acquisition. According to Mickulecky & Jeffries (2004), the significance of reading is underscored, as it is believed to play a vital role in the enhancement of students' general language skills in English, the facilitation of thinking in English, the expansion of students' English vocabulary, the improvement of their writing abilities, and the provision of a means for new ideas, facts, and experiences to be accessed. Consequently, based on this perspective, reading skills are regarded as a means by which students can have their insight into the English language enriched. In addition, it is emphasized by Harmer (2003) that the capacity to read English texts is considered important, as it serves as a bridge to the comprehension of the textbook. Furthermore, reading is one of the skills expected to be mastered by students in the 2013 curriculum.

To enhance the reading skill, the requirement of a well-constructed worksheet is acknowledged by students. In accordance with the definition given by Sitepu & Dewi (2021), a student worksheet is described as a document comprising tasks that are intended to be completed by the students. Consequently, the consideration and development of student worksheets are deemed necessary. As emphasized by Mahsunah & Shobah (2022), a pivotal

role is played by student worksheets in the teaching and learning process, facilitating the transmission of knowledge from teachers to students. The primary objective of the student worksheet is to evaluate the level of comprehension of reading skills by the students.

In the process of teaching and learning activities, several factors influence the success of learning, where attention should be paid by the teacher to learning materials, learning methods, learning techniques, and also the worksheets used by students. Therefore, student worksheets are also important to be considered in the teaching and learning process. According to Triantoro (2009), student worksheets are guides for students to analyze or solve problems. The aim of these student worksheets is to determine whether students are following the learning process and to measure the level of students' understanding of the material, especially in reading skills. In this modern era, student worksheets can be in digital form, such as Google Forms, Kahoot, Quizizz, and others. Digital student worksheets can be accessed by students through computers or smartphones they own.

In the 21st century, teachers are required to possess skills and knowledge regarding the use of technology in the classroom. As stated by the OECD (2000, p. 16), "A wide range of technical and pedagogical skills must be possessed by teachers, with constant updating to keep pace with technological advances and to be familiar with their usage." Therefore, teachers who incorporate technology in their teaching have a better understanding and mastery of the topics being presented.

It is stated by Kinanti and Subagio (2020) that technological advances can be leveraged by teachers to simplify their work. One of these technological advancements is the digital-based Quizizz application. The Quizizz application is designed to assist students in practicing and mastering reading skills through the use of tablets, iPads, and smartphones (Priyanti et al., 2019). The positive impact of Quizizz on students' reading ability has been demonstrated in various research studies. According to the findings of Asmara's research (2020), students' reading skills were initially low, but after the implementation of Quizizz, their reading abilities were improved. Another study was conducted by Rasyid (2021) to evaluate the enhancement of students' reading skills using Quizizz among tenth-grade students at SMA Negeri 1 Pangkep, and it was found that Quizizz contributed to improvements in reading skills, particularly in reading descriptive text. Similarly, improvements in students' reading ability were observed in Nanda's research (2018) on the utilization of Quizizz to enhance students' reading comprehension skills at SMKN 3 Takalar.

In correlation to this technological advance, it is recommended that teachers should be more creative and innovative in the development of student worksheets. There are many tools that can be utilized to create attractive worksheets. For instance, games can be incorporated into quizzes, and when quizzes and games are played, they can become a favorite aspect of the learning process. This activity is also capable of fostering focus, enthusiasm, and motivation in students, especially when learning English.

Based on preliminary data observations of class VIII students at SMP Kartika 1-I Medan, an interview was conducted with an English teacher regarding the teaching and learning process, specifically focusing on recount text. It was stated by the teacher that the worksheet provided by the school was deemed sufficient in terms of students' reading skills. Additionally, it was emphasized by the teacher that there is a significant need to develop a worksheet specifically for recount text, particularly to enhance the reading skills of students in class VIII.

In this study, it is planned by the researcher to develop student worksheets specifically for reading skills using digital media, namely based on Quizizz, focusing on recount text. Student worksheets are sheets that contain assignments or questions that need to be completed by students. According to Prastowo (2012: 204), student worksheets are teaching materials created in the form of a piece of paper that comprises of content, summaries, and instructions related to the implementation of learning tasks to be performed by students, leading to the attainment of basic competencies. The objective of student worksheets is to determine and assess students' ability to comprehend a given topic.

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

The problem that can be formulated is as follows: How can a digital worksheet based on Quizizz be developed for teaching reading recount text to eighth-grade students at SMP Kartika I-1 Medan?

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

The objective of this research is to develop a reading digital worksheet based on Quizizz for teaching Recount Text to eighth-grade students at SMP Kartika I-1 Medan.

### **D. Scope of the Study**

This research is limited to the development of a reading digital worksheet based on Quizizz for teaching reading recount text to eighth-grade students at SMP Kartika I-1 Medan. To assist the students in SMP Kartika I-1 Medan, this worksheet will be tailored to their specific needs. Furthermore, this worksheet will be exclusively utilized for the purpose of teaching and learning reading recount text.

### **E. Significances of the Study**

The significance of this research can be categorized into two distinct areas: theoretical and practical. From a theoretical perspective this research is expected to provide more information regarding the development of reading digital worksheet based Quizizz to teach student's reading comprehension for eight grade students in SMP Kartika I-1 Medan.

On the practical side, the significance of this research is as follows:

1. For the students, it is expected that a new learning experience in recount text comprehension will be offered by this research, thereby motivating them to engage in learning and enhancing their reading skills.
2. For the teachers, this research is expected to introduce a fresh instructional approach that can be employed for teaching recount text. Furthermore, it is

expected to inspire teachers to create customized digital reading worksheets tailored to the specific needs of their students.

3. For researchers, this study is expected to yield valuable data, resources, and references regarding the development of digital reading worksheets based on Quizizz for the teaching of recount text.

