

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses about background of the research, problem of the research, purpose of the research, objective of the research, benefit of the research, scope of the research and definition of key terms.

### **1.1 Background of the Research**

Reading is an activity that people do to get some information. According to Harmer (2007, p. 99) reading is useful for language acquisition. It provided that students more or less understand what they read, the more they read, the better they get at it. Reading is very important for people because by reading students can get knowledge, information and phenomena that are happening now and in the past. Since primary school or even when people have not started formal education, people start learning to read from childhood. Because reading makes it is easy to get accurate information. According to Cline (2006, p. 2) that reading is decoding and understanding written texts. Decoding requires translating the symbols of writing system including into the spoken words which they represent. Understanding is determined by the purposes for reading, the context, the nature of the text, and the readers' strategies and knowledge. Therefore, the use of suitable books, strategies and the material use must be appropriate with the standard criteria that could involve the student's competence in reading, so that the students feel comfortable and understand the content of the books or the material the teachers give.

Reading is one of the most important components of any language and it is an essential tool for life long learning. The goal of reading is comprehension. Therefore, many experts give definition to reading comprehension. Snow (2002, p.11) stated that it as the process of simultaneously extracting and constructing meaning through interaction and involvement with written language.

According to Huda in Fauziati (2002, p.112) the goal of English teaching is the acquisition of communicative competence with an emphasis on reading skill, and not on oral skill. This is the reason why reading skill is so important. Also, reading helps in mental development and known to stimulate the muscles of the eyes. Reading is an activity that involves greater levels of concentration and adds to the conversational skills of the reader. The habit of reading also helps readers to discover new words and phrases that they come across in everyday conversations. According to Gani (2016) the habit can become a healthy addiction and adds to the information available on various topics. It helps us to stay in touch with contemporary writers and makes us sensitive. However, there are a lot of students who experience reading difficulties, including reading narrative text. Based on the curriculum, narrative text is one type of text that is taught to ninth grade students in junior high school. Narrative itself always appears in national examination. Therefore, it is important for students to read and comprehend narrative text. According to Sarwo (2013) comprehending narrative text is a term used to identify those skills needed to understand and apply information contained in narrative text. However, in comprehending and reading narrative text students have difficulty understanding the contents of the story in the text. Leinhardt, Beck, and Stainton (2009, p. 70) in Nofitarina (2016) stated that students faced

difficulty in identifying the main story of the text and are limited in their ability to connect events into causal chain. Reading narrative text are seemed to be difficult dealing with some aspects such as word, structure, setting, moral value, and use of simple past tense. It is related to Widodo stated (2019) who stated that students got difficulties in reading narrative text because they had lack of vocabulary, the use of simple past tense, and instruction to make sense of the moral values in narrative text. Therefore, to overcome these difficulties, students have to read a lot of printed and online text.

In today's development, electronic media can be used to help students disseminate information, get information, and write some information. The use of electronic media for online reading in reading and making it easier for teachers or students to teach and learn. It is supported by Hartman, Morsink & Zheng (2010) stated that rapidly developing technology and the ubiquity of the Internet have changed people's reading practices, rendering the traditional view of literacy insufficient. The changes in reading practices in modern society have an impact in all countries, especially in the field of standard education or in the curriculum. Reading online learning from online information sometimes requires a lot of effort because online reading is very different from reading offline. For instance, reading online requires a device such as a laptop, cellphone or computer. Meanwhile reading offline in the form of article in print or text in print. However, when students read information online, they frequently jump around from source to source using hyperlinks that direct us to a different Web page, as stated by Yusuf (2016).

It is undeniable that there are many difficulties faced by students when reading text online. just as the light on a smartphone is too bright, causing their eyes to have problems and it can hurt the eyes. Then, when students experience network problems, the bad network keeps the text from showing up completely. Many things become difficult when students read the text online that can be found such as the light of the smartphone or laptop that can hurt their eyes. To sum up, reading is an activity to get information about something. Now days students are not only reading by using printed form but also by using online text. Online reading is the process of extracting meaning from a text that is in a digital format. But, it is not easy to lead the online reading, because it needs a good internet. Some barriers which experienced by some people are different. But here the researcher focuses on the difficulties of reading narrative text online. Because reading narrative text is in accordance with the in junior high school curriculum taught in the school. Also, narrative text is very complex, there are several aspects that need to be understood, such as the intrinsic elements of the text, general structure, and grammar, namely the past tense in reading narrative text itself. That's why researcher want to focus on choosing the type of text, namely narrative text.. That was a previous study done by Laura Kannianen and Asko Tolvanen (2019) regarding to Literacy skills and online research and comprehension struggling readers face difficulties online. There was study about literacy skills and the difficulties faced by students. The researcher measured the students' fluency in reading related to the gender of the students. And the design of the research was experiment design with the result of a structural equation model showed that these ORC or Online Reading Comprehension skill were divided into

six highly correlated factors, and that they formed a common factor in ORC. Altogether, these predictor variables explained 57% of the variance in ORC. Reading comprehension, along with gender, was the strongest predictor for ORC performance. In addition, reading fluency and written spelling explained ORC variance over and above reading comprehension. These findings suggested that struggling readers probably faced difficulties online. Another research done by Coiro, J (2014) entitled Online Reading Comprehension: Challenges and Opportunities. In this study Coiro, J explained how teachers and students solve the problem of reading online by looking at the opportunities and challenges that exist. These included understanding and becoming proficient with the new literacy skills and practices needed for online research, developing a special kind of digital wisdom that focuses on learning how to learn with the Internet, taking on new roles in a digital culture that expects learners to actively participate and contribute new knowledge as a member of their community, and developing positive attitudes toward using the Internet for academic work. The result of this study was the researcher concludes that all of these experiences help students build the confidence, skills, and experiences students need to be active, digitally savvy global citizens. As the Annual Google Science Fair competition suggests, the teacher's job is to prepare students to be curious and caring, read competently in offline and online spaces, and create innovative products that can truly change the world.

The difference between this study is that here the researcher wants to know and explain in narrative about the difficulties of reading narrative text online for ninth grade students, and how students overcome the situations. The researcher

tries to explain descriptively about the students' difficulties in reading online, then the type of text used is narrative text . It is different from the previous study, namely using the existing text on the internet randomly. Because, in narrative text there are a lot of words and sentences so researcher wants to know students' difficulties when finding or reading narrative text online through non printed forms. Therefore, the researcher conduct a research entitled The Difficulties of Reading Narrative Text Online for Ninth Grade Students at SMP Muhammadiyah 01 Jember in 2020/2021 Academic Year.

### **1.2 Problem of the Reserach**

Based on the background of the research above, the problems of the research are as mentioned below:

1. What are difficulties faced by ninth grade students of SMP Muhammadiyah 01 Jember in 2020/2021 Academic Year in reading narrative text online?
2. What are the strategies done by the ninth grade students of SMP Muhammadiyah 01 Jember in 2020/2021 Academic Year to overcome the difficulties?

### **1.3 Objectives of the Research**

In relation to the research problem, the objectives of this research as follows:

1. To describe difficulties students faced in reading narrative text online for ninth grade students of SMP Muhammadiyah 01 Jember in 2020/2021 Academic Year.

2. To describe the strategies done by ninth grade students of SMP Muhammadiyah 01 Jember in 2020/2021 Academic Year to overcome the difficulties.

#### **1.4 Purpose of the Research**

Regarding the identification of the problem, the purpose of this research to find out The Difficulties of Reading Narrative Text Online for Ninth Grade Students at SMP Muhammadiyah 01 Jember in 2020/2021 Academic Year.

#### **1.5 Benefit of the Research**

The results of the research are expected to give both theoretical and practical benefit for the teachers and students as follows:

1. The Teacher

The teacher can take advantages of the information about the difficulties faced by students in reading text online and she or he can evaluate whether this strategy and media better or not to be applied in the classroom.

2. The Students

The researcher believes that this research help the students to identify what difficulties they faced during reading text online and students can solve the difficulties and find the new strategies so that it not disturb their learning process. Hopefully, they have better improvement on their reading performance.

### 3. Other Researcher

The result of this study might be used for other researchers who are interested to conduct the same area of this study. The findings of this study can be used as a reference to conduct further different research design or methodology.

#### **1.6 Assumption of the Research**

In this research, it is assumed that in reading narrative online text for ninth grade students is not really effective in underlining and understanding the text.

#### **1.7 Scope of the Research**

The scope of the research are the difficulties students faced in reading narrative text online at ninth grade in SMP Muhammadiyah 01 Jember.

#### **1.8 Definition of Key Terms**

##### **1. Reading**

Reading is an activity that involves greater levels of concentration and adds to the conversational skills of the reader. The habit of reading also helps readers to discover new words and phrases that they come across in everyday conversations

##### **2. Reading Text Online**

Reading text online is the process of extracting meaning from a text that is in a digital format. But, it is not easy to lead the online reading, because it needs a good internet and strategies by the readers.