

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses some aspects that deal with the topic of the research. They are background, problem, focus, purpose, significance, assumption, scope of the research, and definition of term.

1.1. Background of The Research

Reading skill is a very important skill students, because students are required to be able to find ideas and ideas from something reading, therefore reading skills must be mastered by students with good, because these skills are related to student success in school. Through this activity, students can add to their understanding and experience self. They will get the necessary information and ideas they know. In addition they will be able to tell what they are not know beforehand. (Burt, et. al 2003) state that learning reading is important because it helps people learn to think in a new language, help people build a better vocabulary, help people more comfortable with English written language, can help people to learn English.

Reading skill activities can open up new knowledge and ideas, especially reading in English or a foreign language. In this case, students will get information, and understand other things that the world community does thanks to the information obtained from reading. A current study shows that improving students' reading skills, increases students' skills in knowledge knowledge (Akbaşlı, ahin, & Yaykiran, 2016). But in Indonesia itself the ability to read English texts in students is very low, this happens because students in Indonesia think that reading English texts is a very difficult activity. To overcome these problems, every teaching and learning process must have learning methods. The learning method is a way to carry out a predetermined design in the form of real activities that have been carried out to achieve learning objectives. According to (Sutikno, 2009) learning methods are various subject matter carried out by educators so that the learning process occurs in students in an effort to achieve goals. This of course leads a teacher to find the right method in building material

so that it can be well absorbed by students. It group discussion achieves, and completes, the same goal, namely increasing student achievement or learning outcomes. Although one-on-one meetings are important meetings between teachers and students, we can supplement conferences with small groups to work more efficiently. This efficiency is critical in today's classrooms with taller sizes, larger class sizes, and the size that has to be placed on both students and teachers. Working in groups helps children because teachers can see more children in the same time it takes to conduct one individual conference. Reading comprehension in learning English is very important, because students can get various ways to understand the content of reading. But students are very difficult to understand reading if there is a lack of awareness in each student to learn to read in English, then the students will be very left behind. In this modern era there is no will or interest from students to learn reading comprehension, it will be more difficult if taught by the teacher. According to the teacher at SMK Plus Al Mujahidi, grade 10 students have very low interest in reading, so they should also be given reading comprehension lessons. According to (Simorangkir, et al, 2019) student achievement in understanding reading comprehension is better than before. Even though the teacher has experience in teaching and learning, it is better to have guidelines, rules for several steps in teaching, especially teaching reading. In learning there are ways for teachers to facilitate learning activities, one of which is using the Small Group Discussion method.

Small Group Discussion provides opportunities for students to learn to be more active in working together. In small group discussions students are stimulated to explore ideas, increase understanding of new things, techniques for solving problems, encourage the development of thinking and communicate effectively, improve group cooperation, and increase and involvement of students in making decisions (Djamarah, 2005) The method is based on several learning theories so that students can be independent and active in their learning.

The importance of small group discussions to maximize the potential of students in the learning process, so that learning becomes active, creative and fun. In small group discussions students are stimulated to explore ideas, improve understanding of new things, techniques for solving problems, encourage

development of thinking and communicating effectively, improving group cooperation, and increasing student involvement in decision making (Djamarah, 2005) the researcher uses the learning method by using small group discussions because it is very important to improve reading comprehension. According to (Kadawa & Alsheenqeeti, 2020) this technique equips students with skills to solve problems related to subject matter and problems encountered in everyday life. According to teachers at SMK Plus Al Mujahidi they have never used the small group discussion method in classroom learning.

It can be assumed that small group discussions are very important. This is in accordance with the previous study by Cecep Ahmad S (2013) with the title "Effectiveness of the Small Group Discussion Method in Teaching Reading" to find out and analyze the effects of using SGD in Reading. The similarities between this study and previous studies are that they both want to know the effect of using SGD on reading. However, there are differences there was a previous study, namely previous researchers only examined the effect of SGD on learning to read, but in this study, researchers used SGD to determine the effect of SGD on reading comprehension using descriptive text. But at SMK Plus Al Mujahidi they have never used this method for learning reading comprehension. From the explanation above, the researcher decided to conduct a study entitled "The Effect of Using Small Group Discussion in Reading Compherension". The purpose of this study was to determine the effect of students on reading comprehension after using the small group discussion learning method.

1.2. Problem of The Research

Based on research background, the problem of the research could be identified as follows.

1. How are students' reading comprehension results in a descriptive text taught by using SGD ?
2. Is there any effect of using small group discussions on students reading comprehension on students in learning English material for grade 10?

1.3. The Purpose of The Research

Based on the research question formulated above, the present study aims to find out the results of students reading comprehension in a reading descriptive text taught by using SGD, and to find out the effect of using small group discussion on students reading comprehension on students in learning English material for grade 10.

1.4. The Operational Definition of the Research

1.4.1. Small group discussion

Small group Discussion is a learning method that uses the learning process of students who are divided into groups that aim to solve problems by discussion between 3-4 students. This method provides opportunities for students to learn more actively.

1.4.2. Reading Comprehension

Reading is an activity to get information by understanding symbols that can form sentences and become knowledge. Reading is an activity of obtaining information by understanding symbols that can form sentences and become knowledge. Reading comprehension is a way of reading by analyzing the contents of what is read and getting what messages are written by reading them orally or reading them silently.

1.5. The Significance of The Research

The result of this research is expected to be useful for the English teacher, and the future researchers.

1.5.1. Teacher

The results of this study can be used for an easy way or method to improve students' English reading skills, especially in descriptive text material.

1.5.2. Future researchers

This research can be elaborate for further research or further research using the SGD method.

1.6. Scope of the Research

The scope of this research is about "The effect of using the SGD learning method on reading comprehension" in English material. The subjects of this study were grade 10 students at SMK Plus Al Mujahidi.

In line with the identification of the problems stated above, the writer needs it to limit the problem of this research on students' understanding of reading using SGD on special descriptive text for Smk Plus Al Mujahidi. In which, the researcher found out how students' reading comprehension used Small Group Discussion on description text at Smk Plus Al Mujahidi.

