CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents some aspects consisting of background of the research, problem of the research, objective of the research, operational definition of the term, significance of the research and the scope of the research.

1.1 Background of the Research

English consists of four basic skills, they are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Whereas, reading is one of the important language skills in obtaining input to learn foreign language and also one of the hardest one for a foreign language learner. Reading is one of the demand of life in modern society, because reading is not only to obtain information but it serves as a tool for expanding our knowledge about a lot of things about life. The more we read, we will improve the ability to understand words and boost our creativity and also the more knowledge that we can get to enrich our vocabulary.

Grellet (1996:7) stated that reading is a constant process of guessing, and what one brings to the text is often more important than what one finds in it. This is why, from the very beginning, the student should be taught to use what they know to understand unknown elements. Whether these are ideas or simple word. In other words, the student have to comprehend the words, sentences, paragraphs, and the whole text in order to get the ideas of the text.

In Indonesia, one of the problem in English education field is the lack of students' ability in reading. Many students have difficulties in reading English text, especially in reading comprehension. They cannot focus on what they read during the reading actvity and still have difficulty to get the ideas of the text because the classroom environment do not support them to read well so the student are not motivated to read English text. Some students also getting bored to follow the classroom activity. Most of the teachers cannot provide an interesting reading activity in the classroom. Based on the information which the researcher get from the teacher in SMPN 2 Bangorejo, it was revealed that the eighth grade students' in SMPN 2 Bangorejo still faced some problems in reading comprehension. The teacher said that they could not comprehend the reading texts well because they lacked of vocabulary.

Based on the problem above, the researcher wanted to overcome this problem by using a new strategy that had never been used by the English teacher, especially the suggestopedia method. Stevick (1976:42) in Richard and Rodgers (1986 : 142) writes: Suggestopedia is a method developed by the Bulgarian Psychiatrist educator George Lozanov. Suggestopedia is a specific set of learning recommendations derived from Suggestology, which is Lozanov describes as "a science....concerned with the systematic study of the non-rational and/or non-conscious influences" that human beings are responding to.

Suggestopedia is the humanistic approach that prioritize the student needs. A most of feature of suggestopedia is the centrality of music and musical rhythms to learning. The heart of suggestopedia is the use of background music during learning process. In other word, music can increase interest and active the

information mentally, physically, or emotionally, it can help student relax and feel that the learning experience is going to be pleasant one.

Based on the description about suggestopedia, the reseacher believes that suggestopedia method can improve students' reading comprehension because suggestopedia method makes the students more active and interested in the material and it will be easier for them to understand during teaching and learning process in reading. Beside that, this method is never conducted at SMPN 2 Bangorejo.

Based on previous research that has been conducted by Negara (2009) found that there is a significant effect of Suggestopedia teaching method on reading comprehension achievement. In another previous research found that Suggestopedia Method was able to improve other skill such as speaking skill. It is proved by a research conducted by Widodo (2012). Moreover, there were also several advantages from the use of such method. The students could be relaxed and more easily to absorb rhe material.

Considering on the above background, the researcher decided to conduct a research entitled: "Improving Eighth Grade Students' Reading Comprehension by Using Suggestopedia Method at SMPN 2 Bangorejo in the 2015/2016 academic year."

1.2 Problem of the Research

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

How can the use of Suggestopedia method improve the eighth grade students'

reading comprehension at SMPN 2 Bangorejo in the 2015/2016 academic

year?

How can the use of Suggestopedia method improve the eighth grade students'
active participation at SMPN 2 Bangorejo in the 2015/2016 academic
year?

Objective of the Research

To find out how the use of Suggestopedia method can improve the eighth
grade students' reading comprehension of SMPN 2 Bangorejo in the
2015/2016 academic year.

To find out how the use of suggestopedia method can improve the eighth
grade students' active participation of SMPN 2 Bangorejo in the
2015/2016 academic year.

1.4 Operational Definition of the Terms

The term used in this research could be operationally defined as follow.

1.4.1 Suggestopedia Method

Suggestopedia method is a specific set of learning recommendation
derived from suggestology which have five components, there are authority,
infantilization, double-planedness, intonation, and concert pseudo-passiveness.

Reading Comprehension

Reading comprehension in this research means the result of reading test
in the form of score achived by the student after the action is given. The reading
skill in this test covers: words comprehension, sentences comprehension,
paragraph comprehension, and text comprehension.

1.5 Significance of the Research

The result of this classroom action research is expected to give important information for the English teacher, the students, and the future researcher.

1.5.1 The English Teacher

The result of this research is hopefully used for new information and an alternative teaching reading method that will be used in the classroom.

1.5.2 The Students

The results of the present research is expected to increase and motivate the students to learn English especially in reading comprehension because this method makes the students more relax to learn.

1.5.3 Future Researchers

The findings of the research could be used as reference or a resource to conduct a further research by using suggestopedia method on reading comprehension.

1.6 The Scope of the research

The scope of this research is about the implementation of Suggestopedia Method to improve students' reading comprehension in comprehend the words, sentences, paragraphs, and text comprehension by giving music instrument. This research is focused on Suggestopedia Method as the activity for the eighth grade students of SMPN 2 Bangorejo in the 2015/2016 academic year.