

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE RESEARCH

The government, through the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology, will implement of education which will start in the 2024/2025 academic year. Originally, students were taught using the K13 Curriculum, now it has been changed to the Merdeka Curriculum.

One of the subjects that will implement the Independent Curriculum is English. Language has an important role in human life. Language is a form of human communication. Humans are social creatures who must interact with each other to fulfill various aspects of life. Language is one of the most important and influential elements in human cultural life.

Moreover, reading has become one of the methods to obtain pieces of information of several materials taught by the teacher, while reading also is a basic life skill. It means Reading is making meaning from print. It requires that we do the following: Identify the words in print: a process called word recognition. It means Reading is the process of looking at a series of written symbols and getting meaning from them. When we read, we use our eyes to receive written symbols (letters, punctuation marks and spaces) and we use our brain to convert them into words, sentences and paragraphs that communicate something to us. According to William Grabe and F. Stoller. (2013, p.3) said that reading is a way to get the meaning from a text and to form an interpretation of that information. It is the first foundation for student's success in school when they face real life (Work World). Without the ability to read well, opportunities for personal fulfillment and job success inevitably will be lost. Thus, it

makes many students failed in understanding the text because they unable retain information from the text.

According to Takaloo & Ahmadi, (2017) argue that the failure of achieving the reading comprehension objectives during the students' primary grades will lead them to have lack of reading ability. Comprehension is the product of reading process which is the key of reading success. In reading, there are some processed happens concurrently to draw understanding of what readers read. To draw deep understanding, the readers have to read frequently and understand what they read. If the readers do not comprehend the reading material well, the information will not long-last in memory.

Steinbach and Frijters (2000), reading difficulty is characterized as individuals' inability to grow "rapid, context-free word identification skill. To investigate the reasons of reading difficulties, Hartney (2011) stated that most problems of today's adolescents and adults are because of problems that might be neglected or avoided in their childhood. Besides, other factors like one's socio-economic status, domestic environment can have impact on reading (Dickenson and Neuman, 2006).

According to OECD (2014), Kwl Strategy is a reading-thinking strategy, focuses on the student as a learner who asks questions and thinks about ideas while reading. Through a three-phase strategy "Know", "Want to know", and "Learned" (Paris, 1987) students develop independent skills in comprehending, composing and learning the text. Moreover, Kwl pushes the students to be good reader and they are more capable to summarizing reading passages and mapping the main ideas.

The aim of this research is focussing on reading skill in descriptive text by using K-W-L method in addition, the researcher takes the research tittle is under "The effect of using Kwl on reading comprehension in descriptive text at 9th grade of Smp Al-Qodiri Jember".

1.2 PROBLEM OF THE RESEARCH

From the background of the research above, the problem can be identified such as:

1. How Kwl is able the students on reading comprehension to read descriptive text at 9th grade of Smp Al-Qodiri Jember by using Kwl?

1.3 OBJECTIVE OF THE RESEARCH

The objective of this research are:

1. Analyzing the students' comprehension on read descriptive text at 9th grade of Smp Al-Qodiri Jember by using Kwl.

1.4 OPERATIONAL DEFINITION

1. Reading Comprehension is the product of reading process which is the key of reading success. In reading, there are some processed happens concurrently to draw understanding of what readers read.
2. Kwl Strategy is a reading-thinking strategy, focuses on the student as a learner who asks questions and thinks about ideas while reading. Through a three-phase strategy "Know", "Want to know", and "Learned".
3. Description text is writing that describes an object based on the author's observations, feelings, and experiences. This text usually contains sentences that describe an object (object or living thing) and gives the reader the impression that he saw, heard, and felt that object.

1.5 SIGNIFICANT OF THE RESEARCH

The results of this study are expected to provide benefits for various components, namely:

1.5.1 THEORITICAL SIGNIFICANT

This research provided good information regarding the effect using Kwl on reading comprehension in descriptive text at grade 9th of Smp Al-Qodiri Jember. Additionally, this research can be used for other researchers who conducted the same research related on reading comprehension in descriptive text using Kwl.

1.5.2 PRACTICAL SIGNIFICANT

1. For teachers, this research provides references for teaching and can help teacher on reading comprehension in descriptive text.
2. For students, Kwl method makes easier on reading comprehension in descriptive text.
3. For other researchers, this research can be used as study material to develop relevant research on the same topic.

1.6 SCOPE OF THE RESEARCH

The object in this research is the students at 9th grade of Smp Al-Qodiri Jember.