# CHAPTER I
# INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the topics that be discussed are: research background, research problem, research objectives, research objectives, operational definition of the term, importance of the research, operational definition of the term, importance of the research, operational definition, scope and limitations of the research.

## 1.1   Research Background

Technological developments have brought about significant changes, especially in aspects of life and also aspects of education and student's reading behavior (Pido,etc 2022) not be denied that in the era of the millennial generation today has a high level of technological literacy, coupled with literacy with new technological advances causing education to expand, with the existence of technology also increasingly sophisticated can make students more enthusiastic in participating in learning activities, there are many platforms that support students such as smartphones, laptops, ebooks, learning applications, and online platforms. (Danlei Chen, G. Macleod, 2021) Currently, Web-based or computer-based reading technology makes a very effective and interactive offering so that high school students can further improve their fluency and skills in reading. besides that reading technology can also increase students' interest and talent in reading to be an important role in processing the way students learn, especially at the high school level.

With the increasingly sophisticated technology where students who

previously felt less interested in traditional reading materials may be more stimulated by materials presented digitally. with a variety of variations and more interesting methods, (Abdul Hakim, Sri Wahyuni, 2024) states such as technological media technology, combining visuals, audio animations, and interactive quizzes, some of these technological ways allow students to like more and make reading more fun. besides that, students can also search for a wider variety of texts and information, and provide new ways of interacting with reading material.

Although the impact of digital has many benefits, it cannot be denied that there are many factors that can hinder the presence of technology in every student's learning, such as the economic status of parents, the lack of inadequate facilities in each school and the ability of teachers to use digital learning tools and resources is also needed because it can hinder the smooth way of learning for students, such as some students who have difficulty or limitations in accessing technology, how to adapt to new learning methods, the difficulty of accessing other devices, and may be affected by distractions caused by the use of digital devices. Therefore, it is important to evaluate the effectiveness of using digital technology in reading learning at the high school level.

The main purpose of this digital technology is that we can find some of the effects caused by this digital technology, (Wenyan Zhang, 2024) said such as the effect on students' reading, comprehension, reading skills, and immersive experiences can positively affect students' reading. (Ulzhalgas Adilbayeva, 2022) By understanding some of the effective digital technologies in improving students' reading skills and can focus on better understanding and teaching strategies and create a more engaging and productive learning environment. The research aims to explore and analyze the impact of digital technology use on students' reading skills,

as well as provide recommendations for best practices in technology integration in the curriculum.

The novelthy of this research from previous research conducted (Khan, Shamin, & Nambobi, 2018) is the research using classroom action research methods,Meanwhile, this research emphasizes that the effectiveness of reading can not only be learned at school, but also outside school. Even though reading skills in schools are still relatively low, this research was investigated as an experimental alternative. By referring to the above phenomena, this research tries to explore approaches as reading strategies. Based on the background above to solve the problem of learning to read and produce a thesis with a title **"The Effectiveness of Digital Read Theory Application on Student's Reading Skill at SMA NEGERI KALISAT".**

## 1.2   Research Problem

The problems to be answered in this study is "Is there any significant effect of the digital read theory based learning in EFl students reading skills at SMA Negeri Kalisat

## 1.3   Research Objective

The purpose of this research is whether there is an influence of read theory technology that can significantly improve the way of reading at SMA Negeri Kalisat

**1.4 Operational Definition**

1. Reading Skill

   Reading skill is the ability of students to understand a given text by identifying the main idea, thinking critically, and creatively answering questions based on the text, both explicitly and implicitly. It involves the process of recognizing written language and constructing meaning through interaction with the text using cognitive and linguistic skills. In this study, students' reading skills are measured through pre-test and post-test scores using reading comprehension questions.

2. Digital Technology

   In this study, digital technology is operationalized as all forms of electronic devices and digital-based applications used in the learning process to support and facilitate students' reading activities. Digital technology includes hardware such as laptops, computers, tablets, and smartphones, as well as software and internet-based applications that provide online learning materials, exercises, and interactions. Digital technology is utilized in this research as a medium that facilitates students' access to reading materials, provides an interactive learning experience, and enables flexible and independent learning. In this context, digital technology not only acts as a tool, but also as the main means in learning to read integrated with online platforms such as Read Theory.

3. Read Theory

   In this study, Read Theory is operationalized as a web-based online learning platform designed to improve students' English reading skills through interactive reading texts tailored to individual ability levels. Read Theory

provides various reading texts equipped with multiple choice questions and automatic feedback to help students understand the content of the text and develop reading skills gradually. Read Theory is used as the main learning media in the treatment activities in this study. This platform has an adaptive system that automatically adjusts the difficulty level of the text to the students' reading ability, based on the scores obtained from previous tests. Therefore, the use of Read Theory in this study focused on its role in improving reading comprehension, enriching vocabulary, and training students' reading speed and accuracy.

## 1.4 Significance Research

This research is hope to provide great benefits theoretical and practical.

### 1.4.1 Theoretical Significant

The results of this study can be useful in the learning process and learning English in the classroom and outside the classroom, especially in improving students' reading. The results of this study can be useful as a reference for researchers, especially researchers in the process of teaching English.

### 1.4.2 Practical Significants

a. Theoretical: add to the literature on the use of social media in English Languange Learning.

b. Practical: providing recommendations to teachers and student on the use of Read Theory as a learning tool.

## 1.5    Scope and Limitation of the Research

In this study, the researcher will examine the effect of using the read theory website as a learning media in learning reading skills, with the research subject of 11th grade students majoring in social science at SMA Negeri Kalisat. Quantitative research method with a quasi-experimental design will be used as a data collection method.