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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer would like to discuss about background of the study, Statement of problems, Objective of the study, Significance of the study, Scope and limitation, and definitions of terms. Those are explained detail below.

1.1. Background of the Study

English is considered the most important language in the world because it is used by a lot of people as the medium of communication in international society. Indonesia is one of the countries that uses English as a foreign language, so the ability to read in English becomes an important skill. Basically there are four language skills such as listening, speaking, reading and writing. Reading skill is often taught more than the other three skills. This means that, as one of the language skills, reading should take a major place among the other language skills. According to Brighth and Mc. Gregor (Ataburan, 2009:35) the general knowledge of someone depends on reading. It means that the more one reads, the more general knowledge he or she will have.

However, reading skill is perhaps a difficult language skills to teach because it also involves many different elements such as mechanical eye movement, grammatical, vocabulary, phonetics, spelling and intellectual comprehension. Therefore teachers are required to be able to find out effective approach, technique and strategy to teach reading skill.

Herbet & Herbat (1993) (Ibid 2009: 35) proved that since student are never explained the purpose of reading then they have no interest and motivation to read. It is also because they do not have effective strategy how to read a text, that's why many difficulties still appear.

Reading is an important tool in communication. Through reading readers gain idea, meaning, message, sense, written by another person. In Indonesian context, English is considered as foreign language. In teaching and learning situation, reading receives a special focus because of several reasons. *Firstly*, many foreign language students often have reading as one of their important goals. They want to read information and pleasure for their career and for study purposes. In fact in most of the EFL situation the ability to read information in foreign language is all that the students ever want to acquire. *Secondly*, written texts serve various pedagogical purposes. Comprehending written texts also provide good model or writing and providing opportunities to introduce new topics, to stimulate discussion and to study language (e.g. vocabulary, grammar, idioms). Reading then considered as a skill that highly valued by the students and the teacher alike. In other words, it can be said that reading ability will be

developed with the association with listening, speaking and writing activities since they are interrelated skills.

Therefore the writer conducted a study under the title **“A STUDY ON THE READING COMPREHENSION ABILITY OF SPOOF TEXT OF THE ELEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS OF SMA NEGERI 7 KUPANG IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2015/2016”**.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Problem is the specification of the topic. The problems here are formulated in form of questions that should be answered in the data analysis. There are two research problems in this study. They are:

1. Are the students of the eleventh grade of SMAN 7 Kupang in the academic year 2015/2016 able to comprehend the spoof text they read?
2. What is the ability level of the eleventh grade students of SMAN 7 Kupang in the academic year 2015/2016 in reading comprehension?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are in line with the problem statements, they are:

1. To know whether or not the eleventh grade students of SMAN 7 Kupang in the academic year 2015/2016 able to comprehend the spoof text they read
2. To know the ability level of spoof text of the eleventh grade students of SMAN 7 Kupang in the academic year 2015/2016 in reading comprehension

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study will be fruitful for for some parties, such as the teacher of English, the students, and the writer himself. The significance of this study are presented below:

1. For the English Teacher

This study will inform the teachers of English especially at the researched school about the ability of the students in reading a text, so that they can improve or maintain the method of teaching English especially the teaching of reading comprehension.

2. For the eleventh grade students of SMAN 7 Kupang

This study is hoped to help the eleventh grade students of SMAN 7 Kupang in improving their reading comprehension ability especially on spoof text.

3. For the Writer

Through this study the writer would be able to improve his knowledge and skill in teaching English especially reading.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

There are four kinds of language skills, they are listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

This study deals with students reading ability. In this study the writer only limits his study on the ability of students in comprehending English reading text. There are 9 kinds of texts taught in senior high school , they are : recount, procedure, description, narrative, report, news item, spoof, analytical exposition, and hortatory exposition.

In this study the writer chose spoof text. In the appendices, the writer provides a reading test. The test consists of 20 questions. Out of 3 types of comprehension questions (literal, inferential, and critical questions), the writer made literal questions in the test.

1.6 Definition of Terms

There are some terms used in this study that should be defined.

The definition may help the readers understand the study as a whole. The terms should be defined in this study are as follows:

1. Reading

Reading is a complex of skills that the individual uses to derive meaning from the printed page. (Karlin ; 1963 : 1). In this study reading means the main written or printed part of a book or with note.

2. Ability

It is capacity of someone physics or mental that can develop through optimal exercises (1987). Here the ability means of first year student of SMAN 7 Kupang in comprehending a text marked by being able to answer the question.

3. Comprehension

Is the mind's act or power of understanding (1987: 2). In this study comprehension means the power of understanding a reading text of the year of SMAN 7 Kupang.

4. Reading comprehension

It is the process of using syntactic semantic and rhetorical information. Sound in printed text to resentment in the readers mind, using that knowledge of the word her or she process, plus appropriate cognitive skills and reasoning ability (Devine: 1986:73). In the study, it is the process of reading comprehension of the use cognitive skills in answering the reading text.

5. Spoof Text

A. Definition of Spoof Text

Spoof is a text which tells a factual and funny story, happened in the past with a humorous twist and unpredictable.

B. Generic Structure Spoof Text

- **Orientation**(who were involved in the story, when, and where)
- **Events** (tell what happened in chronological order)
- **Twist** (provide the funniest part of the story)

6. SMA Negeri 7 Kupang

SMA Negeri 7 is one of the public senior high school in Kupang city that is located in Frans Daromes street, Tofa – Maulafa sub district in which the writer uses as the location of the study.