

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

A. Background

English is learned as a foreign language in Indonesia. As an international language, English has become one of the most widely studied languages by students, especially in Indonesia. In learning English, to be master the students have to be able to achieve the four basic language skills; listening, reading, speaking and writing.

Reading is one of four language skills that is very important to be learned and mastered by every students. By reading, students can obtain information more easily and can help them to improve their knowledge. But the main point is, to make the students able to speak, listen, or write, they should be good in reading skill first. From reading the student will get a lot of vocabulary.

Reading is the meaningful interpretation of printed or written verbal symbols¹. Reading is a result of the interaction between the perception of graphic symbols that represent language and the reader's language skills and knowledge of the world². A person's language skills can be seen from their reading skill. How they are able to understand a text and get the information from every word.

Reading ability is closely related to oral language³. Because reading is language process, students being taught to read must understand the relationship

¹Albert J. Harris, Edward R. Sipay, *How to Increase Reading Ability (A Guide to Developmental and Remedial Methods)*, (Newyork & London: Longman, 1968, 1940), p.8.

²Albert J. Harris, Edward R. Sipay, *How to Increase Reading Ability (A Guide to Developmental and Remedial Methods)*, (Newyork & London: Longman, 1968, 1940), p.8.

³Arthur W. Heilman, Timothy R. Blair, William H. Rupley, *Principles and Practices of Teaching Reading* (London: Charles E. Merrill Publishing Co, 1981, 1977, 1972, 1967, 1961), p.4.

between reading and their language. So, they do not just read, but they have to understand how reading can improve their language skills. When they can read well and can understand the text, their insight will be broad and their vocabulary will increase.

In addition, Nur Paidah stated in her research that students need to master reading to communicative and receive some information (technology, science, education, business, economic, and politic). To be able to get all that information are usually found in written material like book, magazine, newspaper, paper, journal, article, blog, social media.⁴

Nowadays, in general the teacher provides reading materials from books that are specifically designed for learning. In other words, the material provided does not originate from the authentic text of the target language. Many experts have written on how to choose materials, which are relevant to learners, so that materials can support learners in learning language⁵. So, the teacher is not only giving the material, but also how the material can give support in learning process.

There are two kinds of materials that can be used for teaching reading: authentic materials and pedagogic materials. Several definitions of the term authenticity and authentic materials have been given in the field of language teaching. One shared element among all such definitions as is given by Kilickaya “exposure to the real usage of the everyday life language”, and how native speakers use for their

⁴Nur Paidah, *Improving Reading Comprehension by Using Extensive Reading at the Second Year Students of MAN 2 Parepare*, (Graduated Skripsi : Tarbiyah Department : Parepare, 2017), p.1.

⁵Andi Bulkis Maghfirah Mannong, *The Effect of Using Authentic Materials to Improve the Reading Comprehension of the Ninth Grade Students of SMPN 36 Makassar*, (Skripsi Universitas Negeri Makassar : 2016), p.77.

daily lives purposes⁶. Authentic materials are those which are taken from real life communication and not designed for language teaching and learning purposes⁷. Authentic texts comprise both spoken and written language samples. For example, newspaper articles, short stories, advice columns, magazine ads, and graphic novels are commonly use authentic written texts⁸. Spoken texts include, but are not limited to, television commercials, movies, radio broadcast, lectures, songs, podcasts, and conversations or service encounters among native speakers⁹.

Pedagogical means related to teaching or education. So, pedagogic materials are things used in teaching and those which are specifically designed for language teaching and learning purposes. The characteristics from pedagogic materials are modification, simplification of material, and adjustments according to the level and target of students, such as: text books, teacher-made texts, abridge novels, worksheet, etc.

Among the advantages of authentic materials are encourage a focus on meaning or in other words can help students to understand the meaning of a message created for a real-world purpose. Disadvantage is that they are usually too

⁶Abdulkhakim M, Dr. Liam Murray, *Using Authentic Materials in the Foreign Language Classrooms : Teacher Attitudes and Perceptions in Libyan Universities*, (Macrothink Institute : 2015), p.26.

⁷Andi Bulkis Maghfirah Mannong, *The Effect of Using Authentic Materials to Improve the Reading Comprehension of the Ninth Grade Students of SMPN 36 Makassar*, (Skripsi Universitas Negeri Makassar : 2016), p.77.

⁸Eve Zyzik, Charlene Polio, *Authentic Materials Myths (Applying Second Language Research to Classroom Teaching)*, (United States of America: University of Michigan, 2017), p.2.

⁹Eve Zyzik, Charlene Polio, *Authentic Materials Myths (Applying Second Language Research to Classroom Teaching)*, (United States of America: University of Michigan, 2017), p.2.

challenging, causing some difficulty to deal with, especially for learners of low level language ability.

However, there are still teacher in teaching English use pedagogic material or textbooks. They do not understand the important of using authentic materials in teaching, but the researcher assumed that the teachers who do not use authentic materials in teaching English are afraid if their students will be difficult to understand the language in the materials. However, this reason cannot be allowed, because the majority of students want to be able to communicate with native speaker.

By reading English texts especially if the text is authentic materials, it will increase the student's knowledge of the world and indirectly the students will add their experience through reading. And to make the teacher not too depend on the book in learning process, authentic materials is one of the solution to improve teaching material.

Based on the observation before, students of MA DDI Kanang still use text book when they are study English. And the students sometimes fell bored and they do not have motivation in study English. So, the students still think that study English is difficult. But in the new situation with corona virus some teachers has been tried to use authentic materials in online class.

Based on the previous considerations above, the researcher is curious in revealing the effect of authentic materials toward reading comprehension. That is why the researcher wants to conduct a research with the title "The Effect of Using Authentic Material toward Students Reading Comprehension at The Second Grade of SMAN 2 Parepare"

B. Research Question

Based on the description in the background of the study, the problem in this research is:

1. How did the students' response toward authentic materials at the second grade of MA DDI Kanang?
2. How did the effect of authentic material toward the students' reading comprehension at second grade of MA DDI Kanang?

C. Objective of the Research

Based on the problem statement above, the researcher states the objective of the research is

1. To find out students' respond toward authentic materials at the second grade of MA DDI Kanang.
2. To find out the effect of using authentic materials on students' reading comprehension at the second grade of MA DDI Kanang.

D. Significance of the Research

In this research, researcher expects that the research's result have benefits to:

1. For the students

Authentic material is expected will be a good experience of reading learning, and also it will enrich their knowledge of reading with interesting material. By authentic material the student will be introduced how the language form of native speaker and indirectly it will improve their vocabulary.

2. For the teachers

Teacher who wants to adopt this way in teaching reading, as one the alternative strategies and get the new experience of teaching by using authentic materials. This research can support the English teachers to apply this method in teaching reading.

3. For the researcher

This research is expected to be a useful input in English teaching process. Besides it can be used as reference for those who want to conduct a research which still has relationship with this research.



