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## CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Problem

English in Junior High School is focused on four basic skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Reading becomes a significant skill considering the need of understanding international written information as explained above. Anderson (2003) points out “Reading is a fluent process of readers combining information from a text and their own background knowledge to build meaning”. Reading is one of the language skills that is very important. It is one of the common ways to get information, for pleasure or for interest. Because not all people can understand what they read, including the students who learn English. They just read sentences without understanding appropriately dealing with what they have read.

In finding the information from the literature written in English, students sometimes have difficulties in comprehending the reading text. They often fail in English test of reading comprehension. From the difficulties faced by students in reading comprehension, it can be concluded that reading comprehension is a complex skill. The difficulties are also recognized by Broughton (1985) saying that reading comprehension is a complex skill, that is to say that it involves a whole series of lesser skills. This is also supported by Kalayo (2007) said “Reading comprehension results when the reader knows which skills and strategies are appropriate for the type of text, and understand how to apply them to

accomplish the reading purpose”. Therefore, the investigation of the eleventh grade students’ lack frequency in reading should be noticed from the factors which influence it. There are some factors that might influence students’ lack frequency in reading.

The first factor is coming from students’ family. The role of family, in this case, the parents should give a strong and basic influent toward students’ reading ability. According to Chakravarthy as cited from Najeemah (2010) stated that family lifestyle, relationship between children and parents at home and family socioeconomic status will have a close relationship with the nurturing of reading habit and interest. His study also found that the intimate reading between mother and a child will give positive impact in raising the child’s interest in reading so that the child will have good reading ability.

The second factor appeared from students’ environment at school and society. The factor which happens at school may come from the teachers. The students’ low reading ability can be caused of the teaching strategy, the methodology and the technique that is commonly used by the teachers. Therefore, this problem caused the other problems to arise, such as some students were lack of motivation in learning English, the scores of students’ evaluation were still below the KKM, the students were lack of communication competence and the students lack of cooperative learning..

The third factor was finally coming from the students’ reading attitude; it is included interest, self-esteem, self-concept and self-efficacy. Attitude to reading is an important factor that is likely to influence children’s regularity of

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reading comprehension. From this idea the writer determines the topic entitled: **“The Correlation Between the Students’ Interest in Game Activities and Their Reading Comprehension at State Vocational School 1 Benai Regency of Kuantan Singingi”**.

## **B. Problem**

### **1 Identification of the Problem**

Based on the background of the study, there are many problems that arise. Some problems that can be identified are as follows:

- a. Some of students did not comprehend what they read.
- b. Some of students are struggling readers, they can not correctly identify the main idea when they read.
- c. Some students did not active in learning process
- d. Most of students’ ability in understanding the text is usually influenced by the frequency of reading
- e. Some students who come from low educated family found that reading English for them is limited as long as the community does not speak English and consequently they lack of exposure.
- f. The teacher did not using various technique or method in teaching English subject

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## 2. Limitation of the Problem

The study is only stressed on two variable of correlation, namely: the correlation between students' interest in game activities and their reading comprehension. The type of games activities was doing in the classroom is the pictures games and story games.

## 3. Formulation of the Problem

Based on the background of problem, the research questions are formulated as follows

- a. How is the students reading comprehension at SMKN 1 Benai Regency of Kuantan Singingi?
- b. How is the students interest in game activities SMKN 1 Benai Regency of Kuantan Singingi?
- c. Is there any correlation between students' interest in game activities and their reading comprehension at SMKN 1 Benai Regency of Kuantan Singingi?

## C. Objective and Significance

### 1. The Objectives of the Research

To find out the correlation between students' interest in game activities and their reading comprehension at SMKN 1 Benai Regency of Kuantan Singingi.

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## 2. The significance of the Research

Related to the objectives of the research above, the significance of the research are as follows:

- a. As a valuable contribution for students to improve their reading comprehension
- b. As input for SMKN 1 Benai Regency of Kuantan Singingi to improve students' creativity, especially in reading comprehending.
- c. As the writer's contribution to develop the games activities especially in teaching reading comprehension.

### D. Reasons for Choosing the Title

1. The problem of the research are very interesting and challenging to be investigated in term teaching and learning English, especially in teaching reading
2. This title of this research is relevant with the writer as a student of English Education Department.
3. As far as the writer knows, this topic has never been researched yet.

### E. Definition of the Terms

In order to avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation of the terms used in this research, the researcher needs to explain them as follow:

1. Correlation is method, of which goal is to describe the relation between two, or more events or characteristics.

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2. Interest is a specific way on occupational success (Stagner, 1965)
3. Game as an activity with rules, a goal, and an element of fun. It means that every game must be followed by some rules how to play the game correctly and also have fun aspect (Hadfield, 1998).
4. Reading comprehension is an interactive process that goes on between the reader and the text, resulting in comprehension (Kalayo and Anshari, 2007).

