

# **CHAPTER I**

### INTRODUCTION

# A. Background of the Problem

Reading is one of the activities done by the English language learners. It is one of the primary subjects concerned and taught in senior high school. Reading will not run well without comprehending the text and mastering the linguistic component such as vocabulary, linguistic convention, grammar, etc. In line with the statement above, Nunan (2003: 68) says that "Reading is a fluent process of readers combining information from a text and their own background knowledge to build meaning. The goal of reading is comprehension. Reading comprehension is constructing meaning and understanding about the information presented in a reading text." it means that, the readers will not be successful in reading if they do not have English knowledge, and background knowledge of the text.

As one of the language skills, reading holds every aspect of human life. Reading provides the text that the reader can get the knowledge and information. Considering the importance of the reading in the world of education, Harison (2004), in Saputra (2014: 87) stated that "The importance of reading in relation to human development. Reading determines how the students are able to think, that is the fundamental effect on the development of imagination, and thus exerts a powerful influence on the development of emotional and moral as well as verbal intelligence and therefore on the kind of person they are capable of becoming."



In order to support students' need in enhancing their reading ability, school based curriculum provides reading as a major skill that must be taught and mastered by the students. In the curriculum, one of the aims of teaching reading is to enable the students to read and comprehend a text. In line with the statement above, according to Badan Standar Nasional Pendidikan (BSNP) "In learning English, students should be able to use language to communicative purpose, either in written or oral language in order to communicate in a global era." Especially for reading of tenth grade students at senior high school, they learn several genres of the text, such as Recount, Narrative, Procedure, descriptive, and news items. For those texts they should be able to understand and comprehend them in a short essay, and they can accept it in the real contexts (BSNP, 2006).

In Senior High School of Darul Hikmah, the curriculum is guidance in arranging the lesson plan, including English. It is taught twice a week in duration 90 minutes in one meeting. It means that students have to learn English about 180 minutes in a week. So, the probability of a teacher in teaching reading text in a week is around 50%. Actually, in teaching and learning process, especially for reading, the teacher uses some strategies such as reading aloud, asking and answering the question to improve their reading comprehension. It means that, if the students are not able to master the aspects required in reading needed by the curriculum, thus, the study of reading is not running well.



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Based on the writer' preliminary study when she was doing her teaching practice at the Senior High School (MA) Darul Hikmah Pekanbaru, especially for the tenth grade students, it was clear that most of the tenth grade students of Senior High School (MA) Darul Hikmah encountered some problems and difficulties in reading, especially in reading descriptive text. Descriptive text is a written text that describes a particular person, place, or thing. The problems that writer faced on students' reading comprehension of descriptive text were: some of the students did not know how to read meaningfully, some of the students did not understand what the text was talking about, and they had some difficulties to determine between descriptive text and report text. Whereas, the goal of reading skill is the students are able to comprehend and understand a short essay, but they could not accept it in the real contexts.

Based on the explanation in paragraph above, therefore, the writer would like to apply her method to attract students' interest in reading the text, especially in reading descriptive text. The method is called Drill Method. It trains the students to do something by giving task and practice. According to Harmer, "Drill is mechanical ways if getting students to demonstrate and practice their ability to use specific language items in a controlled manner (<a href="http:///DRILLING\_TeachingEnglishforForeignLanguage">http:///DRILLING\_TeachingEnglishforForeignLanguage</a>). In addition, Werkanis in Yuningsih (2011:11) explains that Drill method is a way in teaching which practice frequently to make it more proficient and skilled in mastering whether in group or individual. It is appropriate method in teaching

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language and another relevant subject, especially to improve students' comprehension in reading." It means that this method can train the students to do something by giving task and practice. It can also facilitate the students to develop their good habits. As the old adage say "practice make perfect". Based on the explanation before, the writer is interested in using Drill Method to improve the students' reading comprehension.

Therefore, based on the writers' preliminary study conducted at the Senior High School (MA) Darul Hikmah Pekanbaru, especially for the tenth grade students, the writer found the following phenomena:

- When the teacher gave them a descriptive text, most of the students had difficulties in comprehending the text.
- Each student was still unable to identify the main idea of the descriptive text.
- 3. Basically, all the students had already been taught the reading descriptive text when they were Junior High School, but when the teacher asked them about the generic structure of the text, they were confused to answer it.
- 4. Besides, they also difficult to found the reference of the word in the reading descriptive text.
- 5. Moreover, they could not understand the text, if it was used different tenses because they had lack of information in language feature of the text.

So, based on the paragraph illustrated above, thus, the writer is interested in researching the problems above into a research project entitled



"The Effect of Using Drill Method on Students' Reading Comprehension of Descriptive Text at Darul Hikmah Islamic Boarding School Pekanbaru".

## B. Problem

After conducting the preliminary study at Madrasah Aliyah (MA)

Darul Hikmah Pekanbaru, it is clear that most of the students still have many problems in term of reading descriptive text. To make the problem of this research clearer, thus the problems are identified in the following identification of the problem.

# 1. Identification of the Problem

- a. How is students' comprehension on reading descriptive text?
- b. How is students' ability to determine the generic structure of descriptive text?
- c. How is students' ability to identify the main idea of descriptive text?
- d. How is students' ability to determine the reference of the descriptive text?
- e. What makes the students get difficulties in finding the specific information of descriptive text?

#### 2. Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification above, it is clear that there are some problems involved in. So, the writer limits and focuses her research on students' reading comprehension of descriptive texts in identifying main idea, determining the generic structure, finding specific information, and

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determining the reference at class X I Madrasah Aliyah Darul Hikmah Pekanbaru.

# 3. Formulation of the Problem

- a. How is students' comprehension in reading descriptive text of the tenth grade at Madrasah Aliyah (MA) Darul Hikmah Islamic Boarding School Pekanbaru before taught by using Drill Method?
- b. How is students' comprehension in reading descriptive text of the tenth grade at Madrasah Aliyah (MA) Darul Hikmah Islamic Boarding School Pekanbaru after taught by using Drill Method?
- c. Is there any significant different of using Drill Method students reading comprehension of the tenth grade at Madrasah Aliyah (MA) Darul Hikmah Islamic Boarding School Pekanbaru?
- d. Is there any significant effect of using Drill Method students reading comprehension of the tenth grade at Madrasah Aliyah (MA) Darul Hikmah Islamic Boarding School Pekanbaru?

# C. Objective and Significance of the research

# 1. Objective of the Research

- a. To know students'comprehension in reading descriptive text of the tenth grade at Madrasah Aliyah (MA) Darul Hikmah Islamic Boarding School Pekanbaru before taught by using Drill Method
- b. To know students' comprehension in reading descriptive text of the tenth grade at Madrasah Aliyah (MA) Darul Hikmah Islamic Boarding
   School Pekanbaru after taught by using Drill Method



- c. To know whether there is a significant different of using Drill Method on students' comprehension in descriptive text or not.
  - d. To know whether there is a significant effect of using Drill Method on students' comprehension in reading descriptive text or not.

# 2. Significance of research

- a. Hopefully, this research finding is able to benefit the writer as a novice, especially in learning how to conduct a research.
- b. These research findings are also expected useful and valuable, especially for students and teachers of English of the tenth grade at Madrasah Aliyah (MA) Darul Hikmah Islamic Boarding School Pekanbaru.
- c. Finally, these research findings are also expected to be both practical and theoretical information to the development of theories on language teaching.

#### **D.** Definition of the Terms

In order to avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation about this title, it is necessary to explain the terms used in this research. The terms are as follows:

#### 1. Effect

Effect is a measure of the strength of one variable's effect on another or the relationship between two or more variables. When a researcher rejects the null hypothesis and concludes that an independent

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variable had and effect (Longman Dictionary of Language Teching and Applied Linguistics, 2010:190). In other words, effect is a power that can influence the content of research. In this research, effect means the influence of Independent variable (Drill Method) in teaching and learning process to improve students' reading comprehension (dependent variable).

# 2. Drill Method

According to Harmer "Drill is mechanical ways if getting students to demonstrate and practice their ability to use specific language items in a controlled manner. Drill helps learner master the materials at their own pace. Drill is usually repetitive and used as a reinforcement tool. In addition, Werkanis in Yuningsih (2011:11) explains Drill is a way in teaching which practice frequently to make it more proficient and skilled in mastering whether in group or individual. Drill is appropriate method in teaching language and another relevant subject, especially to improve students' comprehension in reading. It means that, this method can train the students to do something by giving task and practice. It can also facilitate the students to develop their good habit. As the old adage say "practice make perfect". This method is affected to improve student's ability in reading. Drill method in this research means that the writer drills the students to comprehend the reading text by giving them more exercises or tasks in various ways.



# 3. Reading Comprehension

According to Neil Anderson in Nunan (2003: 68) Reading is a fluent process of readers combining information from a text and their own background knowledge to build meaning. The goal of reading is to comprehend. In addition, reading is a process by which the meaning of the written text is understood. Understanding the result is called reading comprehension. Reading comprehension is the process of simultaneusly extracting and constructing meaning through interaction and involvement with written language (Tankersley, 2003: 90). Comprehension has the same meaning as understanding. So, reading comprehension means a process or product of understanding the text in order to get detail information from the text, meaning of the text and inference of the text.

# **Descriptive text**

Descriptive text is a text which says what a person or a thing is like. Its purpose is to describe and reveal a particular person, place, or thing. It is in line with Syafi'i (2013: 39) who stated that descriptive used to tell what the subject looks, sounds, feels, testes, and/or smells like. It presents an impression- your impression-of something, through details that evoke one of the five senses. It means that descriptive text is a text about sensory experience- how something looks, sounds, taste, feel and smells. Mostly it is about visual experience, but description also deals with other kinds of perception to our five senses.



E. Reasons for choosing the tittle

1. The title of the research is relevant with the writer's status as a student of English Education Department.

2. The location of the research facilitates the writer in conducting the research

The title of the research is not yet investigated by other previous researchers.