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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

Reading is one of the skills in English that must be learned by the students in Madrasah Tsanawiyah Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru. Reading is an important thing because from reading we can get valuable information. By reading a person will get new understanding, knowledge and new ideas, and expand the view so that later they have high intelligence and civilization that are useful to himself and to others. The definition of reading is a process to get information from texts, books, or magazines to get more knowledge. According to Johnson (2008:3), reading is the practice of using text to create meaning. The two key words here are creating and meaning. If there is no meaning being created, there is no reading taking place.

Reading is the process of constructing meaning from texts. According to Millar (2005:5), reading uses most or all of the language skills that are needed to understand and to produce speech, and it involves the additional processing of arbitrary perceptual symbols in a modality that differs from heard speech, using the orthographic rules and conventions that link heard and read speech. In reading texts the students use their brain to comprehend the meaning of texts and use speaking skill to produce speech and use listening skill to catch the meaning of speech from the readers.

Interest has very big influence on someones activity because with interest he/she will do anything what he/she is interested. In turn, without interest someone is impossible to do anything.

Reading interest becomes a problem for some students. Many students do not have reading interest. The low reading interest may have an impact on the education quality. Considering that reading is a primary need in education, reading interest is an important role in reading, because reading is complicated production skill. To read well, people must have good capabilities in reading. One of them is interest. Interest is an attitude that students bring into their learning process. It means that interest is influential in learning. The students have to be interested in every subject and also reading comprehension because without interest, the students cannot study well. When the students have a good interest, they will be easy to understand about the materials that they have learned. Eidswick (2008:1) says that interest has a strong influence on learning. It means that students who have little or no interest in reading will not be able to force themselves to pick up a book and read for academic purposes, let alone to read for pleasure. The students who have interest will be easy to catch the point of the lesson that the teacher explains.

Madrasah Tsanawiyah Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru is one of the schools that have been using school based curriculum as a guideline in teaching and learning English. English is taught twice a week with duration 45 minutes for 2 hours teaching and learning process. Based on School Based Curriculum (KTSP) of Junior High School, the purpose of reading is the students are able

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to comprehend the meaning of simple essay texts in the forms of descriptive and recount texts in daily life. Prior to the syllabus of Madrasah Tsanawiyah Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru of the second year, the basic competence of reading of English subject is the students should be able to respond the meaning of simple short essay accurately, quickly, and acceptably in daily life.

According to the researcher's observation at Madrasah Tsanawiyah Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru at the eight grade, the students' phenomena are as follows:

1. Some of the students were lazy to read the reading book.
2. Some of the students did not have the reading book.
3. Some of the students were not interested in learning.
4. Some of the students felt bored in learning process.
5. Some of the students did not pay attention to teacher's explanation on reading materials.

Based on the problems before, to help the students in their reading interest, the researcher offered the good game to solve the problem, namely pass the message game.

Pass the message game is reading a short text seen for a very brief time and writing it down as accurately as possible from memory (Wright, *at.al* 2006:93). By using this game can make students more interested in teaching and learning process.



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Based on the statements above, the researcher was interested in carrying out a research entitled: **The Effect of using Pass the Message Game on students' Reading Interest at Madrasah Tsanawiyah Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru.**

B. The Definition of the Terms

1. Effect

Effect is a measure of the strength of one variable's effect on another or the relationship between two or more variables (Richard 2002:175). In this research, effect is defined as the result of teaching reading treated by using Pass the message game.

2. Game

Game is one of the media to make students more interested. Games add interest to what students might not find very interesting. Games also help the teacher to create contexts in which the language is useful and meaningful. In this research game is used to know how students' reading interest is.

3. Pass the message game

Pass the message game is reading a short text seen for a very brief time and writing it down as accurately as possible from memory. For the purpose of this game are entertaining and engaging, often challenging, and an activity in which the learners play and usually interact with others. (Wright, at al 2006:93). In this research, pass the message game means that

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the activity that is used by the writer to know its effect on students' reading interest.

4. Reading

Reading is the action of the person who reads or attempts to make a meaning from what an author has written. According to Richards (2002:306), reading perceives the written text in order to understand its content. Especially for this research, reading means the subject that should be taught to the students.

5. Interest

Interest is a statement of desire to learn or to know about somebody's something, curiosity concerned with felling, show and expressed (Richards 1996:306). It means that the students have felling like or dislike.



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C. The Problem

1. The Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the problem above supported by phenomena, there were many students who had problems in teaching reading. So that, the researcher identified the problems as follows:

- a. Some of the students were lazy to read the reading book
- b. Some of the students did not have the reading book
- c. Some of the students were not interested in learning
- d. Some of the students felt bored in learning process
- e. Some of the students did not pay attention to teacher's explanation on reading materials.

2. The Limitation of the Problem

In this research, Reading focused on students of the eight grade students at Madrasah Tsanawiyah Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru. Then, to find out the effect of using pass the message game on students' interest that was seen from the result of questionnaire test.

3. The Formulation of the problem

To make this research clear, the researcher identifies the research questions as follows:

- a. Does the eight grade students at Madrasah Tsanawiyah Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru taught by using pass the message game have better reading interest than those taught without using pass the message game?

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- b. Is there any significant difference between using and without using pass the message game on students' reading interest of the eight grade at Madrasah Tsanawiyah Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru?

D. The Objective and Significance of the Research**1. The Objective of the Research**

- a. To find out students' reading interest taught by using Pass the Message Game at Madrasah Tsanawiyah Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru.
- b. To find out students' reading interest taught without using Pass the Message Game at Madrasah Tsanawiyah Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru.
- c. To find out the significant difference between using and without using Pass the Message Game on students' reading interest.

2. The Significance of the Research

Relating to objectives of the research above, the significance of the research is as follows:

- a. To give some information to the teacher and school about the strategy that solves problems of students' reading interest.
- b. To give some contribution to the students in order to improve their reading interest.
- c. To enhance the researcher's knowledge about teaching reading by using pass the message game.