

Hak Cipta Diindungi Undang-Undang

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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background

Reading is one of the important language skills. By reading, people may get a lot of information. The more he/she reads, the more information he/she will get. Reading makes someone smarter and creative. As stated by Laddoo in Furqon (2013) reading forces the reader's brain cells to work on a regular basis as this will keep the reader sharper and smarter. Even though some information can be obtained without reading, for example by listening to teacher, seminar, radio, television etc, but by reading someone may get wider information than listening. For example, someone who reads a newspaper will get more information than someone who watches news on television. A reader can read the text again when he/she forgets or tries to get detailed information, while a listener cannot. This is supported by Willis (2008) who states that by reading, someone can find the information he/she needs with specific information.

According to Grabe in Celce Mariane (2001), reading is probably the most important skill in the second language learners in academic context; it is apart that may come an increase in the number of children worldwide who are learning English as a second language. It means, reading concept is about understanding the idea, in which the students or readers will comprehend the texts that have read by constructing the meaning of them.

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Reading is one of the four skills which has an important role of language learning. Many research results (Syatriana, 1998; Hamra, 1993 and 1996; Mardiana, 1993; Kweldju, 2001) indicated that the ability of Indonesian students to read English texts was very low. Most university graduates are not able to read English with complete comprehension. The Indonesian students need help in reading comprehension. For students, reading is a key to improve learning outcome in many fields of study. Reading is an inseparable part of any English course.

Reading is the most difficult skill out of the other language skills especially for students in SMA Tri Bhakti Pekanbaru. There are many factors that might make students low ability of reading such as, students' lack of the vocabulary, lack of interest, lack of to understand english text, grasp the idea. According to Hidi (2001) Interest did not simply enhance the amount of recalled text information, but had a strong influence on the quality of learning. That is, interest seemed to motivate readers to go beyond the surface structure of the texts and focus on the main ideas and their underlying meaning. In other words, someone who has high interest in something, for example, in reading, he will not only able to understand the printed words on the text but he will go beyond those words, he will be able to infer an implied information of the text. Moreover, he is able to grasp the purpose of the author.

Furthermore, as it was mentioned previously that the classical problem the students encountered to understand the text is because they lack of vocabulary knowledge. They have a very minimum English vocabulary. Consequently,

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it becomes an obstacle which made them lazier and uninterested to read in English. They considered English is the most difficult subject as long as they do not know the meaning of English words.

Vocabulary is a very important language aspect to be mastered. As Norbert (1997) said, "... Vocabulary is the most important skills in a language. It is impossible to learn a language without vocabulary. Good mastery of vocabulary is important for anyone who learns the language skills. A learner of a foreign language will speak fluently, write easily, and understand what he or she reads and hears if he or she has enough vocabularies and capability to use it accurately.

Consequently, the lack of vocabulary mastery may affect the students' reading ability. The more vocabulary students have, the easier they understand the text. By having good mastery vocabulary, in this case, students did not only know the meaning of every word but also its role in a text, therefore, their reading ability will be better. Moreover, in order to master vocabulary, a reader must read a lot. In other words, he or she has to read more and more in order to acquire the vocabulary. Consequently, by acquiring more vocabularies, he/she will be easy to understand the text.

Based on my preliminary study at Senior High School Tri Bhakti Pekanbaru, and also by doing a interview with English teacher. It could be seen from the following phenomena:

- a. Some of the students low reading interest and high vocabulary mastery.
- b. Some of the students high reading interest and low vocabulary mastery.

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- c. Some of the students high vocabulary mastery and low reading ability
- d. Some of the students low vocabulary mastery and high reading ability.
- e. Some of the students high reading interest and low reading ability.
- f. Some of the students low reading interest and high reading ability.

Based on the phenomena above, the researcher is interested in conducting the research entitled: **“The Influence of Students’ Reading Interest and Students’ Vocabulary Mastery toward Their Reading Ability on Descriptive Text”**.

B. Problem

1. Identification of the Problem

- a. Why did some of the students low reading interest and high vocabulary mastery?
- b. Why did some of the students high reading interest and low vocabulary mastery?
- c. Why did some of the students high vocabulary mastery and low reading ability?
- d. Why did some of the students low vocabulary mastery and high reading ability?
- e. Why did some of the students high reading interest and low reading ability?
- f. Why did some of the students low reading interest and high reading ability?

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2. Limitation of the Problem

Based on identification of the problem above, it is clear that there are several problems in this research. The researcher limit the problem focus on the students' reading interest, students' vocabulary mastery and their reading ability on Descriptive text of eleventh grade students at Senior High School Tri Bhakti Pekanbaru.

3. Formulation of the Problem

The problem of this research can be formulated by the following question:

1. Is there any significant contribution of students' reading interest to their reading ability on descriptive text?
2. Is there any significant contribution students' vocabulary mastery to their reading ability on descriptive text?
3. Is there any significant contribution students' reading interest and vocabulary mastery toward their reading ability on descriptive text?

4. Objective and Significant of the Research

1. Objectives of the Research

- a. To find out the significant contribution students' reading interest to their reading ability on descriptive text.
- b. To find out the significant contribution students' vocabulary mastery to their reading ability on descriptive text.
- c. To find out the significant contribution students' reading interest and vocabulary mastery and their reading ability on descriptive text.

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2. Significances of the Research

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

- a. The research findings are contributed to gives information how strong the relationship between students reading interest, vocabulary mastery and their reading ability on descriptive text valuable input to all English teachers, especially to the English teacher at Senior High School Tri Bhakti Pekanbaru as attempt to improve the students' reading skill.
- b. The research findings are also expected to be positive and valuable information especially for these who are concerned in the world of teaching and learning English as a foreign language (second language).
- c. The research findings are also expected to be correctical and theoretical information to the development of theories on language teaching.
- d. To fulfill one of the requirements for the writer to complete her ungraduated degree program at English Education Department of Educational and Teacher Training Faculty of State Islamic University of Sultan Syarif Kasim Riau.

5 Reason for Choosing the Title

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There are some reason why the researcher is interested in carrying out this title are:

1. The title of this research is relevant with the writer's as a student of English Education Department of State University of Sultan Syarif Kasim
2. The title of this research is not yet investigated by other previous researches.
3. The location of the research facilities the writer for conducting the research.

6. Definition of Key Terms

1. Correlation

A correlation is a statistical test to determine the tendency of pattern for two (or more) variables sets of data to vary consistency. In this case of only 3 three variables, this means that three variables share common variance, or they co-vary together, Cresswell (2008). In this research correlation means the correlation between students' reading interest, students' vocabulary mastery and their reading ability on descriptive text at Senior High School Tri Bhakti Pekanbaru.

2. Reading Interest

According to Khairuddin (2013) Reading interests is important in enhancing students' success in school and out of it. Hence, students need to have high reading interests. On the other hand, if the students have strong interestin reading, of course, they want to learn more about what they have read. In this research the terms of interest in reading refers to the effort used

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by the students to influence them in study at Senior High School tri Bhakti Pekanbaru.

3. Vocabulary Mastery

Lewis and Hill (1990) say that vocabulary mastery is important for the students. It is more than grammar for communication purpose, particularly in the early stage when students are motivated to learn the basic words.

4. Reading Ability

Reading ability is one of the essential aspects that students should master. It is a basic skill for second or foreign language learners because reading ability strengthens learning power that helps students to know themselves and other better. According to Richards and Schmidt (2010), reading is the processes in which readers understand the meaning of a written text.