

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer would like to discuss about background of the study, Statement of problems, Objective of the study, Significance of the study, Scope and limitation, and definitions of terms. Those are explained detail below.

1.1 Background of the Study

In learning language, there are four skills that should be mastered by students, such as listening, speaking, reading and writing. These four skills should be involved by teacher in process of teaching and learning in a classroom. Speaking and writing refers to productive skills while reading and listening refers to receptive skills (Harmer, 2003).

Reading is one of language skills which is very important to be learnt by students. Through this activity, students can improve their own language and experience. They will get information and ideas which they need to know. Moreover, they will be able to know what they do not know before.

Reading is fundamental in developing a good self image. Non-readers or poor readers often have low opinions of themselves and their abilities. Many times they feel as if the world is against them. They feel isolated [everybody else can read - which isn't true] and behavior problems can surface. They can perform poorly in other subjects because they cannot read and understand the material. Often the reader tends to "give up."

Reading is also something crucial and indispensable for the students because the success of their study depends on the greater part of their ability to read. If their reading skill is poor they are very likely to fail in their study or at least they will have difficulty in making progress. On the other hand, if they have a good ability in reading, they will have a better chance to succeed in their study.

In reading, there are many kinds of reading text, such as narrative, recount, report, descriptive, explanation, analytical exposition, hortatory exposition, procedure, discussion, news item and so forth. Narrative text is one of genre of text should be taught to students of junior high school especially in eighth grader students of SMPK Adisucipto Penfui Kupang in the school year 2016/2017.

Based on the writer' experience in conducting the teaching practice, she found that most of the students got difficult to comprehend the text they read.

Therefore the writer conductes a study under the title **“A Study on Literal Reading Comprehension Ability of the Eighth Grade Students of SMPK Adisucipto Penfui Kupang in the School Year 2016/ 2017”**.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

There are two problems in this study. They are:

1. Are the eighth grade students of SMPK Adisucipto Penfui in the school year 2016/2017 able to comprehend the reading text they read?
2. What is the ability level of the eighth grade students of SMPK Adisucipto Penfui in the school year 2016/2017 in reading narrative text?

1.3 Objectives of the study

Based on the problems stated above the objective of this study are:

1. To find out whether the eighth grade students of SMPK Adisucipto Penfui in the school year 2016/2017 comprehend reading of narrative text.
2. To find out of the ability level of the eight grade students of SMPK Adisucipto Penfui in the school year 2016/2017 in reading comprehension.

1.4 Significance of the study

Significance is important of doing the study. Doing this study has some significance for some parties, such as the teacher of English, the students, and the writer herself. The significance of the study are presented below:

1. For the English Teacher

This study will inform the teachers of English especially at the researched school about the ability of the students in reading a text, so that they improve or maintain the method of teaching English especially the teaching of reading comprehension.

2. For the Writer

Through this study the writer would be able to improve her knowledge and skill in teaching English especially reading.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study is aimed at investigating the ability level of the eighth grade students of SMPK Adisucipto Penfui in reading comprehension. The reading is

limited on reading narrative text. This study is also intended to find the difficulties found in reading the text about narrative test.

1.6 Definition of Terms

There are some terms used in this study that should be defined. The definition may help the readers understand the study as a whole. The terms which should be defined in this study are as follows:

1. Ability

Ability is potential capability or power to do something physically or mentally (Hornby,1987:2). In this case ability mean the students potential in understanding narrative text they read.

2. Reading

Reading is a process done by reader to get message or information from the writer through printed media. It is very complex process in recognizing and comprehending written symbols which influenced by perceptual skill, decoding, experiences, language background, mind set and reasoning of reader (Tarigan, 2008). In this study reading means the activity done by the eighth grade students of SMPK Adisucipto Penfui Kupang in reading the narrative text.

3. Comprehension

Comprehension is not only need in student's reading activities, but also to measure the ability of each student in classroom (Hornby,1995, 235).). In this study reading means the activity done by the eighth grade students of SMPK Adisucipto Penfui Kupang in reading the narrative text.

4. Reading Comprehension

According to Woolley (2011) Reading comprehension is the process of making meaning from text. The goal, therefore, is to gain an overall understanding of what is described in the text rather than to obtain meaning from isolated words or sentences.

5. Narrative Text

According to Pardiyono (2012) Narrative text is a text that tells a story about someone life in the past, about the adventures and others which in these stories found that a conflict problems or challenges and solutions. In this study of SMPK Adisucipto Penfui Kupang.

6. SMPK Adisucipto Penfui Kupang

SMPK Adisucipto Penfui is one of the state Junior High School in Kupang, located in Adisucipto, penfui –Maulafa, Kupang City.