

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes 1) background of the study, 2) identification of the study, 3) limitation of the study, 4) formulation of the problem, 5) objective of the study, and 6) significant of the study.

### 1.1 Background

Reading is one of skills that should be mastered by people who learn English. Reading is also help people to get new material and information from the text. According to Dalman (2013) reading skills are a practice or conceptual process that seeks to find various information contained in writing. Reading is an activity that can increase knowledge without spending the reader more money. Reading provides the reader with new knowledge, fresh ideas, and access to new information. The more they read, the more effective people get at understanding what they read.

A particular aspect of language skills that the students must achieve is reading comprehension. Students should be able to understand what they are reading in order to interpret and comprehend the information. Every subject requires reading comprehension because reading is a crucial component of every learning. Consequently, it is necessary for pupils to have good comprehension abilities.

But in reality most of students still lack of interest in reading. According to UNESCO's survey (2022) Indonesia is second rank from bottom in the world in terms of literacy, which indicates that Indonesians have very little interest in reading. Data from UNESCO show that only 0.001% of Indonesians are interested in reading. In other words from 1.000 Indonesian only one person is the active reader. Another different research named "World's Most Literate Nations Ranked," conducted by Central Connecticut State University in March 2016, it was revealed that Indonesia was ranked 60th out of 61 nations in terms

of reading interest. From the fact above it shows reading interest of students are very low, which is really worrying.

There are some factors students' lack of their interest in reading. One of them because English is not their mother tongue so they feel hard to learn even read text in full English. According to Mahardika (2019) state that students' ability to read is influenced by factors both external and internal factors. From a psychological perspective, it is possible to identify internal and external elements, such as student physical health and weakness, which have an impact on learning, in addition to the physiological processes taking place within the body of the student, which have a significant impact on the five senses. Besides, Najamiah, N (2017). The environment has a big impact on how interested students are in reading. It's important to encourage and develop an affection of reading in children from an early age. The home is the first and most important setting for promoting children's interest in reading.

The other factor is because students still lack of their vocabulary in English. Because of they do not know the meaning of word in the text, students feel uncomfortable to continue what they read. As the writer experience when teaching reading in the class, most of students still cannot find the main idea of the text. The reality is that some teachers are still ineffective at implementing effective learning strategies for their students and also still give an old style teaching which is very monotonous. Wahyuningsih (2013), claims that many teachers continue to employ teaching strategies that do not raise student engagement, focus, or craft for learning, makes a similar point. This makes learning monotonous and boring for students. So, it is challenge for English teacher to make students still have motivation especially in reading.

There are many methods to make learning reading more effective apply in the class. One of them is by using keyword method. Keyword method is a mnemonic method that helps students to learn new material by connecting keywords with unfamiliar words so that they can remember them later. This method helps students comprehend the text and can enhance their reading skills (Kurniawan, 2017).

As the writer's experience at SMK Madyatama Palembang in teaching reading in eleventh grade, the students still lack of learning English especially in reading. Students difficult to understand the meaning in the text while their read. Most of students also said that they also still difficult to find the main idea in the paragraph of the text. Based on the writer's observation and test at SMK Madyatama Palembang, the result of reading test at eleventh grade showed that most of the students got lower scores under the passing grade. The passing grade is 70. The writer found students' reading assessment who got score more than 80 were only 5 students and other students got less than 70 from totally 26 students in that class. It means that many students got under the minimum passing grade.

Moreover, the direct observations previously done in class when the writer reviewed the lesson by giving them some questions concerning reading comprehension, only few of them could answer those questions and the others tended to keep silent. The issue that is faced by the students particularly at the first stage is that they have trouble reading because they don't understand the content, what the text is about, and it is difficult for them to locate the paragraph's main idea and comprehend vocabulary. Based on the problem above, the writer is interested to conduct a research on **“Improving Eleventh Grade Students’ Reading Comprehension through the Application of Keyword Method at SMK Madyatama Palembang : A Classroom Action Research.”**

## **1.2 Identification of Problem**

From some of the descriptions stated earlier, namely on the background, the writer identified problems as follows:

1. The students have a little interest in learning and understanding the meaning while they read a text.
2. Students have a little understanding to convey the meaning of words
3. Based on the interview that the teacher done before, most of students said the method that teacher used in reading is very monotonous and hard to understand by students.

### **1.3 Limitation of the Study**

The problem in this study limited on Improving the Eleventh Grade Students' Reading Comprehension through the Application of Keyword Method at SMK Madyatama Palembang: A Classroom Action Research

### **1.4 Formulation of the Problem**

The problem in this study is formulated as:

1. How could the application of Keyword Method improve students' reading comprehension in the eleventh grade at SMK Madyatama Palembang ?
2. How is eleventh grade students activation or participation in reading comprehension by using the application of keyword method at SMK Madyatama Palembang?

### **1.5 The Objectives of the Study**

This research aims to find out the improvement of student's reading comprehension after being taught by using keyword method and to determining the students' participation in the learning process for eleventh grade students at SMK Madyatama Palembang.

### **1.6 Significance of the Study**

The result of this research is expected to contribute positively for those who have necessary in improving the students' reading comprehension.

Those benefits are specified as follows:

1. For Teachers of English

The result of this study will be useful as informative input for them to improve their ability in choosing appropriate method in teaching reading.

2. For Students

Students can get better learning in improving their reading comprehension by using the outcomes of the research.

3. For other researcher

The result of this study will inform others about the result of the students' reading comprehension that has been taught by cooperative learning strategy and can be useful for others who want to conduct research on the same subject.