

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer discusses about background of the study, problems of the study, objectives of the study, significances of study, scope and limitation of the study, definition of key terms, and frame work of the discussions.

A. Background of the Study

In Indonesia, English is one of the subjects that must be taught to the students in every levels. English has four skills; they are listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Reading is one of language skills that the students of English subject are supposed to have. Reading is a process which starts with a linguistic surface representation encoded by a writer and ends with meaning which a reader construct. The meaning is constructed continuously, and to carry out this process the reader relies, particularly, on his brain .¹

In junior high school especially MTs Islamiyah Palangka Raya gives English lesson and one of material that given by the teacher to students at second grade is recount text. Recount is a piece of text that retells past events, usually in the order in which they occurred.² According to Anderson a recount is speaking or writing about past events or a piece of text that retells past events, usually in the order which they happened.

Recount text has generic structure. Generic structure of recount text are orientation, events, and reorientation. Orientation is provide the setting and

¹ K. Goodman, The Reading Process. In Carrell, PL., Devine, J., & Eskey, D. E. *Interactive Approaches to Second Language Reading*. New York: Cambridge University Press. 1988. P. 12.

² Mark Anderson and Kathy Anderson, *Text types in English 3*, Australia:1998. P. 24.

introduces participants. A series of events tells us what happened, in what sequence. Reorientation is optional closure of events.³

The structure of Recount text includes: orientation, events, and Reorientation. Orientation tells who was involved, what happened, where the events took place, and when it happened. Events tell what happened and in what sequence. Reorientation consists of optional-closure of events/ending.⁴

In order to set strong foundation the study, the writer conducted preliminary study by doing interview for teacher and test to identify the problem in the reading. The result showed there were some problems in recount text for the students. The students did not understand about how to read a recount text well and the students did not understand about generic structures in recount text. Then, the students did not understand how to comprehend recount text. Because of that, the writer was interested to know students' ability of recount text in teaching reading at the second grade of MTs Islamiyah Palangka Raya.(Interview the teacher, Mr. Tabah Hari Subagio, SPd, on April 6th 2013) and Test for the students (Second grade of MTs Islamiyah Palangka Raya, on April 9th 2013).

There are number of reasons to choose the topic of the study. First, it based on preliminary study by doing interview for teacher and test to identify the problem in the reading. The test was the writer asks the students to determine the type of texts. Second, to know the students' ability in reading and comprehending recount text at the second grade of C class in MTs Islamiyah Palangka Raya.

³Cicik Kurniawati and Yuniarti Dwi Arini, *Bahasa Inggris kelas VIII*, Klaten, PT. Intan Pariwara, 2012, p. 27.

⁴Departemen Pendidikan Nasional, MATERI PELATIHAN TERINTEGRASI Mata Pelajaran: Bahasa Inggris, 2004.

Third, recount text is the material that taken by students at second grade of MTs Islamiyah Palangka Raya. Based on the facts above the writer is interested in conducting the research entitled ” **The Students’ Ability in reading and comprehending Recount Text at the eight grade of MTs Islamiyah Palangka Raya.**”

B. Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, the problems of the study is :

How is students’ ability in reading and comprehending recount text at the eight grade of MTs Islamiyah Palangka Raya?

C. Objective of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, the objectives of the study is:

To measure the students’ ability in reading and comprehending recount text at the eight grade of MTs Islamiyah Palangka Raya.

D. Significance of the Study

The study has two significances. The first is theoretical significance and the second is practical significance. Theoretically, this study aims to provide contribution to support the theories about recount text in teaching reading especially for English teacher. Second, practically, it is expected to measure the real ability of students’ ability in reading and comprehending recount text at the second grade of C class in MTs Islamiyah Palangka Raya.

E. Limitation of the Study

The study belongs to descriptive quantitative approach and focuses on the literal and inferential comprehension. The study was conducted at the Eight Grade of C class in MTs Islamiyah Palangka Raya.

F. Operational Definition of Key Terms

1. Ability is quality of being able to do something, especially the physical, mental, financial, or legal power to accomplish something. In this study the ability means the ability of students in reading and comprehending recount text.
2. Recount text is text that retell about a story, experience, and other. Generic structure of recount text are orientation, events, and reorientation.
3. Reading is a process which starts with a linguistic surface representation encoded by a writer and ends with meaning which a reader construct. The meaning is constructed continuously, and to carry out this process the reader relies, particularly, on his brain .⁵
4. comprehension is a language process and should be developed as a part of the total language arts-listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and it is a process by which the reader constructs meaning interaction with the next.⁶
5. Literal comprehension includes acquiring information which is directly stated in a selection.
6. Inferential is the process of deriving implied rather than directly stated ideas.

⁵ K. Goodman, The Reading Process. In Carrell, PL., Devine, J., & Eskey, D. E. *Interactive Approaches to Second....* P. 12.

⁶David J. Cooper, *Improving Reading Comprehension*, Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company, 1986.P. 17.

G. Framework of the Discussion

The frameworks of the discussion of this study were:

- Chapter I: Introduction consists of background of the study, the problems of the study, the objectives of study, the significances of the study, limitation of the study, the definition of key terms, the framework of the discussion.
- Chapter II: Review of literature consisted previous studies, the Nature of Reading Comprehension, the process of Reading, the level of Reading Comprehension, the Definition of Comprehension, Recount Text, the Teaching of reading in MTS level.
- Chapter III: Research type, Research design of the study, variable of the study, population of the study, research instruments divide into four they were: instruments try out, reliability, validity, data collecting procedure and data analysis procedure.
- Chapter IV: Research finding and discussion consisted of students' ability in reading and comprehending recount text at eight grade of C class in MTs Islamiyah Palangka Raya.
- Chapter V: Closing consisted of conclusions and suggestions based on the results of the study and the discussions.