

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Problem

Reading is the process of getting knowledge. Through reading, people can get the information. In another word, reading is a physic and mental activity to reveal the meaning of the written texts, while in that activity there is a process of knowing letters. Most of readers usually read the news, magazine, comic and novel, not only to get the information but also in order to entertain when they are getting bored. Reading habit is best formed at a young impressionable age in school, but once formed it can last one's life time. Actually, reading can also be called as a tool for having communication, but reading is not in face to face communication as speaking. Reading can touch the reader, but the reader cannot give any responses or suggestions to the reader directly. And then, the most important thing is in reading people can see the text in long period, so they can read the text continually.

Reading habits are crucial for the students, because by applying some indicators of reading habits the students can improve their reading comprehension. Thus, the students should read a lot to find the information from the lesson. Good reading habits act as a strong weapon for the students to excel in life (Bashir & Mattoo, 2012 cited in Owusu-Acheaw, 2014). Meanwhile, reading habit is often applied in the school, because students are expected to be more active especially in reading. Reading habit also contribute some good impacts such increasing vocabularies, reading comprehension, and acquiring information

for those who applied it continually. Reading is needed by the students the most, which need habit of reading the most, it is because of the lesson need more attention, so, without read the material of the lesson, it is impossible for the students to be able to understand of what they learn.

Vocational high school is the school in which does not spend all the time in the classroom. The students are usually learn spend their time in the laboratory rather than in the classroom. It gives them more free time, and they can use their free time to read. In the three vocational schools which are going to be observed by the researcher, there is an assumption that only a few students who want to read a book, the vocational school students will spend their time in a laboratory rather than in a library. It becomes a serious problem if the teachers ignore it. It caused by internet which provided in that school. Then, because the students are allowed to bring their phone to do the task, so they prefer finding information from the internet, rather than reading books. So, to achieve reading habits especially vocational students, it can be started by giving hand-book with some pictures inside. It is very helpful as the first step to start reading habit. In general, reading habit is not only useful for students but for adult also.

In doing so, newspapers become one of the text which is read by people the most. The other kinds of books are such, magazini, novel, educational book and so on. Overall, no matter what kind of text read by people, as long as it can improve reading habit to them. From the explanation above, the researcher interested in conducting the research by analyzing student's reading habit especially in vocational school. This research is going to analyze high scholl

vocational students in applying reading habit, other reasons are; a.) Reading habit is a great way to reduce students addicted in using gadget. b.) nowadays, people do not realize that they spend many hours in using gadget, but they never read a real book even just a minute.

### **1.2 Identification of the Problem**

Reading habit is the behaviour which expresses the likeness of reading of individual types of reading and tastes of reading. In many cases, not all of students like to spend their time in reading a book. Meanwhile, the other readers prefer to read from the digital text or using their own smart phone. It can be concluded that reading is the way how the reader enjoy reading time based on the book or topic they want to read. The researcher will analyze the students reading habits based on several indicator which has proposed by Caesar. J (2011). More detail, the researcher will conduct the research in some schools using questionnaires that will be distributed to the students.

Recently, most of the students do not want to spend their time to read a lot, they prefer to spend their time in playing game or handphone. , the researcher want to conduct the research in the vocational school students, it is because they have been adult. Related to the attitude towards reading, the vocational school students have a little time to read, because they spend almost a day to practice their lesson in the laboratory. Nowadays, students prefer to read a text by mobile phone.

Vocational school usually has several major, and one of the majors will be the object of this research. In case, almost all the students of vocational high school do not like to read, so it is hard to predict their time in reading, especially for vocational school students, because they are spending a lot of time in the laboratory rather than in the library to read a book. The students give the time to visit the school's library at least once a week. Besides that, the students also need the motivation from the teacher and parents. It means the students need to support from the environment and family. For example at home the parents provide some books to be read by the students at least newspaper or magazine to persuade them in reading.

### **1.3 Focus of the Problem**

According to Cesar, J (2011) there are seven indicators of reading habits and the researcher will analyze the students reading habits based on those indicators. The focus in this research is to analyze and describe how the students habit in reading. It seems like the students use their spare time to do some activities rather than read a book. Moreover, the students should spend their day in the school, based on curriculum 2013 they have full day school, so the time to read is only in the school. That is why the researcher want to know how their reading habits.

#### 1.4 Research Questions

Related to background of this study, the problems to be examined in the present study are formulated as follow:

“How is reading habits of the first year students at vocational schools in Marpoyan Damai Subdistrict Pekanbaru?”

#### 1.5 Objectives of the Research

Considering the setting of the problem above, this research focused on reading habit of vocational school student. More spesific, the researcher wants to know students reading in manykinds of book beside academic book.

#### 1.6 Significance of the Research

The significance of the research are as follow:

**1.6.1 Teacher** : The result of this hopefully can contributed not only for English students but also the readers to tell the importance of reading habit in the real life.

**1.6.2 Students** : As a source for the other English student, who wants to conduct their research relate to reading habit. They may use this research as their research as their relevant study or references.

**1.6.3 Researchers/Readers** : As the completion of task in fulfilling the last requirement of the study at the English study program of FKIP UIR.

### 1.7 Definitions of the Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding in the interpretation of the used in this study, the researcher gives definition of the terms as follow:

- a. **Reading habits** refers to the behavior which expresses the likeness of reading of individual types of reading and tastes of reading, Caesar. J (2011)
- b. **Vocational School:** an education that prepares the students to be able in their major, Depdikbud 1995).

