CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

There are some reasons why reading is important when the students are learning the new language, reading helps them learn to think in the new language, reading help the students build better vocabulary, reading make the students more comfortable with written English, reading maybe the only way for the students to use English if live in a non-native English speaking country. However, comprehension is very needed when read English text in order to understand and to get information by the text.

Reading comprehension is the core of the reading activity. By having comprehension students are able to make sense what the texts tells about. The students can also catch the general or detail information what the questions ask the students. Therefore, comprehension is the purpose of reading.

Based on the earlier observation at SMP Negeri 4 Pekanbaru, researcher found that some of students still have some difficulties in comprehending the text. Firstly, Some students have lack of the vocabularies so that they tend to keep silent and even avoid to talk or being asked by the teacher. Secondly, the students need to hold the information in working memory long enough for the information to bemore extensively processed and often some of them lack it.Thirdly, the difficulties faced by students is arranging the generic structure of recount text they did not listen the material attentively given the teacher,the students only got

information from what they read at glance and based on their experience before. Fourthly, the students lacked the background knowledge, the students lacks prior knowledge in reading a text. They can follow and undertsand it because they do not what the text is about. Background knowledge is defined as the students'prior knowledge. The students use background knowledge to integrate new information from a text into their previous information. And the last, the students have difficulties in type of text. This is another factor that influences a lot reading comprehension.

From some description above, the writer is interested to carry out a research dealing with topic related to problem. The writer is curious to know the students'difficulties in reading comprehension. This idea encourage Based on the description, the researcher decided to the research with the title **" AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS'DIFFICULTIES IN READING COMPREHENSION OF RECOUNT TEXT AT SMPN 4 PEKANBARU ".**

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Based on the explanation and phenomena of the background the researches identifies some difficulties as follows:

Firstly, *Vocabulary*. New words are seen by students as a great obstacle to comprehend a text. It is necessary for students to properly comprehend the words or the vocabulary of a written passage in order to be able to decode the message, thus comprehend a written text.

Secondly is *Working Memory*. The students often complain of the fact that they can not recall the information they just read. The students need to hold the

information in working memory long enough for the information to bemore extensively processed and often some of them lack it.

Thirdly is Generic *Structure.*The difficulties faced by students is arranging the generic structure of recount text they did not listen the material attentively given the teacher, the students only got information from what they read at glance and based on their experience before.

Fourthly is *Lack of Background Knowledge.* Another difficulty arises in cases where the necessary background Knowledge is missing.

The Last is *Type of Text.* The type of text is another factor that influences a lot reading comprehension. It isconsidered to be one major barrier. Some text are easy to be perceived some others are very difficult.

1.3 Focus of the Problems

Since the students have difficulties in reading comprehension of recout text, so many things can be discussed in accordance with it but limitation is still needed too. So that, the researcher especially focused on the students' difficulties in reading comprehension of Recount text at SMP Negeri 4 Pekanbaru includes difficulties in vocabulary, working memory, generic structures, lack of background knowledge and type of text.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

The problem of this study is formulated as in following:

1. How many percentage of students' difficulties are made by the students in reading comprehension.

2. How do the students overcome their difficulties in reading comprehension?

1.5 Objective of the Research

The objective of the research is to find out the students'difficulties in reading comprehension at SMP Negeri 4 Pekanbaru.

1.6 Assumption

Based on the explanation and formulation above, the writer makes assumption of this research below:

The researcher makes assumption that English Language Learner get some difficultiesin reading comprehension of recount text.

1.7 Significance of the Research

This research is expected to give many benefit both student and researcher :

1. For the teacher

As a reference to improve reading comprehension, teaching and learning process and choose the most appropriate teaching method based on his students' difficulties.

2. For the students

As a source information to solve their difficulties and improve their reading competence.

3. For the next researchers

In addition, the finding of this study can be utilized as references of the next researchers who are interested in the same topic.Andfinally, it would be a valuable document for SMP Negeri 4 Pekanbaru where the researcher conducted.

1.8 Definition of the Key Terms

   To avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation in this research will conduct, it is necessary to explain some of the words in the title above clearly, definitions of the terms are described as follows:

1. **Analysis**

   Analysis is the process to searching and arranging as systematic the data that found to describe and makes the conclusion of the data that found to describe and makes the conclusion of the data so that it will be easy to understood by the reader (Julisna : 2010).

2. **Reading Comprehension**

   According to Guthrie et al (2004:12), Reading Comprehension is process of learning from text where the reader interacts with the printed material to build new meanings.

3. **Students' Difficulties**

   Students' Difficulties is a person get difficult to deal with understand who is studying at college or university (Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary), Fourth Edition). In this research the students have the problems to understand the contents of the text in reading comprehension of recout text at SMP Negeri 4 Pekanbaru.

4. **Recount Text.**

   Goatly (2000:86) notes "Recount text" is to construct past experience by retelling events and incidents in the order in which they occurred." Recount text is a text which retells events or experiences in the past. Its purpose is

either to inform or to entertain the readers. there is no complication among participants and that differentiates from narrative.

1.9 Grand Theories

According to Irena Shehu (2015) General problems faced by Students on Reading Comprehension and Shoebottom (1996) are:

1. Vocabulary. New words are seen by students as a great obstacle to comprehend a text. It is necessary for students to properly comprehend the words or the vocabulary of a written passage in order to be able to decode the message,thus comprehend a written text.

2. Working memory. The students often complain of the fact that they can not recall the information they just read. The students need to hold the information in working memory long enough for the information to be more extensively processed and often some of them lack it.

3. Type of text. The type of text is another factor that influences a lot of reading comprehension. It is considered to be one major barrier. Some text are easy to be perceived some others are very difficult.

4. Lack of Background Knowledge. Another difficulty arises in cases where the necessary background knowledge is missing. For example, there is little point him/her looking up the un known words in the following passage since the definitions are unlikely to further comprehension.

5. **Generic Structures.** The difficulties faced by students is arranging the generic structure of recount text they did not listen the material attentively given the teacher, the students only got information from what they read at glance and based on their experience before.

From theory above the researcher make it as a grand theories to complete this research.