

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of Study

Reading is an activity that involves obtaining information through visual media such as books, newspapers, novels, short stories, comic books, and other reading materials. In the world of education, reading is an important thing because by reading a student can gain knowledge. Therefore, a student must get used to reading so that knowledge can be obtained. Reading is an interactive process that engages multiple skills at the same time. The commands to read in Islam is written in the Quran QS al-'Alaq verse 1.

اَلَمْ نَكُنْ رَءِیْنًا  
مَرۡسُومًا  
ذُرِّیَّةً  
» ق

The verse above implied instructions to humans to read and learn more. Reading is one way to gain knowledge and broad insights. A number of scientific disciplines also need to be studied through reading. The goal is to be wise human being and not easily blame other people when someone has different opinion. This is because by reading a lot, the human mind can be more open. The object for reading is also very broad, namely in the form of everything that is around humans.

One part of science is learning English. Students that study English require to be able to read English vocabulary so that a meaning can be understand in the English word or sentence. Therefore, reading comprehension is needed so that students can understand what they read. Reading

comprehension can be called an activity to get an understanding of concepts, words, and ideas that have been written and what the author wants to convey. Reading comprehension must be mastered by everyone so that students can find new knowledge, theories, and ideas. When reading, a person must be able to know the meaning of what he has read and in accordance with what has been conveyed by the author. Therefore everyone needs reading comprehension.

Unfortunately, some research found that reading skills in students' competence are far from expectations (Indahwati, 2020). One of the problems occur such as misunderstanding between the reader and the writer about the intention of the text or story. Indahwati (2020) claimed that there are many students with low ability in reading comprehension. Students seem to be passive when reading some text. Also, the students get difficult on analyze the reading text and get confuse when asked to gather some important ideas. It showed when the teacher ask the students about the text and they did not have the idea relate to it. Then, students are lack of vocabulary. They do not understand the text because they do not know the word meaning. Another problem is students' motivation to read text in English is low. They do not interest with English text because they don't use the language in their daily life. The last, the low reading competence of the students can happen because the teacher use ineffective method to teach them, so the class was boring and not alive.

In the Antasari Language Development Unit, where the first year college students learn languages, the researcher found that the problems are

similar to problems stated above. The students get confused to understand the text meaning because of their lack of vocabularies, get the wrong intention of the text, difficult to re-explain or make summary of the text, and lack of motivation for search the vocabulary translation or pay attention to the teacher explanation. On the other side, the techniques used by the teacher was boring and monotone for the students.

Nowadays, teaching and learning get so many ways and methods to overcome students' problems. One of the helpful ways is using digital technology. People use technology to access information around the world that can be used for educational purposes as well. Using technology in the process of teaching and learning is beneficial and engage students to learn in effective way (Wieking, 2016). From children to adults in the world can use the technology to see and feel what is happening in the world right now and can downloaded easily and freely on the technology. Thus, the existence of technology can be used effectively in supporting the learning and teaching process.

At this time, reading can no longer only be done through print media such as books, newspapers, novels, and others. Reading can be done through non-printed media that can be accessed via smart devices in the palm of the hand. There are many applications in the device about reading material that contains various kinds of information in various forms. One of the most popular applications for students today is a Webtoon.

Webtoon is a reading application that presents stories in comic form. So it can be understood that the reading material in the Webtoon is pictures story that popular among students because of its presentation that attracts students' interest and attention. Webtoon is a comic application that can be accessed and enjoyed by anyone. By reading stories in Webtoon, people can fill the boring time they have. Webtoon also contains various things such as cultures in other countries, food recipes, health, beauty, and so on. So that indirectly Webtoon is also a window to the world and knowledge that can be learned by students. The webtoon also has regulations to change to various languages, one of which is English, by changing to another language we can find out the continuation of the episode of the comic faster.

To conduct the research, the researcher apply descriptive qualitative research approach. Descriptive qualitative research is a research approach that seeks to answer questions or address phenomenon. In this type of approach, the variable cannot be manipulated by the researcher, it cannot be completed in a controlled environment. This research intend to identify the principles to explain the data gathered and observations.

In order to use Webtoon as the learning media in reading comprehension, the researcher apply a learning method called PQRST. PQRST stand for preview, question, read, summarize, and test. This method use as a strategy to read text or stories (Insani, 2013). In this research, PQRST use as a method for read Webtoon and consist of five steps which the preview, discussing the questions, doing the reading, determining the main sentences,

main ideas, descriptive sentences, and discussing the answer. This method is one of the ways to make the learning and teaching process in the class interesting. PQRST method is designed for solve the students' difficulties in learning reading comprehension.

Some studies related to teaching reading using Webtoon or PQRST method showed positive results. Study research conducted by Indahwati (2020) entitled "Autonomous Online Reading Using PQRST to Enhance The Students' Reading Skill in Recount Texts" reveals that using PQRST method in teaching reading is effective because the students can use their basic knowledge of the material discussed in the text, create questions, read, then summarize. This method finish with a reading comprehension test, which showed the students' scores of evaluation have been increased significantly. Another study conduct by Harahap (2019) entitled "The Effect Using Preview, Question, Read, Summarize, Test (PQRST) Method on Students Reading Comprehension in Senior High School An Nizam Medan" showed that the implementation of PQRST method have positive influence. The students' score after learning reading using PQRST method increased significantly. Another research conduct by Ziska (2021) entitled "Webtoons as an Attractive Media in Teaching Reading Comprehension" reveals that teaching using Webtoon in reading comprehension improves the students' skill. The success of this method because Webtoon is different from the media that was used by the teacher. Students prefer Webtoon also because the words in this application is not complicated, the vocabulary is easy to understand. In addition, Webtoon

did not make students feel bored because this application is bright and colorful and make students happy to read.

Based on the explanation above and the high interest of students in Indonesia in reading Webtoon has aroused the attention and interest of researcher to study reading comprehension using Webtoon and PQRST method. However, this present research is different from the previous studies. The researcher would like to use Webtoon as the media of learning and teach using PQRST method. This is certainly interesting to study and research more deeply to reveal the usefulness of Webtoon and PQRST method on students' reading comprehension. Hopefully, this research will have a good impact on the development of students' reading comprehension skills, especially in Indonesia, student interest can increase their skills by read Webtoons in order to improve reading comprehension. Based on this condition and problem, the researcher conduct a study entitled **“The Use of Webtoon in the Implementation of PQRST Method for Reading Comprehension at Antasari Language Development Unit”**.

## **B. Definition of Key Terms**

In order to avoid misunderstanding possibilities in this research, the researcher gives some definitions of key terms that are necessary to be known and understand follows:

### 1. Webtoon

Webtoon is an online comic applications in smartphones. Webtoon provides various reading materials, especially in the form of comics that

make Webtoon popular among students. Webtoon in this study is used as an object of research that seeks to see the extent to which Webtoon have an influence on students' reading comprehension.

## 2. Reading Comprehension

Reading comprehension is the process by which a person understands what he or she has read. Reading comprehension sees the extent to which a person can understand a reading, this understanding can be measured by how far a person can explain the content and meaning of a reading he has read. Reading comprehension in this research is reading comprehension which is sourced from reading material in the form of Webtoon digital comic.

## 3. The Class of Antasari Language Development Unit

Language Development Unit is a program in Antasari Islamic State University that has function to develop all new students' foreign language skills for about 2 semesters. One of the class of the program chosen to be the subject of the research is an English Class which reading comprehension become one of the materials taught.

### **C. Research Questions**

Based on the context of the preceding problems, the researcher considers the following formulation of the problem:

1. How does the teacher use Webtoon in the implementation of PQRST method for teaching reading comprehension?

2. What are the advantages of Webtoon in the implementation of PQRST method for teaching reading comprehension?

#### **D. Objectives of Study**

Based on the context of the preceding problems and the formulation of the problem above, the objectives of this study are as follows:

1. To know how the teacher use Webtoon in the implementation of PQRST method for teaching reading comprehension
2. To find the advantages of Webtoon in the implementation of PQRST method for teaching reading comprehension

#### **E. Significance of Study**

In theory, the researcher hopes that this research will be a resource for additional information and reference for future researchers.

1. For students, this research is expected to provide benefit in terms of reading comprehension.
2. For other researchers, this research is expected to serve as a resource in learning English using Webtoon.
3. For students, the advantages of this research are that this can identify students' reading comprehension problems and strategies.