

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Rationale

Language is one of communication tools especially among human beings. Without language, people cannot make any relationship with others, because language is the most effective tool of communication. A. Chaidar Al-Wasilah, in his book *Sosiologi Bahasa* said that “Communication is a process by which information is exchanged between individuals through a common system of symbols, sign or behavior.”<sup>1</sup> Besides that, language is also used to deliver message, express ideas, thought and one’s feeling to others. In this regard, Marry Finocchiaro stated that “language is the means by which results of human though and action are passed on”.<sup>2</sup>

Based on Holy Koran surah Al Kahf, verse 109, it is said:



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<sup>1</sup> A. Chaidar Al-Wasilah. *Sosiologi Bahasa*. (Bandung: Angkasa, 1985), p. 9.

<sup>2</sup> Mary Finocchiaro, *English as a Second Language: from Theory to Practice*, (New York: Regents Publishing, Inc, 1974), p. 3.

The verse explains to us that knowledge from God Allah SWT is large, one of it is language. There are many languages in the world. One of them that has pay attention is English. It is one of the foreign languages and almost used in many kinds of human activities in the world.

The people who master English have bigger opportunity in their lives than those who do not. It is because English is one of the foreign languages which plays an important role in all aspects of human life such as technology, economy, social and politics. Beside that English is an international language for communication. By mastering English enables us to communicate with other people that are from other countries.

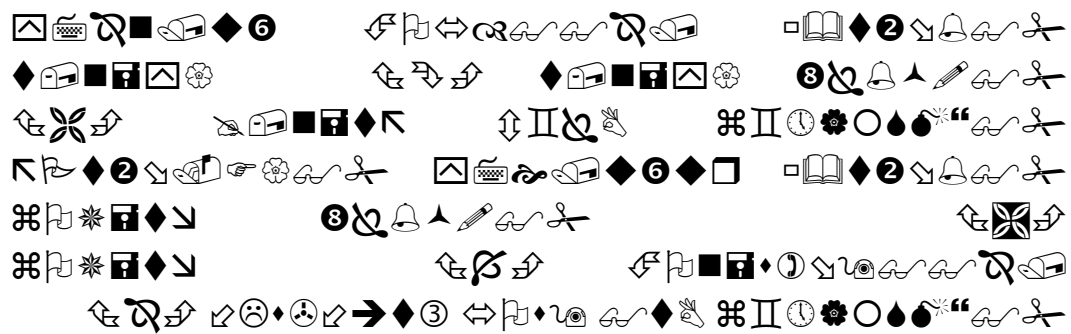
English is taught in Madrasah Aliyah as a compulsory subject. English lesson has four skills there are; listening, speaking, reading and writing. Reading is one of skills that must be mastered by students. L.G.Alexander stated that “The students must be trained adequately in all four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. If the teacher is to train his students in all four skills, he must make efficient of the time at his disposal.”<sup>3</sup> Reading skills also enable readers to turn writing into meaning and achieve the goals of independence, comprehension, and fluency. Reading skill are specific abilities which enable a reader to read the written form as meaningful language, to read anything written with independence, comprehension and fluency, and to mentally

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<sup>3</sup> L.G.Alexander. *Practice and Progress and Integrated Course for Pre-Intermediate Students*. (London: Longman Group Ltd, 1975), p. 8.

interact with the message.<sup>4</sup> Marry Finocchiaro also states that “Reading is one of the important skills in English. It is the way of getting meaning from printed or written material”.<sup>5</sup>

Based on Holy Koran surah Al- Alaq, verse 1-5, it is said:



The verse explain that God is who created human from blood and then give the human ability to think that can human use to reading, writing, and also speaking. This surah remains the human about how important searching knowledge and practice the knowledge. This surah also remains how important about duty teaching and learning in our life.

From the quotation above, the writer concludes that reading is not only getting the meaning but a process of thinking and be able to understand printed or written material. Thus, reading relates to understanding or comprehending. As it known, in reading there are many types of text, such as narrative, report, recount, descriptive, analytical exposition, etc. Analytical exposition text is one of texts

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<sup>4</sup> <http://rezki0910.wordpress.com/whatarereadingskill.htm>. at Tuesday December 28<sup>th</sup>2010, 2.41 am.

<sup>5</sup> Mary Finnochiaro, Loc.cit. p. 55



taught the eleventh grade students in this school about analytical exposition texts. When the writer gave them some passages of analytical exposition texts and the questions based on those texts, some students still confused to answer it and can not explain or give their opinion what the content of the text is about.

Therefore, the writer wants to know further how is student's ability in understanding analytical exposition texts at MAN 1 Martapura Gambut, because their ability in this case is not known yet. Even though, some of them has to express their difficulties in understanding the text, but it cannot be concluded that their ability is low, fair or good without more research.

Based on that problem, the writer is interested in observing and conducting a research entitled: **“The Ability in Understanding Analytical Exposition Texts of the Twelfth Grade Students at MAN 1 Martapura Gambut Academic Year 2011/2012”**.

To avoid misunderstanding of the title, the writer needs to explain some terms in the title as follow:

1. Ability

Ability means the mental or physical capacity, power or skill required to do something.<sup>6</sup> Student's ability is meant that the student has skill to do something in himself/herself. In this research especially, the ability of the twelfth grade

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<sup>6</sup>A.S Hornby, *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995), p.2.

students in understanding analytical exposition texts. Furthermore, students' ability in giving arguments of the text, analyzing the statements of the text and knowing the generic structure of the text. That all means that students have capability in understanding the content of the text means the students can explain what the text tell about that they have read.

## 2. Understanding

Understanding means the act of one who understands a thing, in any sense of the verb; knowledge; discernment; comprehension; interpretation; explanation.<sup>7</sup> If the students can answer the questions based on the text, and also can explain or give their opinion about the text that they have read, it means that the students have understood about the text. In this case, the students in order to understand the text, they should know the knowledge of the topic, knowledge of language structures, knowledge of text structures and genres, knowledge of cognitive and meta cognitive strategies, their reasoning abilities and their motivation. If student has these all, the writer sure that students will get speed understanding.

## 3. Analytical Exposition

Analytical exposition is a type of spoken or written text that is intended to persuade the listeners or readers that something is the case. To make the persuasion stronger, the speaker or writer gives some arguments as the

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<sup>7</sup><http://www.selfknowledge.com/definitinunderstanding/102772.htm> .at Tuesday  
December 28<sup>th</sup>2010, 2.52 am.

fundamental reasons why something is the case. Analytical expositions are popular among science, academic community and educated people.<sup>8</sup>

Therefore, this research is intended to know and measure the students' ability especially in understanding analytical exposition texts of the twelfth grade students at MAN 1 Martapura Gambut. The writer also will identify some factors that influence the students' ability in learning analytical exposition texts.

## **B. Statement of Research Problems**

The problem of this research is formulated as follow:

1. How is the ability in understanding analytical exposition texts of the twelfth grade students at MAN 1 Martapura Gambut?
2. What factors which influence the ability in understanding analytical exposition texts of the twelfth grade students at MAN 1 Martapura Gambut?

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<sup>8</sup><http://www.typeoftext.blogspot.com/2009/01/analyticalexposition.html> at Tuesday December 28<sup>th</sup>2010, 3.07 am.

### **C. Reason for Choosing the Title**

There are some reasons that based on choosing the title, as follows;

1. English has been taught there and one of the important subject in curriculum of education in Indonesia, especially in Senior High School and Islamic School such as MAN 1 Martapura Gambut.
2. There are many English materials has been taught, one of them is Reading. Reading is one of four skills that must be mastered by students especially at MAN 1 Martapura Gambut.
3. Analytical exposition text is one type of some types of text has been taught at MAN 1 Martapura Gambut.
4. Considering that many students still have difficulties in understanding Analytical Exposition texts.

### **D. Purpose of the Research**

The purposes of this research are:

1. To know the ability in understanding analytical exposition texts of the twelfth grade students at MAN 1 Martapura Gambut.
2. To know the factors that influence the ability in understanding analytical exposition texts of the twelfth grade students at MAN 1 Martapura Gambut.



## **E. Significance of the Research**

The result of this research is expected:

1. To inform the English teachers at MAN 1 Martapura Gambut to improve their students' ability in reading.
2. To inform and compare the next researchers who want to investigate more details about the same problem.
3. To enrich the writer's knowledge and other readers in general about reading skill in English.

## **F. Organization of the Contents**

This research is divided into five chapters as follow:

Chapter I contains of introduction, which is consisting of rationale, statement of problems, reasons for choosing the title, purpose of the research, significance of research, and organization of the contents.

Chapter II contains of theoretical review on research, which is consisting of definition of ability, reading comprehension which includes the definition, factors that affect reading comprehension and strategy to comprehend the text, analytical exposition which includes the definition and the functions and features of analytical exposition text, the influential factors of the students' ability in understanding analytical exposition text.

Chapter III contains of methodology of research, which is consisting of population and sample of the research, data, source of data, techniques of data collecting, basic framework of research, design measurement, techniques of data processing analysis and research procedure.

Chapter IV contains of research report, which is consisting of general description about the location of the research, data presentation and data analysis.

Chapter V contains of closure which is consisting of conclusion and suggestion.