

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is a widely recognized English language proficiency test that is required for admission to many universities around the world. TOEFL is a complex test structure, as there are three test sections : listening, reading, and structure. Each section consists of a number of distinct parts where the questions vary by category, each with its own level of difficulty. In order to pass this section, students need to have a good understanding of English listening skill, reading skills, and structure including vocabulary, grammar, and comprehension.

There are several factors that contribute to the difficulties faced by students when attempting the TOEFL test. One of the main factors is reading section, the high level of complexity of the texts used in the test. The texts used in the TOEFL reading section are often academic in nature, and can be challenging for students who are not used to reading complex texts in English. Additionally, the time limit for the reading section is only 60-80 minutes, which can be stressful for students and make it difficult for them to understand and answer the questions.

Another factor that contributes to the difficulties faced by students is the lack of exposure to English reading materials. Many students who are taking the TOEFL test come from non-English speaking countries, and may not have had much

opportunity to read in English. This lack of exposure can make it difficult for students to understand the texts used in the test, and can negatively impact their reading comprehension skills.

As Muslim students, we are obligated to utilize every resource provided by Allah SWT. Included in this is the ability to read, since Allah has granted us the ability to read and comprehend. As quoted in surah Al – Alaq verse 1 :

خَلَقَ الَّذِي ۚ رَبُّكَ بِاسْمِ ۚ اِقْرَأْ ۚ رَا ۚ

Allah has given us all the knowledge we need, and it is our responsibility to try to get and understand it, one way to get knowledge is by reading, reading is so important that Allah commands us to read the first verse of Al - Alaq.

Based on all those mention above, the researcher decides to locate and filter the aforementioned information and locate a YouTube channel that will help improve reading skills in order to maximize the use of reading abilities. Specifically those that can assist with passing the TOEFL Reading section.

Despite the difficulties this examination is a requirement for a variety of things, thus not only graduates but even current students must take it. Particularly for English department students, as English Language is the very subject they study for their college major. TOEFL is required for multiple graduation requirements, including the class placement exam, proposal seminar, comprehensive examination, and final requirement. and not every student will be able to get the minimum passing score. For example, the English Department's needed score at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin. To be able to present a seminar proposal, a minimum

score of 450 on the TOEFL is required. As for comprehensive examination and graduation, a minimum TOEFL score of 500 is required.

In recent years, there has been an increase in the use of digital resources such as YouTube videos to help students improve their English reading skills. by using YouTube students will find it easier to study anywhere and anytime because students can access it from their gadgets, and on YouTube we can find various videos that offer various tips and strategies for understanding and answering questions in the TOEFL reading section, and these videos made by native English speakers and language experts.

For instance, the YouTube channels of Andrian Permadi, PrepScholar TOEFL, and TST Prep TOEFL focus on discussing all aspects of the TOEFL test, including listening, reading, and grammatical structure. On these channels, we can obtain reading section related TOEFL test, such as explanation, tips and trick questions on the TOEFL reading part.

The aim of this study is to analyze YouTube videos related to the reading section of the TOEFL test and to find out how they can help students improve their reading skills. The study focused on the content of the videos and the quality of the videos. By analyzing these aspects, this study aims to provide valuable insights into the use of digital resource namely YouTube videos, for improving reading skills and passing the TOEFL test.

Based on the aforementioned factors, the researcher chose to search and filter the information and choose channels that will help enhance reading abilities in order

to maximize the use of reading skills. Particularly useful for passing the Reading component of the TOEFL test.

B. Definition of key terms

1. Digital resource

Digital resource is any information accessible over the Internet. Digital location itself is a place with no physical form, it exclusively exists in a digital domain made by human. The realm of digital where things consist of human-written data of worth. Virtually every physical connection is possible in the digital arena, with the exception of sharing data and the worth of their digital identity. The digital resource that used in this reaserch is YouTube.

2. Reading skill

Reading is an activity that tries to absorb information in the form of writing, symbols, or braille letters, reading activities are related to writing, whether academic or non-academic writing, such as newspapers, periodicals, and educational books.

3. TOEFL Test

TOEFL is a standardized test that measures the English language skills of foreign English speakers who desire to work or study in a country where English is the official language. The TOEFL exam is typically administered by institutions in the United States and Canada, hence the language of the exam is either American English or Canadian English. The TOEFL has three types of tests, namely PBT (Paper Based Test), CBT

(Computer Based Test) and IBT (Internet Based Test). The score or value for the PBT exam ranges from 310 - 677, CBT has a score range of 0-300, while for the IBT it ranges from 0 – 120.

C. Research Questions

1. What are the channels on YouTube which are suitable for enhancing Reading skill in TOEFL Preparation Test?

D. Objectives of Study

1. To find suitable resource to help enhance reading skill for TOEFL Preparation test on YouTube Channel.

E. Significant of study

The results of this study are expected to contribute in the following fields for students. It is hoped that this research can provide awareness about the importance of reading skills in English students in facing the TOEFL test. Students have the motivation to understand material related to reading skills by using videos on the YouTube channel.