

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Nowadays, the citizen must productive and educated in the era of information and globalization and really need strong literacy skills, especially in English, English is not only a global language but also a scientific language, technology and further research. Therefore, it will definitely be more important and useful for society.

Now the ease of getting information also occurs in the daily life of a student, where they can get various information they want. It could be about science or about technology, however, there are two challenges in this case. The first one requires students to learn a foreign language, for example English, because English is known as a universal language in the world of research, technology, and various others knowledge. Second, students have a great ability to get the information they need, that is reading skill.

Reading skill is an important skill to access various knowledge and information, but reading is a slightly more complex skill that involves mental processes to understand what is written (Richards & Schmidt, 2013). There are various reasons or purposes for reading texts in English. In an academic context,

reading aims to gain knowledge and information for learning purposes and for career preparation (Harmer, 2007). Even in Al Qur'an Surah Al - 'Alaq (96) verse 1-5 that is:

اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ ۱ خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ۲ اقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ
 ۳ الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ ۴ عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ ۵

in the verse of Al – Qur'an above emphasizes that humans must learn by reading to gain knowledge because by reading humans can find out what was previously unknown.

Reading skills also play a major role in students' daily life. For example, teachers ask students to find the main idea of the text. That way, students who have mastered reading skills can easily find the main idea, but for those who have not mastered reading comprehension, will faces the difficulty of reading sentences and it can be solved through exercises and techniques. Then, the education of the Indonesian government will hold an event called reading literacy. This event requires each student to read books, articles, magazines, newspapers and more. The government wants to provide students with a culture that they can enjoy reading. And Barton argues that mastering literacy also means that readers are effective and develop strategies to find the most appropriate strategy for each text and condition or situation (Barton & Lee, 2013)

But in this case, (Elizabeth, 2016) explains that there are some problems with reading skill, such as the vocabulary is complex and it is difficult for students to understand the text they are reading, the students feel difficult to analyze the author's point of view and response to a conflicting point, determininsg word means and impact of the word. Not only that, students also lack information about the material, then, students have limited reference to the knowledge they have learned, in this case, when students have difficulty with the source of materials, the researcher gives that schools should provide equal resources. to improve the level of their students in the class.

But there is a solution that can help students overcome that kind of problems. The solution is to change the media, media plays an important role in the learning activities of language classes. Teachers need to use varies media to motivate their students, especially in reading. In addition, media plays a dominant role in teaching the learning process. We know that visual media are used in teaching learning process because it has positive effects. Therefore, change the media can be engaging enough for students to read and understand, for example with images that match with the text about. Various media resources can greatly support students' learning, particularly in the reading comprehension. One such media for enhancing students' reading abilities is the utilization of comics. (Reinitz et al., 1989) points out that one of the visual aids that has a function as media in teaching learning process include picture, comic

is written using picture. Especially digital comics can be included as visual media. With this solution, students are much more dependent to easily absorb any kind of information and knowledge.

Comics provide an engaging and visually appealing format for students, which is particularly well-suited to the preferences of today's learners who gravitate towards multimedia learning experiences rather than traditional textbooks. (Dallacqua, 2020) emphasized some researchers pay much attention to the digital comics used in reading classes. With collaboratively using comics can make learning better and more focused.

In this study, the researcher identified several studies that have examined the implementation of digital comics in enhancing students' reading comprehension. These studies have contributed to our understanding of how digital comics can be effectively integrated into educational settings by the practical steps of how to implement digital comic to support students' reading comprehension skills.

One notable study conducted by (Asmara, 2021) investigated the use of digital comics in a senior high school. His also showed that the implementation of extensive reading using digital comic could enhance students' understanding of a narrative story.

Moreover (Erya & Pustika, 2021) stated in using digital comic the teacher must follow the curriculum applied in the teaching-learning process to make the situation run well and have more benefits between the teacher and the students. Based on this, the researcher is interested in analyzing the implementation of digital comics in learning, particularly in students' reading comprehension skills. Based on the previous study above, researcher also considered and analyzed what should be taken before teaching using digital comic and identified the effective practical steps in implementing digital comic to enhance students' reading comprehension. Consequently, the researchers conducted A content analysis of delving the practical steps and how to implement digital comic in enhancing students' reading comprehension.

B. Research Question

1. How to implement digital comic to enhancing students' reading comprehension?
2. What are the practical steps to implement digital comic to teach students reading comprehension?

C. Objective of The Study

1. The study aimed to find out how to implement digital comic to enhancing students' reading comprehension.
2. The study aimed to find out what are the practical steps to implement digital comic in enhancing students reading comprehension.

D. Significance of The Study

Significance of this study are to provide useful information and apply the technique of English language learning to teacher about implementation media and practical steps about using digital comic to enhance students' reading comprehension:

1. For teachers: the findings of the research will give the teacher several practical step to teach reading comprehension by using digital comics as a media.
2. For students: It may improve their knowledge and reading comprehension and stimulate their interest and enjoyment in reading English.
3. For other researchers: this study may contribute to additional researchers who will be experimenting with the same subject. It may help them to come up with some theories of their experimental variables.

E. Definition of Key Terms

In order not to misunderstand the title of this study, the researcher describes the definitions and terms used operationally. Here the researcher describes several terms related to the title, as follows:

1. Reading Comprehension

Reading comprehension is the intelligence to understand and properly interpret the information in the text. It is reading with understanding. It means reading comprehension is extracting information from the text in most efficient.

2. Digital Comic

Digital comics are comics released digitally, as opposed to in print. It published in digital form on a computer or smartphone or another device and can also be accessed online. Digital comics will be the main media in displaying pictures of stories that will be read by students using narrative text.