

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Reading is an activity that someone does to obtain information and reading is also not only about reading a book or an article, but also about how someone can find out the intent, the main topic, and the things contained in what someone read. Jaya (2017) pinpointed that reading is an ability that allows someone to receive information. The techniques in which people extract meaning from the language they see or hear are referred to as receptive skills. The cognitive processes involved in reading are comparable to those involved in listening in this regard. Reading is more than just consuming information. It is a communicative act that involves creating discourse from the text.

Sari (2019) highlighted that reading skills refer to the ability to read, comprehend, and interpret written words on a page of an article or other reading material. The ability to digest a written work in a short period when reading is a result of having good reading skills. A person's ability to read is a lifelong activity once they have mastered it. And, while reading at any given time, an individual is supposed to think critically about the topic or issue in order to grasp the writer's point of view. So, reading is a good way to improve one's English abilities.

Reading allows someone to enhance his or her English vocabulary, which can subsequently be used when speaking English. As a result, reading is a very important activity highly recommended for someone who wants to learn English.

Many media and reading materials can be used to develop one's reading abilities, especially to learn English; such as novels, journals, newspapers, text books, magazines, comics, and manga. Manga is one of the most popular reading materials nowadays. Many people enjoy reading manga, both teenagers and adults. Manga are comics created in Japan, but due to their huge popularity, these Japanese comics are eventually translated into various languages, and English is one of them. Besides the many people who like to read manga, Aliyah (2013) pinpointed that manga's visual feature aids reading comprehension for all students, even those who are unfamiliar with manga. Furthermore, because some researchers have identified visual and verbal (textual) information as two different learning processes, manga's combined text and illustrations should help both visual and verbal learners. Murakami and Bryce (2009) claimed that multimodal information delivered in both verbal and nonverbal formats improves readers' memory. Also, images with subject focus aid readers' comprehension. Multiple layers of information in context and project-focused content are necessary for effective learning. Schwartz and Rubinstein (2006) stated that manga needs multimodal reading abilities and a sharp critical inquiry stance since meaning is delivered at various levels, including page layout, pictures, words, and scripts.

The English-translated manga has an effect on improving English reading comprehension and by using manga the readers can also learn about idioms, stress, and slang words. Because of this many manga readers say that reading English-translated manga improves their reading skills. So, the researcher wants to find out about 15 manga readers and ask about their perceptions.

Spielman (2017) highlighted that perception is the way sensory information is organized, evaluated, and consciously experienced. Perception involves both bottom-up and top-down processes. Bottom-up processing is the process of constructing perceptions from sensory input. On the other hand, how we perceive such feelings is influenced by our available knowledge, experiences, and thoughts. Top-down processing is the term for this method.

Research is going to do some interviews with manga readers about how reading English translated manga can help them in reading skills and how big the role of manga is to create their reading comprehension in English.

Prophet Muhammad SAW said in HR. Muslim, no.2699:

وَمَنْ سَلَكَ طَرِيقًا يَلْتَمِسُ فِيهِ عِلْمًا سَهَّلَ اللَّهُ لَهُ بِهِ طَرِيقًا إِلَى الْجَنَّةِ

Based on the hadith above, the researcher concludes that seeking knowledge is a priority for Muslims. Therefore, we are encouraged to seek and increase knowledge so that Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala always blesses us. And also, we should not be afraid to try new things because as long as it leads to

goodness, Allah will make it easier for us. We can seek and increase our knowledge by reading. In Al-Qur'an Surah Shad verse 29:

كِتَابٌ أَنْزَلْنَاهُ إِلَيْكَ مُبَارَكٌ لِيَدَّبَّرُوا آيَاتِهِ وَلِيَتَذَكَّرَ أُولُو الْأَلْبَابِ

That verse explained that Allah sent down a kitab or Al-Qur'an to read, learn, and take knowledge from it. Read something like manga, comics, novel, etc. what we like, then take advantage of our reading to increase knowledge.

Based on the background described above, the researcher is interested in investigating this research entitled "The Manga Readers Perception of English Translated Manga in Improving Reading Skills".

B. Definition of Key Term

To make this study more comprehensible, the researcher adds some definitions of key terms:

1. Reading Skills

Reading is an interactive process in which the text interacts with the reader's processing techniques and background information, as well as a process of learning letters (Jaya, 2017), and reading skills refer to a person's ability to read and comprehend a reading. In this study, reading skill refers to how well students can read and comprehend when they read English-translated manga and will focus on micro and macro reading skills.

2. Reading Comprehension

Reading comprehension meant understanding what had been read. It was an active thinking process that relied on the student's existing knowledge and experience, as well as their understanding (Sinulingga, 2018) this means that reading comprehension is an active process in which the readers must comprehend the content for the activity to be worthwhile.

3. Manga

Manga is a term that refers to Japanese comic books or it is a graphic style. Manga in Japan refers to any printed comic book of any type for any generation. Budi (2015) highlighted that manga is an art form that blends visuals and scripts. In this study manga term to the media that are used in improving students' reading skills.

4. Students' Perception

Faza (2019) stated that perception can be defined as a process of making inferences. People can construct their own image of reality through inferences, which can be influenced by prior experiences, education, cultural values, and role expectations. In this study, the term students' perception relates to how students interpret and respond to information from the manga they read with English translation.

C. Research Question

Based on the background above, the questions of this study that would be discussed are as follows:

1. How do manga readers perceive English-translated manga in improving English reading skills?
2. What are the kinds of manga readers' English reading skills improvement?

D. Objectives of Study

The objective of this study is to find out:

1. To explore the manga readers perceive English-translated manga in improving English reading skills.
2. To identify the kinds of manga readers' English reading skills improvement.

E. Significance of Study

The result of this study provides the following benefits:

1. For the students, the results of this study are expected to benefit students, particularly English learners, by allowing them to make the most of their manga reading habit by using it to learn more English and enhance their reading skills.
2. For teachers, teachers can use manga as a medium for learning as well as entertaining them in learning English, especially in reading.
3. For readers, the findings of this study can inform knowledge about English-translated Manga as a medium to improve reading skills.

4. For the researchers, hopefully, this study will be a reference for researchers who want to research English-translated Manga as a medium to improve reading skills.