

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This introductory chapter provides basic ideas related to the study being carried out. This chapter presents several subtopics covering background of the study, statement of problems, objective of study, significance of study, and definition of key terms which are presented in that order.

#### **A. Background of Study**

Language is the component of communication that is used by people in the word to tell what are their minds to others such as opinion, ideas, and information. Language is system of communication in speech and writing used by people of particular country.

Language is one of the most important to be learnt because it is a tool of communication, that are many kinds nation and tribes in the world, which need a communication tool to know one other. As Allah said in holy Qur'an (Q.S. Al-Hujurat: 13):

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ ١٣

From the verse above it is known that Allah created human like a man and a woman from different nations and tribes so that human need to know each other, everyone must use the language for communication everyday. Human is social being, they can not live alone.

As an international language, English is very important and has many interrelationships with various aspects of life owned by human being. English has important position in every aspect of the life, it is not only in education but also in business, social, tourism, etc. The important English can be seen from other side. Nowadays many things have been written printed in English such as magazine, newspaper, and scientific book.

In education English has been chosen as one of the subjects that should be mastered by the student; in Junior High School, Senior High School and University level. In Indonesia teaching English focus on four basic skills, namely; listening, reading, speaking and writing.

In Indonesia, English considered as the first foreign language and taught formally from elementary school up to the university level. Being successful in teaching English is the dominant factor that the English teacher should pay attention especially in teaching reading. Through reading, one can enhance his experience, develop new concept, solve his problem, and broaden his horizon of thinking, which are needed to ensure continuing personal growth and adopt the change in the world yet the importance of reading has not been realized by most of our society a large number of our population is classified as poor readers and the majority of the people are content to read materials of poor quality.

Reading is the process of interaction between the information and the reader by understanding the written language associated with the reader's language skill and their acquired knowledge. Firstly, reading is a transmitting of information process where the author tells all the readers about his ideas or message.

Secondly, reading is the instantaneous recognition of various written symbols. In reading ability, the message to be imposed in the written form is the most important element that the students must recognize, because the primary purpose of reading is to know the thoughts expressed in the printed material. Therefore, reading is only a way for the students to arrive at what they want to know from the reading material. From those definitions, it can be concluded reading is meaning getting process the reader always tries to catch what the writer says and means actually.

Furthermore, with reading the reader can develop and improve his competence with reference to his major or profession. The importance of reading is already Allah SWT said in the holy Qur'an at Surah Al-Alaq: 1-5 as follows:

أَقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ ١ خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ٢ أَقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ ٣ الَّذِي  
عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ ٤ عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ ٥

In those verses, the word “iqra” that means “read” is repeated until twice with definite purpose. As the verse, mankind are commanded by Allah the Almighty to read. The meaning of reading in above verse comprises and to discover knowledge that exist in our surroundings. This verse also command the human about how important searching knowledge, practice the knowledge and how important reading and learning in our life.

Based on the junior high school curriculum, reading is one of the four skills in studying English. The aim of the students learn reading, they have to know basic competence and achievement indicators in reading.

For students from elementary to university level, reading is something that has to be done. They have to read some books or other materials related to their lesson. For teachers who are teaching languages, reading is one of the skills, which has to be learned and is considered as the most important one because it can influence other language skill (listening, speaking, and writing). According to Kustaryo (1988) it is certainly not easy to present the English reading for Indonesian students whose language system is different. Reading is a complex process which involves not only the read the text but also their experience to comprehend it. Because of its complexity, many teachers of English lesson at junior high school find constraints in all teaching reading and prefer teaching structure to reading.

The researcher is interested in conducting this study in this school, especially for English teachers who has many constraints in improving reading ability to their students. Teacher should introduce and create many kinds of teaching media, technique, games, pictures, card and the humor stories as an alternative way to give variation to the students in teaching and learning process.

Here are some previous studies related this problem. The first research entitled "*The English Teachers' Problems in Teaching Reading Comprehension at the second year of MAN 2 Amuntai in the second year 2007/2008*". Thesis was written by Norlaila (2008). This was previous study the researcher talked about the difficulties of teacher was on teaching reading comprehension. The similarity research in reading and difference to research teaching reading comprehension but researcher focused to teachers' constraints in improving reading ability. In her

thesis finding difficulties of teacher was on teach reading comprehension because most of student lack of vocabulary. As the result, there are difficult to comprehend the reading text, to answer the question based on the text, they are afraid to express their ideas.

Besides, Putri (2014) did the research entitled “*Student’s Difficulties in Reading Comprehension at the Eight Grade of MTS Nurul Islam Banjarmasin Academic Year 2013/2014*”. The researcher talked about the difficulties of the student in reading comprehension. The similarity was on research in reading and difference to research student difficulties in reading comprehension but researcher focused to teachers’ constraint in improving reading ability. In her thesis some difficulties that have been found from the students are finding (a) most found on the inference of a text, (b) finding the factual information from the text (c) comprehending the supporting idea of a paragraph (d) finding the main idea of a paragraph and (e) comprehending the reference.

Due to the explanation, the researcher is interested in conducting research entitled “*Teacher’s Constraints in Improving Reading Ability for Seventh Grade Students at SMPN 2 Jorong Academic Years 2016/2017*.” By using qualitative research method. Therefore, the researcher can explore the causes of teacher’s constraints in improving reading ability, describe the influential factors in improving reading ability and give some solutions in improving reading ability.

## **B. Statement of Problems**

An academic thesis requires problem. The central problem which serves as the starting point of research, which backs up the thesis, has been formulized as follows:

1. What are the teacher's constraint in improving reading ability for seventh grade students at SMPN 2 Jorong?
2. What are the influential factors in improving reading ability?
3. What are the solutions did the teacher do to resolve the problem?

## **C. Objective of Study**

The researcher identified the teacher's constraints in improving reading ability by the teachers at SMPN 2 Jorong. The objectives of this study are suitable with the statement of problems, as follows:

1. To find the teacher's constraint in improving reading ability for seventh grade students at SMPN 2 Jorong.
2. To identify the influential factors in improving reading ability.
3. To get some solutions in improving reading ability.

## **D. Significance of the Study**

This research is expected to contribute the theory to expand teachers' knowledge of constraint. This research also wants to inform the reader and researcher about the theories of constraint in improving reading.

The result of the study is expected to be useful for the researcher himself. Besides, it can be the English teachers reference in stimulating their students to

read. The teachers can be motivated the students to read more, hence they can improve their reading ability. Finally, research is expected to be useful reference for the English language teaching particularly for teaching reading students' for the English teacher for other.

### **E. Definition of Key Terms**

In this study, the researcher needs to define some key terms to avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation. The definition of terms is provided as follows:

#### **1. Constraints**

Constraint is something that imposes a limit or restriction or that prevents something from occurring. Constraints are specific problem or things that are hard to do and understand.

#### **2. Reading**

Reading is a transmission of information process where the author tells or giving notice to the readers about his ideas or message. Reading as a process of meaning thinking in relation to written symbols. Reading is an activity of looking at the written words in the text.

#### **3. SMPN 2 Jorong**

SMPN 2 Jorong in a short has the same level as Islamic Junior High School (MTs). South Kalimantan regency of Tanah Laut, subdistrict Jorong in Asam-asam village.