# Chapter one Introduction

## Background of the study

Reading is one of the dominant aspects to improve vocabulary, because it can support vocabulary mastery. According to Rahim (2011), an effective learning process among others is by reading. Reading can open up insights into the wide world, and the brain will get used to move so that one can increase intelligence and knowledge. Vocabulary is the dominant factor that supports the ability to read. The more vocabulary mastery, the students will easier understand the reading and vice versa (Brown, 2001). According to researcher reading can add insight, knowledge and also improve vocabulary mastery.

Reading the English language is essential reading for those who are learning English, especially for students who are often faced with a variety of foreign literature in English in supporting learning activities. By reading English literature students will be able to gather information to develop their thinking in particular about the mastery of English vocabulary. The activities can be in the form of reading a wide range of titles to suit the theme and the difficulty level. Reading materials are also selected from familiar reading material close to the majority of students, in the form of the novel with the content of mild language, familiar, and easily understood by the reader (Tarigan, 2004). Based on observations of researcher in English Education Department students' batch 2014 of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, they often have difficulty when faced with foreign language, but there are some students who have of reading English novels habit to fill the spare time or just a hobby reading without feel difficulty in supporting learning activities when confronted with foreign-language literature. Read the English language is essential reading for those who are learning English, especially for students, with reading English literature students will be able to gather information to develop their thinking in particular about the mastery of English vocabulary.

Based on the above opinion it means that the novel is a familiar reading for students. Therefore, especially English novels can be selected as a student reading material in order to assist the development of vocabulary mastery. Mild language, familiar and easy to understand, especially if the topic or theme of the story in an interesting novel, it can give pleasure (entertainment) for students so as to encourage a desire to learning dictionary associated with the new words found in the novels they read.

This is consistent with the notion that reading novels is certainly a fun way to learn than to read a dictionary directly and memorize its contents repeatedly. Moreover, a style that is light and easy to understand can increase the motivation to learn English. Reading the novel is also a kind of active relaxation. The mind will blend with the story, making it a busy interpreting the pages of the page, and turn it into a mental picture of the living and real. It is more soothing than watching television. This pleasant condition is believed to be able to grow deeper interest to learn English (Apriani, 2011).

For students majoring in English Education Study Program, English novels are one type of reading materials in English that is very important. Among the first reason, the novel consists of a series of stories, each of which has its own topics and themes, but related. This allows repeated the same words so it probably will soon be controlled by the student. Secondly, the change of the title of the novel shows the differences in the topic of the story on the topic of the previous title. This allows students to discover new words on the content of the story in the next titles, so it can

add controlled vocabulary.

This is consistent with the results of a preliminary study conducted by the author in the English Department students, particularly the batch 2014. It is in line with the author interest in conducting research entitled "The Correlation between Reading English Novel habit and Vocabulary Mastery In English Education Department Batch 2014 Of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta".

## Identification and Limitation of the study

Basically the students know that the English-language reading material is something very useful, because it can be a mean to practice English language skills. However, based on the preliminary results of the survey conducted by the author, many students of English Education Department in Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta do not do it seriously because it is constrained by a lack of mastery of vocabulary. The number of unknown word meanings in literature sometimes can reduce the interest in reading for people who are trying to read. It is necessary here for the students to read material in English. This can be done by selecting the appropriate reading interests and tastes. The novel is one of the types of students interested in reading.

However, in this respect, mastery of English vocabulary in the majority of the students are still very minimal, so they grasp the meaningless of this paragraph and it is difficult to understand the content or story-line told in a novel in English (Apriani, 2011). Actually, if the student has the awareness to reading and overcome obstacles such as by guided the dictionary, it can be harnessed to increase mastery of vocabulary. In addition to the above, the fact is the atmosphere of the learning environment students of English Education Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta are not able to encourage and stimulate student interest in reading, especially reading the novel.

From the above description it can be identified several problems. The first problem was reading English novels was not the habit of all students of English Education Department Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta. The next is limited availability of reading books in English, particularly in the form of fiction that can attract students reading at the library faculty. Then vocabulary mastery is still a few in most students. English learning model developed at the Department of English Education Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta support student interest in reading, especially for English-language reading materials in the form of a novel.

Given the extent of the problem in the above study, the authors limit the issues to be addressed in this study. That is a matter of habit to read English novels and mastery of English vocabulary among students English Education Department in Universitas Muhammadiya Yogyakarta.

#### **Research Question**

By paying attention to the description in the introduction, identification of problems and limitations issues, the problems studied in this research can be formulated as follows:

- 1. How is the student reading English novel habit of the English Education Department students at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta?
- 2. How is the vocabulary mastery of English Education Department students at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta?
- 3. Is there any correlation between the reading English novels habits and vocabulary

mastery of English Education Department students at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta?

## **Objective of Research**

Based on the above formulation of the problem the set research objectives are:

- To find out the students' reading English novels habit among students of English Education Department at Uiversitas Muhamadiyah Yogyakarta.
- To reveal the vocabulary mastery among students of English Education Department at Uiversitas Muhamadiyah Yogyakarta.
- To find out whether there is a correlation between reading English novels and English vocabulary mastery of English Education Department at Universitas Muhamadiyah Yogyakarta.

# **Benefits of the Research**

Based on the above research purposes, it can be expected to benefit from this research are:

**To Lecturer**. This research is helpful in providing input for English lecturer in particular to develop a model of learning that can stimulate students' interest in reading English novels as an effort to improve the mastery of English vocabulary.

**To students**. This research is useful to give suggestions in order to improve the English vocabulary mastery by reading novel.

**To researcher.** A result of this study is useful to broaden the knowledge and experience about the reading novel and vocabulary mastery of researchers for possible future studies.

**Other researchers**. The findings and results of this study are expected to provide references or ideas for other researchers who want to do the next time a similar study in the same field.