

Chapter One

Introduction

The first chapter presents several points related to the introduction of the research. This chapter contains the background of the research, identification of the problems, delimitation of problems, research questions, objectives of the research, and significant of the research. In the last part of this chapter, the researcher mentions the outline of this research.

Background of the Research

English comes as a significant language to be learned because it is used for international occasions, and the average information utilizes English as a language instruction. Besides, four skills of English that have to be learned and practiced include speaking, reading, listening, and writing. In learning English, most people can assume that they have enough skills if have already mastered those four English skills as basic language skills. Listening, speaking, reading, and writing are basic skills which are able to influence the level of English mastery.

Regarding the mentioned statement, it is in line with Sadiku (2015) who stated that listening, writing, speaking, and reading activities have important aims in learning a language such as contributing to support the way of learning, giving a chance for people to create the idea, and exchanging the real information.

Therefore, learning English is essential for the majority of students to gain wider access to information through learning four English skills which can give them more chances to achieve their learning goals.

Reading skill for educational purpose rises as an important aspect of learning English. One of the examples is in the process of learning whether teachers or students use books for guiding them to understand the material in order to achieve optimum learning goals. Regarding this condition, reading skill comes as one of the language learning techniques to make the majority of students understand the book content well. Another benefit that makes reading skills is important for educational purposes, it is shown in the assignment which requires the students to read a resource from a book or the internet. Debat (2006) stated that reading is the main important skill for second language students among reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. From the mentioned statement mentioned, it makes reading skill as a crucial skill in learning English because second language learners will have the skill to access information and references (Lambert and Kormos, 2014).

In addition, writing also comes as significant skill in mastering English which shows a contrast skill with reading as a receptive skill while writing is a productive skill. Writing is not a simple skill which can be acquired easily, but students need to pay attention to the use of grammar or structure in writing. Palpadan (2015) explained that writing mastered by students can help students enhance their knowledge at later stages of education, especially at the higher level as well as professional life. Moreover, Walsh (2010) stated that writing is important since it is used extensively in higher education and in the workplace. If students do not know how to express themselves in writing, they will not be able to communicate well with professors, employers, peers, or just about anyone else.

Much of professional communication is done in writing such as proposals, memos, reports, applications, preliminary interviews, and e-mails as well as part of the daily life of a college student or successful graduate.

This research is based on the researcher's observation in the learning environment. The researcher viewed the students who had a problem with their reading habit, they usually had a difficulties when they should have an assignment related to a writing activity. Therefore, the researcher was interested to conducted this research to investigate the correlation between students' reading habit and students' writing competence regarding the phenomena mentioned above.

Identification of the Problem

Reading and writing are significant aspects of learning English. Reading as a receptive skill is important to acquire information while writing as a productive skill is also important to make a communication skill well. Based on the researcher's observation in the classroom activity, the researcher found that students who had a poor reading habit, had difficulties when they faced some assignment that required them to write. Students' difficulties in writing assignment could be caused by several factors, and one of the factor is their lack of reading habit, according to Linuwih and Winardi (2020) students' reading habit plays an important role in students' writing competence. Then, in the learning process, students' reading habit and their writing ability should equally growing because reading and writing share a close and reciprocal relation, relying to the common knowledge and process (Shanahan, 2006).

The mentioned problems above comes as a reason why the researcher had the willingness to conducted a research towards the correlation between reading habit and writing competence. Hence, the data which the researcher collected were expected to find out the objectives of the research.

Delimitation of the Problem

This research focuses on the investigation of the correlation between students' reading habit and students' writing competence. To be precise, this research has a purpose to find whether students' reading habit correlate to the competence that students have in writing or not.

Research Questions

This research is intended to answer the following questions:

1. What is students' reading habit level at a private university in Yogyakarta?
2. What is students' writing competence level at a private university in Yogyakarta?
3. Is there any correlation between students' reading habit and students' writing competence from students at a private university in Yogyakarta?

Objectives of The Research

Based on the research questions, the objectives of the research are:

1. To find out the level of reading habit of the students at a private university in Yogyakarta.
2. To find out the writing competence level of the students at a private university in Yogyakarta.

3. To investigate the correlation between students' reading habit and students' writing competence from students at a private university in Yogyakarta.

The Significant of the Research

This research was expected to measure students' reading level and students' writing competence level. This research was also expected to help teachers and students improve the quality of lesson in the class. Besides, this research was expected to help other researchers and gave the contribution to the private school where the research was conducted and help the researcher's college to have the research data. For more detailed information, each of the information were explained in the following paragraphs.

For the teachers. From this research, it can be beneficial for teachers to be aware of students' reading habit level which can lead the teachers to find out students' needs in learning. The researcher was expected that after knowing students' reading habit level and their writing competence level, this research would help teachers to choose better learning source and learning styles. Additionally, this research was expected can be used by the teachers as a reflection toward their teaching.

For the students. The existence of this research was expected to help the students to gain knowledge about the correlation between reading habit and writing competence for the students to their learning process. From this research, the researcher expected that it can develop students' awareness of their own reading habit and the importance of reading habit in their writing.

For other researchers. The researcher conducted this research in order to make other researchers discover students' reading habit level and students' writing competence level among the students of a private university in Yogyakarta as well as the correlation in the learning process. Besides, the other researchers can use the findings of this research as the theoretical overview of further research on the same topic and might become recommendations for further research.

Therefore, by conducted this research, it also encouraged the other researchers to conduct a research on the correlation between students' reading skill and their writing competence further related to the same area of this research.

Outline of the Research

This research consists of five chapters, in this part explained an overview of each chapter of the research. The first chapter presents several points related to the introduction of the research. This chapter contains the background of the research, identification of the problem, delimitation of the problem, research questions, objectives of the research, the significant of the research, and outline of the research.

Then the second chapter presented the literature review. The literature review is an explanation about theory or research results used as the theoretical basis of a research to arrange a framework of research. Besides, the literature review discusses theories related to the research. Besides, this chapter two covered reading, reading habit, the aspect of reading habits, the importance of reading habit, writing, and writing competence as well as review of related research. In the following of the chapter two, it included the conceptual framework and hypothesis.

In the chapter three, it discusses about research methodology. This chapter gave a clear illustration of how this research was conducted and how the data were collected. The research methodology consists of research design, research setting, research population and sample, data collection method, research instrument, validity and reliability, data collection procedure, and data analysis.

Then in chapter four, the researcher explained the findings and discuss the answer from the three research questions. The research questions were about the reading habit of the students, the writing competence of the students, and the correlation between students' reading habit and students' writing competence.

The last is chapter five, in this chapter the researcher wrote the conclusions of the research, then the researcher also wrote the suggestion for further research. This chapter was divided into two parts that are research conclusion and research suggestions for teachers, students, and other researchers.