

Chapter One

Introduction

In this chapter, there are seven sections that are explained. Firstly, it is about the background of the study. This part discusses the reasons why the researcher is interested in this research. The second one is about the identification of the problem. The identification the problem describes the possible problems of the research. The next is the delimitation of the problem which deals with the scope of the research involving the students of English Language Education Department of private university in Yogyakarta. The fourth is the formulation of the problem. It is followed by the purpose of the study. The last is about the significance of the study and the organization of the chapters.

Background of the Study

When students come at a university to study at English Education Department, they are required to be fluent in English. This is because most of the subjects use English. In reality, the students might still feel difficult in learning English. Some students probably still lack of basic English. This leads to the misunderstanding of the course content and affect the students' competence. Therefore, the students have to first master basic English to make them understand the courses at the minimum level.

Panggabean (2015) said that it is true that English is very different from Bahasa Indonesia in terms of phonology, morphology, and syntax. In the level of pronunciation and orthography, for instance, English speech sounds do not have conformity with graphic signs, unlike Bahasa Indonesia and its sister languages in Austronesian language family. He further said that it is because English has different

rules and application in many things that make students feel difficult. Some Indonesian students feel English is difficult. It is because the structure from English and Bahasa Indonesia is different.

There are four skills that students need to learn. One of the important skills that students need to master is reading. Reading is important. Students need to actively read the books. With reading, students will get information and knowledge. Most of new knowledge is gained by reading a book. Because books have many benefits for students in providing knowledge, Reading becomes one of activities that students do a lot in their study.

To strengthen the students' reading skills, novels are sometimes used in language classes. Beside for class activity, students read a novel to build their habit in reading. Novel is useful when it affects students. Hişmanoğlu (2005) said that reading a literary text is more likely to have a long-term and valuable effect upon the learners' linguistic and extralinguistic knowledge when it is meaningful and amusing. He said that literary text especially for novel that will be read by the students for class activity will affect them when it is amusing and meaningful. Some students feel easy when learning with novel. It is because the vocabulary is easy and already mastered by the students. Also the story which is amusing make students easy to understand.

Moreover, reading with amusement will refresh students' mind. Dewi (2015) said that reading literary works can make the mind refreshed because the inner experiences expressed by the author may not have been experienced or read by the reader. The reader will not feel compelled when reading the work because it is fun and needs to find entertainment. She said that reading is easy and it could refresh the students. Also, by reading, students can feel the expression what they are reading.

Students' lack of vocabulary can make them not understand the meaning of the words. This can be students' challenges in reading English novel. In fact, there are many difficulties that students face from reading novel. Ebbers and Denton (2008) as cited from Bryant, Goodwin, Bryant, and Higgins, (2003); Carver, (1994); McKeown, (1985); Pany, Jenkins, and Schreck (1982) said that in addition, students with reading difficulties and disabilities often experience difficulty inferring the meanings of new words from context. He said that students may have reading difficulty in vocabulary. Vocabulary is one of important things to understand the meaning of the word.

The difficulties can be from the differences in social cultural background. Kasim and Raisa (2017) said that in almost all cases of reading foreign language material, EFL students will frequently encounter socio-cultural complexities that happens because each of the languages has its own social and culture features. Also, the recent problem is bullying among students because one of the students diligently reads than the others.

Maughan (2003) as cited from Chapman (1988) said that a pathway from reading difficulties to anxiety or depression seems more plausible, possibly mediated by poor readers' well-established vulnerability to problems in academic (and possibly more global) self-esteem. He said that from anxiety or depression in learning will affect student's reading ability. Anxiety or depression may make students not focus in learning. Then, the students not focus on reading to take information. Therefore, difficulty may affect to anxiety and motivation.

Moreover, facing difficulties will make the students have a low motivation in learning. The difficulties may make the students not want to learn. Amiluddin and Sugiman (2016) as cited in Schunk (2012) said that learning motivation will not be

formed if someone does not have desires, ideals, or realize the benefits of learning for themselves. Based on Amiluddin and Sugiman, the difficulties that students meet can make the students have a low motivation. Low motivation may be bad for students in learning process.

As reading difficulties may lead to students' anxiety and low motivation, there is possibly that the students will also face difficulties that will cause anxiety and low motivation in the activity of reading novel. Therefore, it is important to identify the students' difficulty in reading novel to minimize its negative effects. The students in private university of Yogyakarta often use reading novel in their learning process. The students are involved in read some English novels because some subjects in English Language Education Department of Private University use that book in learning process. In fact there are some students who get a low score and it is important to identify the students difficulties in reading. The researcher wants to know students perception about the challenges of reading novel in class activity. The researcher will focus on students in English Language Education Department students' batch 2017 of Private University in Yogyakarta.

Identification of the Problem

Students on English Language Education Department of Private University in Yogyakarta have to learn English every day. The students need to increase their ability in four skills that are reading, writing, listening, and speaking. They highly possibly will meet difficulties in learning English. Also students will probably find difficulties while reading novel. The problem can come from non linguistic and linguistic problems.

One of the difficulties from non linguistic factor while reading novel can be from the facilities. Suitable place to read may become one of problem. Many students want to read in peace and comfortable. Also the problem might be related to find the right English novel for the students in class activity. To find English novel for ESL students may be difficult.

The next problem is motivation in reading novel because the novel does not connect with the lesson in class. The content from novel does not connect with the content that students learn in class. Also the content may make the students bored. Students ignore their responsibility in reading novel. Also the students are not aware about the importance of reading itself.

The next problem is reading habit from the students. This problem is a big issue for the students. Feeling lazy to read has become a students habit. There are many reasons from the students to refuse reading novels. It can be caused by the book's thickness or the content of the book that is difficult to understand.

From linguistic factor, the students may feel difficulties to understand while reading novel because of the vocabulary. Also it can be because of the different language structure. It is because English and Bahasa Indonesia have different structure. Those problems might be the students' problem in reading novel.

Delimitation of the study

This research will focus on the students' problem on reading novel in learning process. The researcher wants to know the students' perception on the challenges of reading novel especially for the students in English Language Education Department students batch 2017 of Private University in Yogyakarta.

Research Question

What are students' challenges in reading novel at ELED of Private University in Yogyakarta?

Purpose of the Study

To explore the students' perception on the challenges of reading novel at ELED of Private University in Yogyakarta

The Significance of the Research

To lecturers. The findings could be the information for the lecturer in the use of novel in class activity. The lecturer can know student's problem in reading novel and the lecturer can consider the suitable way to teach using novel. Also the lecturers will know how to minimize the problem in reading novel to help their students.

To students. This research will be useful information to help students identify the problem that they find. In reality, the students keep repeating the same mistake while learning because the students do not really know their problem. Then this research will help the students to know their problem in reading to minimize the problem. The information from this research is expected to make student motivated to do more reading novel in class activity.

To the next researchers. The next researcher will know the students' perception in the use of novel related to the challenges, the finding and the result can provide references or ideas for the other researchers.

The Organization of the Chapters

This research will contain five chapters. Chapter one is introduction of the research. The introduction of the research presents background of the study, identification and delimitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, objective of the study and the outline of the research.

Chapter two is literature review. This chapter will present about literature review on the challenges of reading novel. This chapter will explain about the function of reading. This chapter also explain about the function of novel to student in learning. This chapter also explains about review of related studies and conceptual framework.

Chapter three is research methodology. This chapter will focus on research methodology which includes research design, research setting, population and sample, data collection instrument, data collection procedure, and data analysis.

Chapter four is research finding and discussion. This chapter include the finding based on research question. The research question is “What are students’ challenges in reading novel at ELED of Private University in Yogyakarta?”. Chapter five is conclusion and recommendation of this research. The first part will explain the conclusion of the research. The next part provides suggestion and recommendation for those who might be related to this research.