

CHAPTER IV

RESULT AND DISCUSSION OF RESEARCH

In this chapter, the researcher discusses about result and discussion of research. The data has been collected from interview, observation, and documentation. In this chapter, the researcher is going to describe base on the research problems in the first chapter. This chapter is divided into two main part: Research result and discussion of research.

A. Result

In this chapter, the researcher describes the result by using descriptive analysis of qualitative method. The researcher would present some data that were collected by using collection procedures, those are observation, interview, and documentation. In the observation the researcher got the data about how the teacher explain reading comprehension. In the interview the researcher got the data about the students' difficulties in completing reading comprehension and students' strategies in passing TOEFL test of reading comprehension. For the documentation the researcher took the photos of teaching and learning process, the TOEFL test, and the interview with the students.

1. Result of Observation

The first the researcher conducted observation in the field. The researcher just come to collect the data. In Institut Prima Bhakti there is one TOEFL class that consist of seven students. The class will take place for 22 meetings which is divided into 16 meetings for structure and written expression material, 3 meetings for reading comprehension, 2 meeting for listening class and 1 meeting for

TOEFL test. The researcher did the observation three times start from 02 november - 09 november.

2. Result of interview

The second step that the researcher done is doing an interview. Interview is a main instrument used by researcher to gain data. The subject of the research is the students of TOEFL class in Institut Prima Bhakti. In the interview, the researcher has provided questions related to the students' difficulties on reading section and how do students solve their difficulties in passing TOEFL Test on reading section. Here are the result of the interviews;

a. The students' difficulties in completing TOEFL test of reading comprehension at Institut Prima Bhakti course Pamekasan

Here the researcher would describe the result of interview with the students about what are their difficulties in completing TOEFL test of reading comprehension. There are seven students that the researcher interviewed.

The first student is Deky, he said:¹

"I think finding main idea is difficult for me because I have to read the whole passage to know the content of the passage. So that I will know the main idea"

From his answer, he stated that to find the main idea he has to read the whole text in order to know what the passage talks about then he will know the main idea of the passage that he has read. As samad stated It is usually in the first

¹ Interview with Deky at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

sentence but it can be in the middle or in the last sentence. Therefore, this can make the main idea more difficult to find.²

Another Deky's statement, when researcher asked about his difficulties, he said:

"My vocabulary is also little, so sometimes I get confused when I see or find unfamiliar words"

From Deky's answer, he claimed that his vocabulary mastery is not so good, it can be concluded that he found some unfamiliar words on the test. In fact, one of the problems readers have difficulties in understanding material is that they have lack of vocabularies.³

The second student is Iksya.⁴ He said that finding main idea is difficult because he didn't understand the passage, like what he stated below:

"Yes, finding main idea is difficult for me because sometimes I do not understand the content of the text and there are many new vocabularies that I do not know. So, how can I find the main idea if I do not know the meaning"

From his statement, Iksya claimed that he could not find the main idea of the passage because he did not understand the passage and also there are a lot of vocabularies that he does not know the meaning. So, how could he find the main idea if he did not understand the passage. These questions are all really asking what primary point the author is trying to get across in the passage.⁵

Another statement also said when researcher asked about difficulty for him, he said: "Yes Of course, because it's related with the vocabularies that I don't

² Samad, at al, "EFL Students' Strategies Dealing With Common Difficulties in TOEFL Reading 92 Comprehension Section (International Journal of Language Education, 2017) P. 29-36.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Interview with Iksya at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

⁵ Deborah Phillips, *Preparation course for the TOEFL test: The Paper Test*. (New York: Addison-Wesley Longman In, 2003)

know yet". From his answer, it showed that vocabularies questions is one of the difficult question in reading comprehension because the tester should find the best correct from similar answer.

Iksya also stated like his answer below:

"My difficulties on reading are the text is too much and there are many vocabularies that I do not understand..."

From his statement, Iksya stated that his difficulties in reading are the text is too much and there are many unfamiliar words.

Iksya also said, "Sometimes I lost much time in reading the passage that it very bad because I must answer the rest of the questions fast".

Managing time also is very important in doing TOEFL test especially in reading comprehension as iksya said that sometimes he waste the time just to answer one question. As nunan said that time is influence TOEFL score in which the tester should check the clock regularly.⁶

The third interview went to Adit, when the researcher asked him about his difficulties, he claimed that finding main idea is difficult for him, like what he said:

"Yes of course, what I have always find when I try to answer reading question is about finding the main idea. It is one of the most difficult questions that need long time to find correct answer."⁷

Such as other students, Adit also said that finding main idea is difficult because he needed long time to find the best answer. It happened because to find main idea sometimes we need to read the whole passages. The students may get

⁶ David Nunan, *Practical English Language Teaching* (America:Mc Graw Hill, 2005)

⁷ Interview with Adit at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

confused to see what the main idea of a passage is, and where the main idea is located.⁸

Adit also claimed that his difficulties in reading comprehension is he found some unfamiliar words, like his statement below:

“I think my difficulties is unfamiliar words. For the first, it's because of my less of vocabulary. I think still have you know less vocabulary. So, I cannot understand well about the text especially for some difficult vocabulary or unfamiliar words. It makes me difficult.”

Adit stated that he got difficulty in unfamiliar words because the word which is asked in the TOEFL test seldom used in daily activity, so he should interfere what word is it.

Another Adit's statement when the interview asked about his difficulties on reading section, he said:

“Yes, because of the text, I have to comprehend the contain of the that text”

From that answer, Adit claimed that he is difficult to understand the content of the text.

The fourth student is Ilham. He said one of difficulties of reading comprehension is to find out the synonym of underlined word. He claimed that this type of question is difficult because the word itself is a new vocabulary for them. Like his statement below:

“...it is also about finding synonym or antonym of word is quiet difficult, but it is for unfamiliar words. Let me say here academic or scientific vocabularies”⁹

⁸ Samad, at al, “*EFL Students ' Strategies Dealing With Common Difficulties in TOEFL Reading 92 Comprehension Section* (International Journal of Language Education, 2017) P. 29–36.

⁹ Interview with Ilham at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

From his statement, he claimed that finding synonym would be difficult if the underlined word is unfamiliar word for him and he also stated that the underlined word is academic vocabularies which makes it difficult for him to find the correct answer. The student expands their knowledge of vocabulary while he is reading a passage, such as by finding out new words meaning in dictionary and guessing the meaning from the context.¹⁰

Ilham also said that so many unfamiliar words in the passage that made him difficult, as he said below: “especially in reading comprehension there are many vocabularies that I have not known yet, so I got confused when I want to understand the meaning of the passage”. Besides finding synonym of the word, unfamiliar word also difficult for him in answering the question. It can be happen because of lack of vocabularies as he said.

Next difficulty that is faced by the students in completing TOEFL Paper Best Test on reading section is understanding the passage. Like ilham statement below:

“I think yes. Because the text is too much and then the second, I don't have many vocabularies knowledge. So, I cannot get what the point that the paragraph mean...” Ilham said that the number of text also influence him in passing the reading test because it take too long to understand moreover he has no enough vocabularies knowledge. In the Reading Comprehension section of the TOEFL test, there will sometimes be questions about the organization of ideas in a passage. In this type of question, you will be asked to determine how the ideas in

¹⁰ Samad, at al, “*EFL Students ’ Strategies Dealing With Common Difficulties in TOEFL Reading 92 Comprehension Section* (International Journal of Language Education, 2017) P. 29–36.

one paragraph (or paragraphs) relate to the ideas in another paragraph (or paragraphs) and it makes you to read the whole text.¹¹

Another statement from ilham is about time management, As he said:

“If you can manage time well in completing TOEFL test exactly in reading section, you can get a good score I think because it is very important to answer the easy question fast and give more time to the difficult one”. Ilham said time is determining the result of our TOEFL test, if we can manage well, we can get better score.

The fifth student is Hanif.

Hanif said, “I think the difficulties of reading section is when I answer the questions.” For examples to look for the similarity of words because sometimes there are many vocabulary I don't know the meaning”.¹²

From Hanif's answer, he stated that finding the closest meaning of a word is difficult for him when he doesn't know the meaning of that word. The student expands their knowledge of vocabulary while he is reading a passage, such as by finding out new words meaning in dictionary and guessing the meaning from the context. In fact, one of the problems readers have difficulties in understanding material is that they have lack of vocabularies.¹³

Another Hanif statement is;

"I don't understand the passage t because the language is difficult to understand, so I cannot understand the passage.” From his answer, he stated that he is difficult to understand the passage because there are many unfamiliar words for him.

The sixth one is Iqbal's, like his statement below;

¹¹ Deborah Phillips, *Preparation course for the TOEFL test: The Paper Test*. (New York: Addison-Wesley Longman In, 2003)

¹² Interview with Hanif at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

¹³ Samad, at al, “*EFL Students ' Strategies Dealing With Common Difficulties in TOEFL Reading 92 Comprehension Section* (International Journal of Language Education, 2017) P. 29–36.

“The way of finding the underlined word synonym is difficult for me because sometimes on the exercise the word which is asked I never hear or know before, so I must think twice to choose the correct answer.”¹⁴

It means that Iqbal also has difficulties to find the synonym of underlined words. Unfamiliar words is the major difficulty in completing TOEFL test of reading comprehension. Most of students stated that they found some unfamiliar words on the passage that lead them to misunderstand the passage.

Another Iqbal statement: "Yes, I do not understand the passage. Because the language that is used is high level and sometimes it is about biology. He admitted that he does not understand the passage because of the language that is used in the text is high level and sometimes it explains about biology. On the TOEFL test you will sometimes be asked to determine the meaning of a difficult word, a word that you are not expected to know. In this case, the passage will give you clear indication of what the word means."¹⁵

The seventh student is Faldy. He also said that he found many unfamiliar vocabularies in the passage that make him difficult to connect the sentence.

“There are some difficulties in vocabulary. I mean the meaning of words. It makes me difficult to connecting the sentences. I get some difficulties in joining PBT that is to understanding the difficult words”.¹⁶

Faldy also said, “The text is too long and the time is limited. So, I personally felt difficult to comprehend the content of the text because of limited time and I have to do it in a hurry”

From faldi’s statement above, he stated that he is difficult to understand the content of the passage because of limited time. So, he has to do it in a hurry.

¹⁴ Interview with Iqbal at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

¹⁵ Deborah Phillips, *Preparation course for the TOEFL test: The Paper Test*. (New York: Addison-Wesley Longman In, 2003)

¹⁶ Interview with Faldy at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

In completing TOEFL test especially reading comprehension manage time well is one of difficult thing that most of students cannot do it well on the test.

Faldy also said “we must smart in manage the time because for me it is not easy as we think. On the real test you will feel that the time is chasing you”. From statements above it can be conclude that time management is very crucial in determining the result of the test.

b. The students’ strategies in passing TOEFL test of reading comprehension at Institut Prima Bhakti course Pamekasan

In the second question the researcher asked about students’ strategies in passing TOEFL test of reading comprehension.

The first answer from students when the researcher asked them about their strategies in solving their difficulties in reading section, here are their statements:

The first students is Deky, he said;

"Yes of course I have to add vocabulary because firstly, when I join PBT, I failed. And then I try to study again and I try to remember the difficult words. Such as what unfamiliar words that I don't know, I remember and I look for the dictionary." Deky said.¹⁷

From his statement, Deky stated that his strategies in solving his difficulties on reading section is he tries to remember the unfamiliar words. It means that he enriches his vocabulary.

Another Deky strategy, he said: “I read the question first, after that scanning the text to find out the answer” From his answer, deky stated that he read the question first and then scanning the passage to find out the answer. As nunan said read the text quickly will help you find the answer.¹⁸

¹⁷ Interview with Deky at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

¹⁸ David Nunan, *Practical English Language Teaching* (America:Mc Graw Hill, 2005)

The second is from Ilham's statement, he said:

"I think I need to enlarge my vocabularies, study by memorizing vocab"

From Ilham answer, he stated that his way in solving his difficulties on reading section is he enriches his vocabulary by memorizing."¹⁹

Ilham also said: "Yes, study by reading more high level passages can help me in completing TOEFL test of reading comprehension. I usually look for the article on internet and then try to understand the context of the text. If I found some difficult words I look for the meaning and memorize them".

From his answer, Ilham stated that he studies by reading high-level passage.

The third student is Adit, he said like his statement below: "I should study many vocabularies because it is very important. The teacher also helped us by asking us to memorize new word every meeting, so it is good in adding our vocabulary."²⁰

Adit also stated: "when I don't know the meaning of the word, I try to read the sentence slowly and understand the meaning of it so that I can guess what answer that the most suitable with the passage".

Another Adit's statement, he claimed that to understand the text he read it slowly so it makes him believe about his answer. Don't worry about making mistakes. Each reading passage has between 12 and 14 questions. You can get a great score even if you don't answer every question."²¹

Another his statement;

¹⁹ Interview with Ilham at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

²⁰ Interview with Adit at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

²¹ David Nunan, *Practical English Language Teaching* (America:Mc Graw Hill, 2005)

“As I learnt from the teacher explanation about the methods or strategy to comprehend the text. For examples skimming and scanning. I apply the strategy of reading comprehension to understand the text.”

The fourth is Faldy’s statement: “Yes, add vocab. The vocabulary that I did not the meaning when I faced the test, I look for the meaning in the dictionary then memorize them”.²²

Faldy, another statement said: “I read the question first, and then try to find out the answer by scanning the passage. It makes me easier to answer the questions”.

The fifth student is Hanif.

The next strategies that is done by students in solving their difficulties is guess the meaning of unfamiliar words. Like Hanif statement below:

“I try to read the text. Although I have limited vocabulary, but I try to guess what the paragraph mean and then answer the question although I am not sure it is right or not”²³. Hanif statement relates with nunan strategies that we don’t need take time to find correct answer.²⁴

The fifth student is Iksya, said: "Try to understand the text or guess the meaning of the new vocabs based on the context is one of way. We select which one is the most near with correct answer.”²⁵

Iksya also stated the same thing, he said: "We have to read more English passages. Read a lot of books I mean English books. It will make me cleverer. Therefore, I can answer the questions of reading section correctly.”

²² Interview with Faldy at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

²³ Interview with Hanif at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

²⁴ David Nunan, *Practical English Language Teaching* (America:Mc Graw Hill, 2005)

²⁵ Interview with Iksya at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

Another Iksya answer, like his statement below: "I try to find out the answer by skimming and scanning. I read the question, then scan the passage to look for the answer".

The seventh student Iqbal said;

"The first thing that you have to do is you must often to read some passage. You can find it on the books or some texts for exercise before joining the test. And this is very useful".

Another answer from Iqbal, he said: "The way is I did scanning when I faced reading comprehension" From his statement, Iqbal stated that he applied scanning in doing the test. Skimming and scanning are the techniques that is used by students in reading the passage of reading section.

This is the next strategies in solving difficulties on reading comprehension based on the result of interview that is done by researcher,

A. Discussion

In this discussion section, researcher would like to present about the students' difficulties in completing TOEFL test of reading comprehension at Institut Prima Bhakti course Pamekasan. Additionally, It also will be presented students' strategies in passing TOEFL test of reading comprehension at Institut Prima Bhakti course Pamekasan.

1. The students' difficulties in completing TOEFL test of reading comprehension at Institut Prima Bhakti course Pamekasan

a. Unfamiliar words

Based on the result of research, unfamiliar words is the root of the other difficulties on reading section. It is also the first difficulties on reading section.

Most of the students said that they found many unfamiliar words on the passage. And how could they answer the questions if they did not understand the passage. Passages on reading section of TOEFL are similar to ones you will probably read and study in North American Colleges and universities. It means that language used in the passages of TOEFL reading section is high level because it uses university level.

While another source stated that the academic focus is what makes TOEFL slightly more difficult than the average written texts that Americans face in everyday situations. And according to a study, this higher level of difficulty of the TOEFL is due to the academic vocabulary, especially with the scientific articles. From the statement above, we know why students find many unfamiliar words on the passages, It happens because the language used in TOEFL is university level or academic language. So, when we read the passage, we will find many academic vocabularies. Most of those vocabularies are unfamiliar for us and we don't know the meaning yet. And it makes us difficult to understand the passages and find the correct answer. ²⁶

The unfamiliar words and the meaning of that passage are:

- 1) Colorless Tanpa warna
- 2) Inflammable Mudah terbakar
- 3) Disulfide Disulfida
- 4) Chlorine Hijau muda
- 5) Propellants Bahan pembakar
- 6) Banned dilarang

²⁶ Deborah Phillips, *Preparation course for the TOEFL test: The Paper Test*. (New York: Addison-Wesley Longman In, 2003)

- 7) Poisonous Beracun
- 8) Severe Keras
- 9) Inhaled menghirup
- 10) Revoked Menarik kembali
- 11) Chemical
- 12) Kimiawi
- 13) Despite Meskipun
- 14) Solvents Pelarut

In conclusion, unfamiliar word is the root of other difficulties on reading section, it happens because the language used in TOEFL is academic language and it makes students difficult to understand the passages even find the correct answer.

b. Finding synonym

Reading section also tests your knowledge of English vocabulary. One of the reading section questions asks students to find out the closest meaning of a word.²⁷ We have to find synonyms for selected words from the passage among the four answer choices that you are given.

Based on the result of research, some of students claimed that finding synonym is difficult. It happens because sometimes the vocabulary is a new vocabulary or unfamiliar words for them. Ilham, one of the students who had joined TOEFL test said that he got difficulties in finding synonym, like his statement below:

²⁷ Deborah Phillips, *Preparation course for the TOEFL test: The Paper Test*. (New York: Addison-Wesley Longman In, 2003)

“it is also about finding synonym or antonym of word is quiet difficult, but it is for unfamiliar words.”²⁸ Let me say here academic or scientific vocabularies. As researcher has stated that unfamiliar words is the root of difficulties of reading section, for example in this case finding synonym would be difficult for students if they do not know the meaning of that words. It shows that the difficulty of finding synonym is depends on the vocabulary. In short, reading section tests our knowledge of English vocabulary. For example, one of the questions asks students to find synonym. And finding synonym would be difficult if the word is belong to unfamiliar words.

c. Finding main idea

The most valuable reading comprehension skill is probably the ability to determine the most important thing an author is saying. Almost every reading passage on the TOEFL will have a multiple choice question about the main idea of the passage.²⁹ For example, you may be asked to identify the topic, subject, title, primary idea or primary point the author is trying to get across in the passage.

The result of research shows that finding main idea is quiet difficult for students. Adit, one of the students stated that she is difficult in finding main idea like her statement below:

“Yes, finding main idea is difficult for me because sometimes I do not understand the content of the text and there are many new vocabularies that I do not know. So, how can I find the main idea if I do not know the meaning”³⁰

²⁸ Interview with Ilham at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

²⁹ Deborah Phillips, *Preparation course for the TOEFL test: The Paper Test*. (New York: Addison-Wesley Longman In, 2003)

³⁰ Interview with Adit at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

From Adit's statement, he claimed that he could not find the main idea of the passage because he did not understand the passage and also there are a lot of vocabularies that he does not know the meaning. So, how could he find the main idea if he did not understand the passage. From the explanation above, we know that finding main idea is difficult for students. It happens because they do not understand the passage and it has a lot of unfamiliar words. The students may get confused to see what the main idea of a passage is, and where the main idea is located.³¹

d. Difficult to understand the passage

Based on the result of research, most of students stated that they are difficult to understand the passage. According to them, it happens because the language that is used in reading section is high level, the time is limited and there are many unfamiliar words. It is in line with Peni R. Pramono and Ule Sulistiyo on their book " Cara Gampang Belajar TOEFL Reading" they wrote that the problems on reading section are:

- 1) Limited time
- 2) Limited vocabulary
- 3) Lack of concentration

Those three things make students difficult to understand the passage. If they did not understand the passage, how could they will find the correct answer

e. Time management

³¹ Samad, at al, "*EFL Students ' Strategies Dealing With Common Difficulties in TOEFL Reading 92 Comprehension Section* (International Journal of Language Education, 2017) P. 29–36.

In completing TOEFL test especially PBT. The students just have 150 minutes to complete 140 exercises that are divided into three section, those are listening section, structure and written expression, and reading comprehension. The students should be smart in managing time in order that all questions can be answered well. As the result from interview some students feel difficult to manage time because of lack of practice, nervous.

2. The discussion of students' strategies in passing TOELF test of reading comprehension at Institut Prima Bhakti Course Pamekasan.

a. Enrich vocabulary

Research result shows that students found many unfamiliar words on the passage. It becomes the major difficulty on reading section. It also the causes of another difficulties. For example, if there are a lot of unfamiliar words in the passage, it will make students difficult to find the synonym and main idea even they will not understand the passage.

When researcher asked about their ways in solving their difficulties on reading section, their first answer is enrich vocabulary. Enrich vocabulary is the first thing that should be done by students because the basic skill necessary on reading section are You must be able to read a passage containing rather complicated constructions and vocabulary and answer questions based on what will help you to derive word meanings on the test.

In conclusion, enrich vocabulary is the first thing that is done by the students in solving their difficulties on reading section because it is one of the basic skills necessary on reading section.

b. Guess the meaning of unfamiliar words

We do not know the meaning of all vocabularies on the passage. But by seeing the context in a paragraph, we can guess the meaning of that vocabulary without looking it in the dictionary. It means that we have to guess the meaning of unfamiliar words based on the context.

In English, a context is the combination of vocabulary and grammar that surround a word. Context helps you make a general prediction about meaning. Making prediction from contexts is very important when you are reading a foreign language.

Based on the result of research, students solve their based on context. By seeing the context in a sentence or difficulties by to guess the meaning of words question correctly.

c. Read more English passage

Based on the result of research, most of students claimed that they read more English difficulties on reading section. Iksya, one of the students stated that what we have to do in solving our difficulties have to often to read, like his statement below: “³² The first thing that you have to do is you must often to read some books or some texts for exercise before joining the test.” Reading is an important activity in life with which one can update our knowledge. So, by reading a lot of English it will upgrade our knowledge. It means that we have to make reading as our daily activities in which it will increase our knowledge related with English.

³² Interview with Iksya at IPB course, on thursday, 09 November 2021 at 15.30-16.30

From the explanation above, we know that students solve their difficulties on reading section by reading a lot of English.

d. Skimming and Scanning

Based on the result of research, some students stated that they read the question first, then they use skimming and scanning to find out the answer in the passage. It is not necessary to read every word of a passage. Our goal of reading something determine how closely we should read it. If we know our goal, skimming is a valuable procedure. Skimming through a passage is reading very fast in order to recognize main ideas and supporting details while skipping (not read) parts that are not relevant with our reading goal.

While scanning is skimming to find a specific piece of information such as a number or the answer of a question. Scan means to let your eyes travel quickly over a passage in order to find something specific that we are looking for. In short, skimming and scanning are the strategies that we have to use in answering the questions of TOEFL reading section.