

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

The first chapter explains the introduction of this research. The introduction contain research context, research focus, research objective, significance of study, definition of key term, and previous study. This is so important to explain the reasons for the research and to explain the focus to be studied in the research process. The Implementation of Comic Books Media in Reading Ability at The Ninth Grade of SMP Nurul Islam Pasanggar Pegantenan Pamekasan.

### A. Research Context

Language naturally becomes the most important part of human life. In fact, humans become social creators who cannot be part of other people. Language is one of the most unique human abilities of our species, and it involves all others, including consciousness, sociality and culture. We use symbolic language systems to create meaning and communicate with our fellow human beings. All people in the world, in all aspects of their daily life, naturally wish to do many things in their life. After all, language has been the only aspect that differentiates humans from other creatures like plants and animals.

Language is the ability to acquire and use complex communication systems, especially the human ability to do so, and language is a clear example of such a system. Language is not only means of communication but also builds economic relationship, friendship, and culture<sup>1</sup>. Mostly

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<sup>1</sup>Jyonica Suri, *Role of Language in Human Life*: International Journal of English, Language, Literature and Humanities, Vol III, Issue VII, New Delhi : 2015, 181

people around the world factly use a language as the first means of theirs for fulfilling their responsibilty and wish. They do all their daily activities through a language intagrated with the culcure in their environment. Notably, language has become the first primer need of human to be able to continue their lives and their future.

Language is a best tool owned by people and used to communicate with each other. Language is very important and language makes the difference between human and animals. Nelson Francis statement in Mulyadi that language is an arbitrary system of articulated sounds made to use by a group of human as a means of carrying of the affairs to their society<sup>2</sup>.

Language educators have long used the concepts of four basic language skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing. These four language skills are sometimes called the "macro-skills". This is in contrast to the "micro-skills" such as grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and spelling. The four basic skills are related to each other by two parameters: the mode of communication: oral or written and the direction of communication: receiving or producing the message. Listening comprehension is the receptive skill in the oral mode. When we speak of listening what we really mean is listening and understanding what we hear. Listening comprehension is the receptive skill in the oral mode. When we speak of listening what we really mean is listening and understanding what we hear. Speaking is the productive skill in the oral mode. It, like the

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<sup>2</sup>Mulyadi, *Introduction to Linguistics*, (Pamekasan: STAIN Pamekasan Press, 2009) pages 2

other skills, is more complicated than it seems at first and involves more than just pronouncing words. Speaking is often connected with listening. For example, the two-way communication makes up for the defect in communicative ability in the traditional learning<sup>3</sup>.

Reading is a tool of communication in written language through the texts form. It is the most efficient way to gain information about many aspects of life, including science and technology. By reading, people can absorb a number of information. Reading has a very important role and becomes a daily necessity for every person who wants to acquire whatever information which is required. Reading is an essential skill for learners of English as a sforeign language. For most of learners it is the most important skill to master in order to ensure success not only in learning English, but also in learning in any content class where reading in English is required. With strengthened reading skills, learners will make greater progress and development in all other areas of learning<sup>4</sup>.

There are several ways to help students improve reading comprehension. One of the ways is to use interesting teaching materials. In this study, the researchers wanted to use English comics. As Hornby describes it, the comic book is a series of drawings arranged in coherent panels, with brief humor in narrative form, often serialized with balloons and text in the title. Furthermore, Liu points out, comics are highly visual

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<sup>3</sup> Supina, *Four Basic Skills Proficiency Based On Students' Perception In Hospitality & Tourism Study Program, Bunda Mulia University*, Received on 1 April 2018 / Approved on 16 April 2018, Volume 8, No 2, 129-130

<sup>4</sup> Jibril Ismail, *Improving the Students' Reading Skill through Translation Method*, Universitas Muhammadiyah mataram, December 2017, Volume. 2, No. 2,

texts; they are effective, especially for reading comprehension for learners of a second or other language. To sum up, because it is in the form of the same amount of pictures and texts, comics can attract students' attention more than prints. By prioritizing reading as a goal of student mastery, the current presence of media can contribute positively to children and make them happy. Using media can help students develop their language skills and help students interpret and remember the stories contained within<sup>5</sup>.

According to Harmer reading is one of the receptive skills of English. Yet, the four language skills are closely related to each other. The ability to read texts in English is important as a bridge to understand the textbook<sup>6</sup>. If students continue their studies to the senior high school and university, they are required to understand many books written in English.

SMP Nurul Islam is an educational unit at the junior high school level in Pasanggar, Kec. Pegantenan, Kab. Pamekasan. In carrying out its activities, SMP Nurul Islam is under the auspices of the Ministry of Religion. The Nurul Islam Middle School Foundation is an Islamic-oriented institution. It is located 100m to the west from the village hall of Pasanggar, Pegantenan, Pamekasan. This institution is led by Mr. Mohammad Sukri.S.Pd, he is the principal of SMP Nurul Islam. The Nurul Islam Foundation has seven institutions, namely: PAUD Nurul Islam, RA Al wada', MD Nurul Islam, TK Nurul Islam, MI Mambaul Ulum, SMP Nurul Islam, SMK Nurul Islam. Here the researcher is interested in conducting

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<sup>5</sup> Intant setyaningrum, *The use of comics in reading comprehension*, journal universitas Mataram, 2018, p1

<sup>6</sup> Jeremy Harmer, *The Practice of English Language Teaching*, (Third Edition Completely Revised and Updated), 210

research with the title "*The Implementation of Comic Books Media in Reading Ability at The Ninth Grade of SMP Nurul Islam Pasanggar Pegantenan Pamekasan*".

## **B. Research Focuses**

According to Creswell research problem is a general educational issue, concern, or controversy addressed in research that narrow the topic<sup>7</sup>.

From the explanation above , there are some problems that are necessary to be investigated. The implementation of comic books media in reading ability at the ninth grade of SMP Nurul Islam Pasanggar Pegantenan Pamekasan, therefore the following questions are formulated :

1. How does the teacher implement the comic books media in reading ability at the ninth grade of SMP Nurul Islam Pasanggar Pegantenan Pamekasan?
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of comic books media in reading ability at the ninth grade of SMP Nurul Islam Pasanggar Pegantenan Pamekasan?

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<sup>7</sup>Jhon W. Creswell, *Educational Research* (United State : Pearson Education,2012), Page 59.

### C. Research Objectives

A purpose of research announces the purpose, scope, and direction of the paper. It tells the reader what to expect in a paper and what the specific focus would be. It is formulated by statement.<sup>8</sup> From the research problem above, the researcher decides the purposes of this research as following :

1. To describe how the teacher implement the comic books media in reading ability at the ninth grade of SMP Nurul Islam Pasanggar Pegantenan Pamekasan.
2. To know the advantages and disadvantages of comic books media in reading ability at the ninth grade of SMP Nurul Islam Pasanggar Pegantenan Pamekasan.

### D. Significance of Study

The result of this research is fully expected to give some theoretical and practical knowledge for the following parties:

1. Theoretically

This research provides beneficial and referential contributions in giving general knowledge of the way The implementation of comic books media in reading comprehension.

2. Practically

The results of this research are useful for teachers at SMP Nurul Islam Pasanggar Pegantenan Pamekasan as a reference for assessment

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<sup>8</sup>Akademik, *Pedoman Penulisan Karya Ilmiah* (Pamekasan: STAIN Pamekasan Press, 2011). Page 18.

and other projects. It is also important for other researchers to conduct additional research on teaching and learning processes in comic books media.

#### **E. Scope and Limitation**

Scope is the drafting of documents that used in the completion of a study. While limitation are potential weakness or problems with the study identified by the researcher<sup>9</sup>. It means that to make easier to identify the subject that researcher would study.

The scope of this research is teacher's strategies in teaching reading comprehension through comic books, while the the limitation of this research is the ninth grade of SMP Nurul Islam Pasanggar Pegantenan Pamekasan.

#### **F. Definition of Key Terms**

The definition of key terms are stated below in order to make everything clear and avoid any misinterpretation<sup>10</sup>. In this study, here are some definitions of key terms :

1. Reading is an active and complex process that involves understanding written text, developing and interpreting meaning, and using meaning as appropriate to type of text, purpose, and situation.
2. Media is a tool used to support learning so that learning can run well.

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<sup>9</sup> John W. Creswell, *Educational Research, Planning, Conducting, and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research*, Fourth Edition (Boston: Pearson, 2012), 199

<sup>10</sup> Creswell, *Educational Research*, Page 259

3. Comic Books is stories that are illustrated with pictures and serve to entertain the reader.

#### **G. Previous Study**

Researched by Intan Setyaningrum. This research is about "Effect of English Comics on Reading Comprehension of 8th Grade Students in SMPN 11 Mataram 2018/2019". The purpose of this study was to find out if there was a significant difference in improving students' reading ability with and without comics. The researchers used an experimental approach that included pre-test and post-test designs and treatments for this study. The subjects of this study were all eighth-grade students. A total of 58 students from two grades were used as samples. VIII E was the experimental group and VIII B was the control group. The technique used to analyze the data is the t-test formula.

The results of this research showed that the mean deviations of the pre-test and post-test in the experimental group were higher than those in the control group. This is also supported by the t-score, which is higher than the t-table. Therefore, rejecting the null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) and accepting the alternative hypothesis ( $H_a$ ) shows that the English comic is effective in improving student's reading comprehension was accepted. Based on this finding, it is suggested that English comic can be used by English teachers as an alternative reading materials to improve the students' reading comprehension.

And the second previous study is researched by Wahyu Nuning Budiarti. The title is "Developing Comic Books to Increase Motivation to



Learn And Reading Comprehension For The Fourth Grade Students of Elementary School". This research aims to develop comic books that is eligible for the fourth grade students of elementary school, (2) reveal the effectiveness of the developed comic books toward enhancement of student motivation to learn, and enhancement of student reading comprehension. This developmental research refers to the model from Borg & Gall, consist of (1) research & information collecting, (2) planning, (3) develop preliminary form of product, (4) preliminary field testing, (5) main product revision, (6) main field testing, (7) operational product revision, (8) operational field revision, (9) final product revision, (10) dissemination and implementation. The subject of the operational field testing consists of 27 as the experimental class and 27 students as the control class. The research finding reveals that the comic books is proper for the fourth grade students of elementary school. (1) According to the expert of the material and the expert of the educational media, the comic books product is categorized into "good". (2) There is an increase in the pretest to posttest at control class and experimental class of motivation for study after using comic books, and reading comprehension after using comic books for study. Overall test and the results showed that the comic books take effect that positive and significant to student's motivation to learn and student's reading comprehension.

In this study there are differences between the research of the researcher and one of the researchers, namely Intan Setyaningrum, a journal entitled *The Use of English Comics in Reading Comprehension* (An

Experimental Research at Eighth Year Students of SMPN 11 Mataram in the Academic Year(2018/2019), in her research uses quantitative methods while researchers use qualitative methods that there will definitely be differences in the way in obtaining data. The similarities between her research and this research are using English comic books as learning media. And the differences between the second previous study are using Indonesian comic, while in this research use English comic. This research discuss about how comic books are effective as learning media. Meanwhile, in his research discuss about how comic books can motivate students to read. The big difference between their research and this research is the media used, they use comics which are not specific to comic books, while this research uses comic book media. Therefore, researchers are very interested in examining the implementation of comic books media that would be carried out at SMP Nurul Islam with the chosen title "The Implementation Of Comic Books Media In Reading ability at the Ninth Grade of SMP Nurul Islam Pasanggar Pegantenan Pamekasan".