

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer discusses; background of the study, limitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, the objective of the study, and significances of the study.

### **A. Background of the Study**

Since English is so important, in Indonesia English is introduced as a compulsory subject to the students beginning the first year students of elementary school, junior high school to the last year of senior high school even at the university. There are four language skills that should be master by the students in learning English. They are listening, reading, writing and speaking. Reading is a skill to get information or comprehend a text or written language that transferred by writer.

According to Tarigan (2018:07), reading is a process to do and also used readers to get message, will sent by the writer's through words media or written language. The goal purpose of reading is to able get information, content reading, and than reading comprehension meaning from the text. In reading, students are able to understand the text, the students try to find the difficult words, such as grammars, vocabulary, spelling, pronunciation, and identify the component of the text. Sometimes, reading assignment made the students frustration with reading subject. Especially in reading comprehension, where the students comprehended the content of text and also, to get the meaning of text.

Based on the curriculum of Junior High School descriptive text is one of the important text that should be mastered by students. According to Pätzold (2017:2), descriptive text is a kind of text with a purpose to give information. The context of this kind of text is the description of particular thing, animal, person, or others, for instance: our pets or a person we know well.

Based on writer's pre observation through interview to the English teacher of SMP N 21 OKU had taught descriptive text to the seventh grade students of SMP N 21 OKU, even so there are still students who still do not understand about descriptive text. One of the important components needed in designing a subject is identifying the initial abilities of students. Teachers and students should make the characteristics of students related to initial abilities. For example, as a foothold in designing, developing and implementing learning programs. Initial ability is understanding, experience, prerequisite knowledge, and everything that is owned by students as initial knowledge (prior knowledge). And arranged hierarchically as a database of experience (experiential data base) within the learner. In this case, if the teacher teaches material whose level of difficulty is above the ability of students, it will have implications for the ineffectiveness of the learning process and results. Students will have difficulty understanding the material caused by the existence of prerequisite material (pre-requisite), knowledge or other initial abilities that should be the basis for acquiring new knowledge that have not been mastered by students, so through this study the researcher hopes that English teachers can use it as a basis for making policies in the process of learning English.

Based on the explanation above, the writer analyzed the students' ability in comprehending a descriptive text at seventh grade student of SMP N 21 OKU.

## **B. Problem of the Study**

### **1. Limitation of the Problem**

In this study, the writer limited the problem only focus in "The students' ability in comprehending a descriptive text at seventh grade student of SMP N 21 OKU.

### **2. Formulation of the Problem**

Based on limitation above, the problem of this study was "What was the students' ability in comprehending a descriptive text at seventh grade student of SMP N 21 OKU?"

### **C. Objective of the Study**

The objectives of the study was to know the students' ability in comprehending a descriptive text at seventh grade student of SMP N 21 OKU .

### **D. Significance of the Study**

By doing the study, the writer hopes that the research will give some meaningful contribution to the following:

#### **1. For the Student**

It is expected that student can know their ability in comprehending a descriptive text and improve their ability in order to be better.

#### **2. For the Teacher**

The result of this study give some information about students' ability in comprehending a descriptive text that will be useful for English teacher in making teaching learning process become better.

#### **3. For the Researcher**

This study can enlarge the writer's knowledge about students' ability in comprehending a descriptive text and give some experience in conducting an educational research.

#### **4. For the TEFL**

The result in this study can be also a good contribution to the development of teaching and learning English as a foreign language.

#### **5. For Other Researcher**

This study can be a source of material in conducting next study with a similar method.

