Chapter One

Introduction

In this chapter, the researcher explains the background of the study, identification of the problem and limitations of the problem. The researcher puts some research questions and purposes of the study, regarding some important issues which are appropriate to the context of the study. The researcher also presents the significance of the study as to why this research is important to be conducted. The researcher also puts the outline of the study

Background of the Study

Reading ability is a basic foundation in academic reading or writing that every student must have. Grabe and Stoller as quoted by Demiroz (2010) stated that reading is one of the inevitable mediums for independent learning, whether the goal is performing better on academic task, learning more about subject matter, or improving language abilities. For students, reading achievement is considered as the most important one because it can influence other language skills including listening, speaking, and writing. In fact, it is a necessary part of language acquisition. It is through this reading skill that many students become aware that they can become competent in terms of comprehending and responding to make an opinion and infer hidden meaning from the context of a text.

The advantages of reading ability include getting new information, opening the insight and knowledge, and increasing the memory quality. According to Krashen and Annamalay (2013), from reading, readers develop their better writing ability, high vocabulary, and good language structure grammatically. Reading has something inside that can express what students need to search for. Grabe (2009) stated that reading has positive impacts that bring many advantages on learning especially in

reading achievement. It is in line with identifying the components of reading as phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension (Renandya & Jacobs, 2001). While developing the second language, one of the most valuable and encouraging skills is the reading ability.

Reading has basically been differentiated into two types: intensive and extensive. Waring (2011) mentioned that reading differentiated into two basic types. In line with Brown (2007), in reading there are two types of reading performance, such as extensive reading and intensive reading. Intensive reading may be described as the practice of extraordinary reading skills and the close linguistic study of text including reading journal as the weekly activity. On the other side, extensive reading can be illustrated as reading a large mount of text and having happiness to explore reading text, where reading confidence and reading fluency are prioritized such as reading novel for pleasure to get knowledge. Extensive reading is a way to read book for pleasure. Nuttall (2005) stated that extensive reading as the easiest and most effective way to increase students' skills and claimed that it is easier to teach people to read better if they are learning in a favorable condition.

The way of doing Extensive Reading is the students are free to choose their favorite book to read. Extensive reading is an approach of teaching and learning a foreign language by reading texts or books which are selected personally by the students (Day & Bamford, 1998). In this approach, the extensive reading's purpose is to improve the reading habit on the part of students, let them enjoy their reading, and have a general comprehension of what they read without using dictionaries (Day & Bamford, 1998). Then, through this kind of foreign language spreading by reading and freedom of choice, the students can have some new practical experiences that might have a motivating influence on their way of learning the language.

There are some research conducted regarding the importance of extensive reading on language learning. For instance, Iwahori (2008) stated that efffectivenes of extensive reading show in reading rate which presents improving reading fluency and general language proficiency. It is in line with a study that was conducted on extensive reading, Renandya and Jacobs (et al, 2001) emphasized the importance of extensive reading in development of topical science in students' reading ability. That is, extensive reading will enrich students' vocabulary size and grammar structurely. Another study conducted by Hitosugi and Day (2004) especially proved that extensive reading would absolutely be effected on reading ability towards the students' reading skill.

There are researchers who conducted at English Language Education Department of a private university about reading habits. Iswara (2016) in her *skripsi* entitled "*The Correlation Between The Habit of Reading Journal Articles and 2013 EED of UMY Students' Vocabulary Mastery*" revealed that there is a correlation between the habit of reading journal articles and 2013 ELED students' vocabulary mastery. This research also found that the habit of reading journal articles increased the vocabulary size. Besides, the researcher also found that the habit of reading upgraded the students' reading quality in vocabulary mastery either high or low in students ELED of UMY batch 2013. Another research about reading was conducted by Tikasari (2014) in her *skripsi* entitled "*The Relation Between Reading Habits and Students' Writing Ability at Pbi Umy*". The research revealed that there was a significant relation between reading habit and students' writing ability. In her research, Tikasari (2014) revealed that the students' reading level influenced in the students' writing skill at ELED. Beside that, the research concluded that the students' reading habits have better influence in the writing skill at ELED.

Eventhough researches have proven the reading gives many contributions to students' ability, there is an indication that students' reading habits at ELED is low based on the Iswara (2016) and Tikasari (2014). Then, ELED conducted reading activity for students year one under named reading date program. Researcher is quite interested in knowing further about the reading date activity. He attended the activity on 21 March 2018 to do some observations. Through a conversation with some participants, it was revealed that The Reading Date aims to improve students' overall ability by doing extensive reading and this consist of students who love reading activity. The reading date was also held because there was indication at ELED that the students' reading habit is low which cause low vocabulary, low literacy and lack of grammar. This is the reason why, the researcher is interested in carrying out a research entitled *Students' perception on the implementation of extensive reading at English Language Education Department.* It is expected that this study will make a significant contribution for better implementation of extensive reading activity at the department.

Identification of the Problem

Reading is an ability which reading can present a lot of information because reading can also improve the ability of students such as writing and speaking. Reading can increase vocabulary size, grammar and literacy. As a learner of English language, extensive reading is one of important skills to support the reading ability for students. Although Extensive Reading is highly beneficial to students, there is an indication that students' reading habits at ELED is low. This is the reason why ELED conducted Reading Date activity. The Reading Date aims to improve students' overall ability by doing extensive reading. In ELED, the group undernamed The Reading Date has conducted extensive reading for the year one students.

There are several issues that can be addressed of activity, such as the benefits and obstacles in doing extensive reading. Through Reading Date activity, the perception of students toward this activity will be revealed. Focusing on the benefits and the obstacles will be the focus of this research.

Limitation of the Problem

This research focuses on two main topics. First, this research will study the benefits that students get in the implementation of Reading Date activity. Second, this research will study the obstacles that the students face in the implementation of Reading Date activity which is implemented in outside the class at ELED. This study will be conducted at ELED of a private university in Yogyakarta. This means that the perception offered by students will only represent the opinion of the department.

Research Question

Based on the background of this study, this study possesses two research questions.

The research question of this research is:

1. What are the benefits on the implementation of extensive reading at English Language Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta?

2. What are the obstacles on the implementation of extensive reading at English Language Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta?

Purposes of the Study

Based on research question, the purpose of this research can be framed as follows:

1. To investigate the benefits on the implementation of extensive reading in Reading Date at English Language Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta.

2. To investigate the obstacles on the implementation of extensive reading in Reading Date at English Language Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta.

Significances of the Study

This research aims to give benefits for:

Teachers. The results of this research is hoped to be important data about extensive reading. It can contribute for the teachers to find the good way for promoting the benefits and obstacles on the implementation of extensive reading. It gives more strategies for teacher to improve the reading ability of students.

Students. This research is hoped to open the students' mind to consider the extensive reading because of the benefits for improving their reading achievement. It is hoped to improve and encourage their reading interest as daily activity outside the class. It also can show that the reading activity can also provides path to develop other skills such as writing and speaking. Moreover, this research attracts the students to have fun in reading to gain more words.

Other Researchers. The researcher hopes that this research is hoped to be useful for other researcher to support their research particularly about extensive reading. Therefore, this research gives a sight on how to conduct the research with the similar ideas. Beside that, this research can be the references for doing next research which has a related topic to this research.

Outline of the Study

The research contains five chapters. Chapter one describes the description of research. This chapter describes the background of the study, statement and limitation of the problem, research question, and purpose of the study and significance of the study. Then, this research also provides a step that should be used if a student love to read in improving student's reading ability.

Chapter two discuses about literature review. This chapter highlights the framework of this research based on the other researches. Moreover by identifying every keyword in this research, there are definition of language skills, definition of reading, definition of extensive reading, benefits in doing extensive reading and obstacles in doing extensive reading.

Chapter three explain about methodology. This chapter consists of research design, research participant, data gathering, and data analysis. In this chapter, it shows how to collect the data which will give details about participants which are used in this research. Additionally, this chapter also explains how the data can be gathered and the reason why this research uses that method. Then, this research describes the reason why this research choose the participants. This research design will use qualitative approach, and to collect the data, this research will use in-depth-interview.

Chapter four of this research discusses the finding and discussion. This chapter also puts and cites the statements of the participants to make the finding are understandable. This chapter will give details about the finding and discussion.

Furthermore in Chapter five, this research conclude all the findings to answer the research questions and give recommendation to the reader which is considered to be useful as references and to be added to the end of the research which obtain the solution.