

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

Reading is an interactive process that goes on between the readers and the text. There is communication between the readers and the writer when someone reads. Reading is one of the four important language skills that should be grasped by the students besides the other skill such as speaking, writing and listening. Through reading, students are capable of knowing everything they want from the text. They can access and comprehend the information from the texts by having good competence in reading comprehension.

However, as the one of the basic skills in English, reading is not simply translated word by word. The readers should have concern and pay attention when read a text to get the meaning and information from the whole of text. In fact, most of the students still have problems and difficulties in reading especially reading comprehension. Whereas the main purpose of reading process is about how students can access information from the text.

Students' motivation is very important because in education, it affects the level of the learning of individual and they reflect to their behaviours whether they have learned or not. Rawsthorne and Elliot (1999, p. 326) State that motivation can affect the cognitive process and learning strategies of an individual task. Students

who have high motivation will try to get new skill and knowledge. In addition, motivation also plays an important role in teaching learning proces. Students may face some problems in reading comprehension of the text. They need a high motivation in order to keep trying to solve the problem in reading. Molekoglu & Wilkerson (2013, p. 77)) state that students' motivation to read is a critical factor in getting him involved in reading and improving his reading skills. Therefore, students' motivation is vital to the students' ability to read and comprehend texts purposefully. All English foreign language learners need to enchance their English reading motivation for a better understanding of written texts. Regarding to the research finding above, these problems also happened in SMPN 03 Kotabumi.

Based on the interview done with the English teacher of SMPN 03 Kotabumi on Friday, January 10th 2020. It was known that the students of the ninth grade in SMPN 03 Kotabumi face some problems during the teaching and learning process of reading. The teacher stated that those problems make the students difficult to finish the reading task given.

Regarding to the result of the interview with the English teacher there are some problem faced by students. First, students still have less vocabulary, while in reading process the students need to have a good vocabulary mastery, so they can get idea and information of the text. It was hard for students to understand the content of the text because of their less vocabularies, and knowledge of the sentence structure. Second, the students lack of practice in reading. Practice and repitition are one of the things that are important to do by students. Practice and repetition will increase students' vocabulary mastery by remembering the new words that students read.

Third, students have difficulty to comprehend the text while in reading activities. Reading activities focuses on the level of not only recognizing the words but also comprehending the meaning and message from the text. The great basic of comprehension is understanding of the manner in which words are used into meaningful phrase, phrase into sentence, and sentence into paragraph. Consequently students have difficulty to comprehend the text. Fourth, students still lack motivation to learn English. Motivation is very important to make the students becomes a good reader because it can influence students' learning achievement.

From the description above, it was proved from the data of ninth grade score on daily test, there are many students get low score under the school passing grade. It can be seen on the table of result students' score on daily test.

TABLE 1
THE STUDENTS' SCORE OF DAILY TEST

No.	Interval Score	Classes								Total	Percentage (%)
		IXA	IXB	IXC	IXD	IXE	IXF	IXG	IXH		
1	20 – 28	-	-	-	5	-	2	-	-	7	2.73 %
2	29 – 37	-	-	2	-	1	2	3	1	9	3.52 %
3	38 – 46	2	3	4	1	3	8	1	1	23	8.98 %
4	47 – 55	3	7	1	2	2	2	4	3	24	9.38 %
5	56 – 64	8	5	9	4	5	1	4	7	43	16.80 %
6	65 – 74	2	7	3	6	10	5	8	6	47	18.36 %
7	75 – 83	9	1	6	11	2	4	7	9	49	19.14 %
8	84 – 92	3	2	4	-	8	6	5	5	33	12.89 %
9	93 – 100	5	7	3	3	1	2	-	-	21	8.20 %
Total		32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	256	100 %

The school passing grade of SMPN 03 Kotabumi is 75. However, from the students' score above, it shows that only 40.23 % students who got score upper the passing grade and 59.77 % students got score under the passing grade. It can be

concluded that the students' ability in English is still low because there are many students' score at the ninth grade of SMPN 03 Kotabumi under the passing grade.

From the description of the problems above, it is clear that most of the students in SMPN 03 Kotabumi still have difficulties in English especially reading process in which one of them is caused by lack of motivation to learn English. It important for students to know and understand that their motivation can influence their reading skill, especially in reading comprehension because reading comprehension is not only transfer foreign language to mother language, it involves a thinking process that requires students learning motivation. Additionally, without having motivation students are not able to carry out reading activities well. The students will get difficulties in reading comprehension without high motivation to learn English well. Therefore, having a good motivation is very important in reading comprehension to make the students are able to read and comprehend the text correctly.

In learning activity motivation in any kind of dimensions plays an important role that influences the success of learning activity. Even though it is important, but motivation is not the only factor on the success of learning activity. One of the factors affecting reading comprehension is reading motivation. According to Ahmadi (2013, p. 8) reading motivation is becoming more important and focuses on the four skill of reading, listening, speaking, and writing but reading comprehension is most important and facilitate English language learning. Meanwhile, according to Amundson (2015, p. 19), reading motivation and comprehension are two main aspect of creating successful readers. Motivation is an important contributing factor in

language learning because learning will be more effective and efficient if it is supported by students' motivation. Motivation means somebody willing, to make somebody feel interested, enthusiastic, and committed to something. In other words, students can use motivation to increase their desire to learn English and achieve learning goal. Furthermore, according to Castle (2015, p. 38), reading motivation encourage students to practice reading skill and advance their ability. In order to be successful readers, motivation is important factor that needed by students. The reason that motivation is important is closely related to students' desire in learning English and students' ability in comprehending the text. Students who are motivated tend to devote all the ability and effort to achieve optimal learning results as expected, as well as raise awareness in reading.

Referring to the explanation about the importance of motivation in reading comprehension, the researcher was interested in conducting a correlational research to investigate the correlation between students' motivation and reading comprehension. Then, the researcher was conduct a research with the title "The Correlation between Students' Motivation and Reading Comprehension at the Ninth Grade Students of SMPN 03 Kotabumi Academic Year 2020/2021."

1.2 Identification of the Problem

In relation to the background of the problem above, the problems of this research was identified as the following:

1. The students of the ninth grade in SMPN 03 Kotabumi lack of vocabulary;
2. the students of the ninth grade in SMPN 03 Kotabumi lack of practice in reading;

3. the students of the ninth grade in SMPN 03 Kotabumi have difficulties to comprehend the text while in reading activities;
4. the students of the ninth grade in SMPN 03 Kotabumi have lack of motivation to learn English.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, in order to focus in the research, the researcher limits the problem on the correlation between students' motivation and reading comprehension at the ninth grade students of SMPN 03 Kotabumi academic year 2020/2021.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation of the problem above, the formulation of the problem can be taken as follows "is there any significant correlation between students' motivation and reading comprehension at the ninth grade students of SMPN 03 Kotabumi academic year 2020/2021?"

1.5 The objective of the Research

In reference to the formulation of the problem, the objectives of the research was to investigate whether there is any significant correlation between students' motivation and reading comprehension at the ninth grade students of SMPN 03 Kotabumi academic year 2020/2021.

1.6 Uses of the Research

The researcher expected that the research to be useful for:

1. Theoretically

Theoretically, the result of the research will give information to English teacher about the important role of motivation in reading comprehension.

2. Practically

a. Students

Through this result of the research, the students may take the important points of the research to identify their motivation problems in reading comprehension and encourage them to master and improve their reading comprehension.

b. English Teacher

The result of the research can be used as information for English teacher about the correlation between students' motivation and reading comprehension.

c. The researcher

As a candidate of teacher in the future, the research result hopefully useful as a reference in the teaching and learning process in the future.

d. Other Researcher

The result of the research is expected to be used as the references for other researcher who wants to conduct a further research dealing with the correlation between students' motivation and reading comprehension.