CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Problem

In teaching learning English, reading is a practice that is usually done by every human being. Reading is one of the most important skills in learning languages besides listening, speaking, and writing skill are very important to have good reading skill in order to cope new knowledge in the changing world of technological. Reading can make the readers have more knowledge. The fundamental goal for each reading activity is to know enough scientific concepts and know the language.

Reading comprehension is material that can be read or understood, or can also be given writing in the text. Reading with understanding means understanding what has been read. Understanding involves understanding vocabulary to see the relationship between words and concepts, organizing ideas, recognizing the author's goals, making judgments and evaluations. The word important factor in determining the level of understanding.

Ideally, students are hoped to have good reading comprehension in order to help them acquire knowledge, for they get knowledge mostly from reading. A good reader is someone who understands what he is reading, and the faster he can get meaning from his reading, the more efficient he is. The level of understanding needs to be adapted to the objectives of reading skills, and like skill development in any area, the level of reading can be increased by many training.
In fact, some problems are found in the third semester of the University of Muhammadiyah Kotabumi Lampung, for many language learners, learning to comprehend reading in text in English as a foreign language is difficult. It indicates that the reading is a difficult skill to be mastered.

Based on an interview with one of the lecturers of the University of Muhammadiyah Kotabumi Lampung in April 16th 2019. There are several things related to students’ problems in reading comprehension at the third semester students’ of English Education Program in University of Muhammadiyah Kotabumi.

The first problem is that students’ lack of vocabulary. Vocabulary is one of the keys to success in comprehending English text since the content of the text is dominated by words. However, students of English study Program of the University of Muhammadiyah Kotabumi Lampung in third semester are lack of vocabulary, because every day students do not use English as a communication tool, so students are not accustomed to using English so they find it difficult to master vocabulary. Consequently, they can not memorize the meaning of certain words. Automatically, they found difficulties in comprehending the text is given by lecturer.

The second problem is that students find it difficult to interpret or translate sentences. Some students asserted that they are confused in interpreting the topic sentences because of a more limited vocabulary size. For example it can be seen from some students interpreting it through an English dictionary or from a
cellphone, because of limited vocabulary so that they were difficult to interpret and understand the text readings provided by the teacher.

The third problem is students’ lack of prior knowledge. Reading comprehension is about relating prior knowledge to new knowledge contained in written texts. Prior knowledge, in turn, depends on lived experience. Topics that are familiar and openly discussed in one culture may be unacceptable in another, because having more prior knowledge generally facilitates comprehension, having more knowledge has the effect. Furthermore, with prior knowledge it is very helpful for students in understanding the text given by the teacher. Students’ lack of prior knowledge, for example it can be seen from the experience of students in understanding new vocabulary, they have difficulty when meeting new vocabulary, so they have difficulty understanding the reading.

Another problem is that students have less motivation in learning English. Motivation is a self-drive to be even better. In English teaching, motivation is very important in developing reading comprehension skills for students. The strength of motivation has a effect on the quantity of learning strategies they employ. Furthermore, the effect of motivation itself is very good for students in learning English especially reading. Motivation is the single most powerful influence on the choice of language learning strategies. Students lack motivation in learning English, for example it can be seen from students who are lazy to learn English because it is difficult to understand reading.

The next problem is that students’ lack of concentration during reading. Reading is an activity that really requires concentration. When reading, the eye,
ear and brain must coordinate with each other to get maximum results or ideas from reading. Concentration is very important for students in the process of learning, especially reading, so that the material being read is expected to be mastered by students. So, students can improve their reading comprehension by concentrating while studying. Students’ lack of concentration during reading, for example, it can be seen from a noisy class or a number of students talking in class can disrupt the concentration of learning of other students.

The last problem is students’ have less knowledge about tenses. It makes them find in difficulties in interpreting and understanding English texts well because tenses make students understand the structure of sentences that are good and know the timing of an event. Tenses are very important and fundamental when learning English. Tenses are generally used to form a sentence in English based on the time of the event. Therefore tenses have a very close relationship with the time of an event. However, some students were reluctant to learn tenses because they felt that learning tenses was difficult to understand, and students found difficulties in understanding the meaning and purpose of English text, therefore the importance of students to study tenses to make it easier for students to understand reading content through tenses. Students’ have less knowledge about tenses, for example can be seen from some students who are still confused in using tenses into sentences.

From the problems faced by students it can be concluded that reading comprehension is very important in learning English especially as a foreign speaker. The importance of knowing the problems that occur in students’ reading comprehension, so that researchers can find out the causative factors that can
affect students' reading comprehension and reduce the level of difficulty students experience in learning English, especially reading lessons at the third semester students of English Education Study Program of the University of Muhammadiyah Kotabumi Lampung. The importance of this research to find factors that most affect students' reading comprehension. The result of this research could be the information for the students and lecturers. From this information, students can improve skills in reading comprehension from those factors.

The researcher chooses University of Muhammadiyah Kotabumi Lampung to conduct the research, because of several reasons. The first reading is one of the most important skill that must be mastered by the students. The second there have not been similar research related to its topics. The last is reading subject is available in English Education Study Program of The University of Muhammadiyah Kotabumi Lampung.

The researcher is interested in conducting a research on factors that influence reading comprehension. For these reasons the researcher would like to conduct a research with the title “The Most Influential Factors in Students Perspectives that Affect Students’ Reading Comprehension at the Third Semester Students of English Education Study Program in the University of Muhammadiyah Kotabumi Lampung”.

1.2 Focus of the Problem

To make it easier, in this study researcher only focus on The Most Influential Factors in Students Perspectives that Affect Students’ Reading
Comprehension at the Third Semester Students of English Education Study Program in the University of Muhammadiyah Kotabumi Lampung Academic Year 2019/2020.

1.3 Formulation of the problem

In this study, the researcher formulates the problem as follows:

What are the most influential factors in students’ perspectives that affect students’ reading comprehension at the third semester students of English Education Study Program in the University of Muhammadiyah Kotabumi Lampung?

1.4 Research objectives

The objective of this research is to explain the most influential factors in students’ perspectives that affect students’ reading comprehension at the third semester students of English Education Study Program in the University of Muhammadiyah Kotabumi Lampung.

1.5 Uses of the Research

The result of this research hopefully can be give some benefits and contributions both theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretically

The results of the research are expected to support existing theoris about The Most Influential Factors in Reading Comprehension in Students Perspectives that Affect Students’ Reading Comprehension.
2. Practically

a. For the lecturer

The lecturer becomes aware that there are several factors that influence students’ reading comprehension, so that the lecturer can minimize the factors that constrain students in understanding reading.

b. For researchers

The researchers can also find out the factors that influence reading comprehension can be used and can broaden insight into understanding reading learning in class.

d. For the next researcher

The research could be used as an additional references for the next researcher who need to conduct the research with the similar