CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A.1 Background of the Research

Readability is an important aspect in a text.It is the quality of the text in terms of the readers' easy understanding. Readability is the degree of ease of a text to read and understand. The lower readability means the more difficult for the people to understand and higher readability level in a text so easier the text to understand. Harjasujana and Mulayati (1996: 106) explain, "The readability comes from the basic word readable, which means legible or readable."Dale (1948:11-20) argues "readability is all of the elements in the text, and it does include the interaction between those elements."

Readability is a measurement of the quality of the text from vocabulary and grammatical construction. Nutall (1982:24) explains that "readability is not the matter of vocabulary; however structural difficulty is also important…"

Vocabulary and grammatical are the parts of language. The other elements to measure readability are the written form, letter form and typography. According to Richard et al (1985:238) the readability is influenced by some factors such as the sentence lengthand the total of new words in a text. Sentence and words choice are elements of language. In addition, types of paragraph in a text and grammatical complexity in the use of language are the range elements

of language. Sentences may consist of long and short clause, simplex and complex clause. The words choice can consist of connotative and denotative. The differences between connotative and denotative in a text will influence the difficulty level to the reader in understanding the text. Denotative have real meaning so it will be more easily understood whereas connotative have unreal meaning so it will be more difficult to the reader to understand the meaning of the text.

The uses of connotative meaning will be found more in a poem text than in other texts. The use of connotative meaning makes the language in a poem more beautiful and deeper meaning. The use of language style also has function and usually belongsto the poetic function, which makes the messages more meaningful (Jakobson via Vanoye, 1971:59).The use of language style can also bring a different color because language style can express meaningful ideas, as well as emphasis on the messages expressed to be more imaginative.

The uses of connotative meaning in a poem make a poem difficult to understand. This becomesattractive power and challenges for the researcher to examine about the readability in a poem. In this research, the researcher use four children's poems by M.Iqbal they are *The Sun, The Cloud, A Mother's Dream* and *The Ocean Wave*.

Those poems are chosen because they fulfill the definition and feature of children's poem used as the main data source in this research. The following is the definition of poem according to the expert. Children's poem has two

definitions: (1) poem written by adult for children; (2) poem written by children for themselves. The important thing is children's poem speak to the children about their life in poem language (Huck, 1987:396). Children's poem is described by things and sign appropriate to the children experience. The basic characteristics of children's poems are simple language, narrative form, containing meaning and close to children's world life dimension, beautiful language element with combination sound, word choice, and meaning unit. Children's poem is poem using simple language, telling children's life and containing learning and also moral value which forms children's characters to be wiser and more mature. Children's poems chosen in this research are M. Iqbal's poems.

M.Iqbal is a Muslim from Pakistan he was much admired by the people.He was poet, philosopher and politicians. He has written many poems and his poems influence the people around the world. One of his poems is children's poem. Children's poem will give a new nuance in the field of literature especially in the research about this readability.Still a view relevant research about readability, especially in the study program of English Literature have motivated the researcher to continue the research about readability. The researcher hopes this research will enlarge the research about readability in the English literature, Faculty of Letters.

The analysis about readability has been done by some researchers. Kolahi Sholeh &Shirvani Elsheh (2012) used the English textbooks of translation and

their Persian language. The found based on the research were: the average fog index of English textbooks of translation was 16.4 while the average fog index of their Persian translations was 20.1. It means, the Persian textbooks of translation are 3.7 grade levels above their English original in term of readability level. The higher the fog index, the lessreadable the text is. The finding of the study showed that translation text books which have been translated into Persian are less readable than their English original. Next, is the research which was done by Bob PO-yung Lai(2005) from St. John's and St. Mary's Institute of Technology. He analyzed and approached readability of English text and it's application to CEE English reading tests. He found some traditional formulas consistently rated the material and the Flesch reading ease formula is the best predictor of the new reading passages for testing.

This research analyzes the readability in children's poems by M.Iqbal seen from language aspect. The theory that will be applied to analyze readability level from language aspect is the theory by Halliday about readability in SFL and some of the traditional theory.

A.2 Problems of the Research

1. How is the level of readability in M. Iqbal children's poems seen from language aspects?

2. What are the factors that influence readability in M. Iqbal children's poems seen from language aspects?

A.3 Objectives of the Research

1. To analyze the level of readability in M. Iqbal children's poems seen from language aspects.

2. To know the factors that influence readability in M. Iqbal children's poems seen from language aspects.

A.4 Significance of the Research

This research will give knowledge to recognize and determinethe level of readability in M. Iqbal children's poems then the researcher wants to know the factors that influence readability in the poems. Then, the writer hopes that this research will approve additional references for those who want to conduct further studies in this field.

A.5 Limitation of the Research

This study focuses on analyzing the readability in four children's poems by M.Iqbal. It includes the readability level in the poems and the factors influence readability in poems.

A.6 Definiton of Key Terms

In order to make some key terms clearly to avoid some missunderstanding of the readers. It is importants to interpret and to define the meaning of some key theory dealing with this research.

1. Readability

Harjasujana and Mulayati (1996: 106) explain, "The readability comes from the basic word readable, which means legible or readable."

2. Children's Poem

The definition of childen's poem : (1) Poem written by adult for children; (2) poem written by children for themselves. The important thing is children's poem speak to the children about their life in poem language (Huck, 1987:396).

3. Language Aspect

Language Aspect means the parts of language. For example : words, sentences.

A.7 Organization of the Research Report

This paper will be presented into five chapters. The chapters will be divided intosub topic that will elaborate the issue that have been given and formulated.

Chapter I is Introduction; this chapter presents the introduction that contains ofbackground of the research, problem of the research, objectives of the research, significance of the research, limitation of the research and organization of the research.

Chapter II is Literary Review; this chapter clarifies the theories thatarerelevant to the study. The theories described in this chapter are: theprevious researches, the definition of readability, the elements of readability, formula of readability, language of poem, children's poem and readability in the poem.

Chapter III is Research Methodology; this chapter describes procedures of the study used by the researcher to conduct the whole study. It includes type of the research, source of data, the method of collecting data, and the method of analyzing data.

Chapter IV is Findings and Discussion, this chapter consists of presentation of the data obtained from the study followed by explanation and interpretation of the data.

And the last is Chapter V, Conclusion and Suggestions; this chapter contains the conclusions of the result of the study and the writer's suggestions for those who want to conduct further studies in this field.