

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of the Study

Reading is one of the language skills that play an important role in foreign language acquisition. According to Vellutino in Best, et al (2005: 66) states that reading comprehension is the ability that the reader should have in order to get the meaning from the text for some purposes. So that, when someone reads a text, they need to comprehend and understand the text in order to get the information from it. It means, the readers are required to be able to receive the message from what they read.

Reading comprehension is the ability to read text, process it, and understand its meaning completely and be familiar with the text that has been reading. The students are required to be able to catch the meaning from each of the sentences of the text and connect the meaning delivered by the authors. Not only related to the word being read, reading comprehension also has a correlation with the reader strategy which helps them to comprehend more. In order to become better readers, the students need to pay attention on how they are reading and what can they do to improve their comprehension in reading a text.

There are some ways that the reader can do to improve their reading comprehension while reading a text. According to Kennedy (1981: 5) reading skills and experience in understanding, understanding and interpreting their

meanings. Based on the explanation, reading is the individual's ability to understand and find messages written by the author. Good reading skills are needed by students to understand the contents of the text they read.

Reading is often considered a difficult skill. Often when students read they find it difficult to understand their reading context, starting from unknown words, meanings, and so on. This can be very fatal when the reader cannot understand what the text he reads, so he will not get any information.

Therefore, it is very necessary to learn to read as early as possible, and continuously. Especially for students they will learn reading skills to college. This aims to make English learners really master the reading technique so they don't experience problems when reading text.

Based on this previous explanation, the writer want to know what strategies students commonly use when experiencing problems when reading. From this reason the reasecher carry out a research under title "A STUDY ON STUDENTS STRATEGIES IN READING COMPREHENSION".

## **B. Reason for Choosing the Topic**

In this research, the writer wants to know what strategies are usually used by students when finding problems in reading texts of the second semester students of Muhammadiyah University of Purwokerto. The writer chooses the topic of the following reasons:

1. Reading is very important for students because reading can enlarge their knowledge, vocabulary and information.

2. Reading is considered an efficient way to get information about significant scientific and technological developments.

### **C. Problem of the Study**

Based on the previous explanation, this research attempts to answer the following questions:

1. What strategies do students use when they reading text for reading comprehension?
2. What strategies do students use mostly and least?

### **D. The aim of the Study**

1. To find out what strategies are used by students at 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of Muhammadiyah University of Purwokerto when experiencing problems in reading text
2. To find out what strategies are mostly used and lest by students at 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of Muhammadiyah University of Purwokerto

### **E. Clarification of the Study**

To avoid misunderstand and misinterpretation, the writers need to clarify the term used as follows:

#### **1. Reading**

Reading is one of the important skills in English learning. Stauffer (Petty & Jensen, 1980) considers that reading, a mind in relation to the

transmission channel or ideas. In addition, reading can be used to build a concept, developing vocabulary, giving knowledge, adding personal enrichment processes, developing intelligence, helping to understand problems of others, developing self-concept and as a pleasure.

## 2. Strategy

Strategy is a way or something that people do to solve a problem. It is cited in Higher Education Founding Council for England Circular (2001) that a “strategy” is a plan developed by a reader to assist in comprehending and thinking about texts, when reading the words alone does not give the reader a sense of the meaning of a text.

## 3. Reading comprehensive

Reading comprehension means understanding information from written materials as efficiently as possible, Grellet (1988:31)

## **F. Contribution of the Study**

This research is hopefully can give some contribution as follows:

### 1. For the teacher

Teacher will know strategies in Reading Comprehension, so teacher can anticipate problem that may arise when they teach reading I the class and predict the students' difficulties and help their problem in right way.

### 2. For students

The finding of the research can be used as a new reference to learn English, especially reading. They can know what kinds of strategies that can be used by students to solve their problem.

### 3. For the Other Researchers

The result of this research could be a reference for the strategies to teach reading comprehension.

