

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background

Learning English becomes a necessity for everyone who wants to engage in international interaction and even in daily interaction. Many can be done to be able to master English, such as through technology. Especially in this modern era where technology is increasingly advanced. These technological advances can be utilized to learn English, such as through applications to learn English, English songs, online dictionaries, online books, English films and many more.

There are four skills that have to be learned in order to master English. The main English skills such as listening, reading, speaking, and writing should be equally learned by college students. Listening and reading are receptive skills while speaking and writing are productive skills. As one of the receptive skills, reading also becomes important for everyone in order to expand their knowledge. This skill helps the students to understand something that they learnt. Without reading, it will be difficult to understand and the worst possibility they will get the wrong understanding or the wrong information. If we get the wrong information then the knowledge that we will apply in our lives is also the wrong knowledge.

By reading the readers will get a lot of benefits such as they will know a lot of information that happened in this world. The reader also will be knowledgeable. Eventhough reading has many benefits there are still many people especially students who have low reading ability and willingness to read.

From the author's experience and the experience of some of author's friends, usually the students only want to read when the lecturer gives an article that is required to be read. After the lecture is finished, it is very rare for us to read books

such as English novels, English journals, etc. Because for some students, there must be coercion first for them to have a sense of wanting to read. Like if there is an assignment from the lecturer that requires them to read. Whereas by reading, whatever the type of text is very useful to improve students' reading abilities. It can be concluded that students' willingness and reading ability is still low. One of the factors causing these problems is learning media that is not appropriate. The increasingly of technological advances also should be balanced with the progress of learning. One of the solutions of these problems is that lectures should utilize these technologies in learning activities to make students more interested in participating in the learning class.

At the researcher's campus in Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto, modern media is used in extensive reading course. Media are generally defined as the means by which information is conveyed from one place to another. With the existence of the technology the students must make the best use of it, especially in reading. In this modern era, the internet can be accessed by anyone. Of course the students can use this technology or the internet for reading. For example the students can learn reading through online books.

Online books are the electronic counterpart of a printed book, which can be viewed on a desktop computer, laptop, smartphone, tablet or e-book reader (e-reader). In the online books, students can choose whatever type of books that they want to read without having to spend money to buy the book that they want. With students being able to choose books according to their wishes, this will make students enjoy their reading.

This learning media or online books can be used in one of the types of reading skills, the type is extensive reading. This media fits with the purpose of extensive

reading. The purpose is to involve learners reading texts for enjoyment and to develop general reading skills. Therefore, this research intend to find out student's perception of extensive reading learning through online book. The reason the researcher chose to do this research is because, technology is something that is already inherent in the students' lives. One of them is in learning, for example in the use of online books. This makes researchers want to know how students' perceptions of the online books have many positive or negative impressions in its use.

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

The reason why the researcher chooses this topic is because the researcher want to know how students' perceptions of the online books is it have many positive or negative impressions in its use. With the hope, after this research can be known whether they enjoy or not in using online books.

### **C. Research Question**

Based on the background of the study and the focus of the research, the research is formulated in question as follows:

1. What are the students' perceptions of online books used in the extensive reading class?

### **D. Purpose of The Research**

The purpose of this study was to get information about students' perception of the online books at sixth semester students of English Education Department Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto, is it have many positive or negative impressions in its use. And to know the reasons why students use online books.

## **E. Benefits of The Research**

The researcher hopes this research will be useful for

### 1. The Lecturers

- a) The lecturer can use it as a reference in teaching reading.
- b) As a contribution to use online books in teaching English.

### 2. The students

- a) The students will get true experience in learning reading through online books.
- b) To make the students be able to express their own ideas.

### 3. The reader

For the reader especially students in English Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto, writer hopes this research give the information and knowledge about online books which can be used as a media for students learning.