

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Reading Material

1. The Definition of Reading

Reading is one of the English language skills which is very important to develop students' knowledge. By having reading skill, the students can understand textbooks, reference materials, magazine, newspapers, and so on. Therefore, they can get any information or knowledge, which can be beneficial to them in order to develop the other skills such as listening, writing, and speaking.

In order to know what reading is, some definitions by the experts are provided. According to Gu (2003), reading is an academic text does not simply involve finding information on the text itself. As regards the teaching of the English language, reading is the most important skill amongst others. Meanwhile, Ramelan (1990:1) states reading is a good activity for the learners; reading is also something crucial and indispensable since success of their study depends for the greater part on their ability to read. If their reading is poor, they are very likely to fail in their study or at least they will have difficulty in making progress. On the other hands, if they have good reading ability, they will have better chance in their study at school.

According to Tarigan (1986:7) reading is a process carried out and used by reader to acquire message which is conveyed by a writer through words could be seen and known by reader. In short, reading is an activity to get meaning from printed words or symbols and how this ability is used to recognize, understand and interpret in words.

From the definition above, it means that reading is a crucial activity, through reading students are able to get any information or knowledge from the passage in written form.

2. The Definition of Reading Material

Materials are some components that are arranged to make something. It is having a logical connection with a subject matter or the consequential events or knowledge of which would significantly affect on decision or course of action. It means that material is such kind of things that is needed for a subject to be mastered. Material means information and figures, to be used in book, composition, report, etc. (Webster: 1957).

By bringing a variety of reading materials to the classroom, teacher make available to their students the real-world applications of reading. When students read "real" books, newspapers and magazines, follow directions for making things, figure out how things work, and look up information in reference books, they learn about the functions of reading.

By explanation above, reading materials is written material intended to be read. Reading materials is very important because it is an equipment to help students in reading class.

3. The Importance of Reading Material

Reading materials are important because it is one of language skills that have to be learned and mastered by students in learning English. Tignaneli (2007:25) states that reading materials are subject to analysis as observed in different phases of planning and implementation and with different purposes formative, summative, and developmental to mention but a view. For the current investigation, the purpose of evaluation is merely summative, the results obtained are meant to inform decision on the implementation of materials classroom use.

According to Leu and Kinzer (1987:336) reading material becomes important because it influence the quality of the learners and interest. By knowing the assumptions behind a set of instructional materials will enable them to select materials that are more consistent with their framework or to modify materials to more closely fit the homework.

The students actually are able to get good achievement from their good perception about the subject especially the material that is given by the lecturer. Reading material becomes very important because it correlates the perception and achievement when students will probably get high score by having good perception.

4. The Syllabus of Reading Material

According to Mulyasa (2009: 132) said that syllabus is a lesson plan for group of subjects with a particular theme, which include standards of competence, basic competence, learning materials, indicator, assessment, time allocation, and learning resources developed by the education unit.

Roberto Rabini states that syllabus is an expression of opinion on the nature of language and learning: it acts as a guide for both teacher and students by providing some goals to be attended.

Based on the explanation above, it can be inferred that syllabus is the teacher orientation in teaching which provides the systematic materials. The reading materials that are given to the fourth semester students of English department can be seen as follows: Words and phrases determination or vocabulary building, Vocabulary prediction, the main idea and supporting details in the text, Main idea paraphrases, supporting details, reference and inference, evaluating or judging the materials, the relationship among ideas in written material, Paraphrasing, Story plot or sequence, Cause effect, Relationships, Problem solutions sequence, Inductive and deductive conclusion.

B. Perception

1. The Definition of Perception

Dealing with perception, it will show the nature of someone psychology feature. Many experts have each definition about perception. According to Moskowitz and Orgel in Walgito (2010: 100), perception is an integrated process within individual to the stimulus that is received by itself. Meanwhile, Davidoff in Walgito (2010: 100) says by having perception, the individuals will be aware to the situation and the condition that surrounds them. On the other hand, Davidoff (1981) and Rogers

(1965) in Walgito (2010:100) states that because perception is an activity that is integrated within the individual, so what is in the individual will actively participate in perception. Based on the explanation above, perception can be expressed through the feeling, thinking ability, and experiences of the individual itself.

2. Factors Affecting Perception

Everyone has different tendency in seeing the same thing. The difference can be affected by many factors, including the internal and external factor. Salmeto (2010: 54) divides factors that influence the students' perception into two those are:

a. Internal factors

Internal factor is a factor which comes from inside students. All of the factors include in psychological factor. The explanation of each factor can be seen as follow:

1) Intelligence

J.P. Chaplin as cited in Slameto (2010:55) defines intelligence into three categories, (1) The ability to meet and adopt to novel situation quickly and effectively, (2) The ability to utilize abstract concept effectively, (3) The ability to grasp relationships and to learn quickly.

Intelligence has a very big influence towards reading ability. At the same situation, students who have high intelligence will be easy in understanding the contents of the material while the low intelligence's students will find the difficulty in understand them.

2) Attention

Attention is an important factor that supports teaching and learning process. This process will be effective if the students have a good attention during the learning process. In order to get good attention, teacher has to design teaching materials as effective as possible. Teacher also has to be closer to the students so they will understand the material well. An interesting material will make students feel interested having new information.

3) Interest

According to Hilgard in Slameto (2010: 57) interest is persisting tendency to pay attention to enjoy some activity or content. Interest has big influence in teaching and learning process especially in reading, because when students have lack of interest in reading they will lose their desire to study, for that reason a teacher should be delivering such kind of activity related to the teaching materials based on the students' interest.

4) Aptitude

According to Hilgard in Slameto (2010: 57) aptitude is the capacity to learn. With other definitions, aptitude is the ability to learn. It will develop after they learn and practice certain skill. If teaching material suitable with students' aptitude they will motivate to study hard.

5) Motive

According to James Drever in Slameto (2010: 58) motive is an effective-conative factor which operates in determining the direction of an individual's behavior towards a goal, consciously.

Making students have a good understanding in reading need many exercises. Students will be easy in understanding the material given by teacher. Finally, students will be able to get a good score in reading.

b. External factors

It is a factor coming from outside of an individual. There are several external factors which influence the students to learn. Those are:

1) Family factor

Family is the first place for children to get education. Family condition, parents' affection, and cultural background can influence the students' motivation to learn. Home and family's atmosphere should become a good by children place to read. If parents have a good reading habit, it will affect their children in having a good habit too especially in reading. They will enjoy spare time to read.

2) School factor

The school factors influencing the students to learning are:

a) Teaching Method

Teaching is an integrated system consisting of component linked closely together. Teaching method is one of the component

which can cause whether the students' learning develop or not. In fact, the used of varied teaching method will increase students' motivation to learn harder.

b) Curriculum

According to Slameto (2010:65) curriculum is a description of the activities that are given to students, the activities are served in learning material so that students can accept, comprehend and also develop the material. Based on the definition, it can be concluded in the curriculum there will be a decision about what should be taught in an institution, classroom, academic department or other instructional situations. A good curriculum must concern about the students' need in teaching reading and what the teacher taught in the classroom.

c) Relationship between teacher and students

Teaching learning process happened between teacher and students. This process is also influenced by the relationship that exit within the process itself. So, the way students learning is influenced by their relationship.

In a good relationship, students will be liked their teacher and also like the lesson taught. So, they will study hard. Whereas, if the students do not like the teacher, they will not like the lesson taught. So, they will not get a good achievement from learning process.

d) Relationship between students

Creating a good relationship between students will give positive effect among students in learning phase. If one of the student happy to read the other students will be unaffected to read.

3. Student' Perception

Students are the main and the most important resource in the teaching and learning process. According to Ahmad (2009) students' perception is necessary in a teaching and learning situation, it occurs when the teacher interprets a given meaning to stimuli their classroom environment or in the students' classroom behavior. Several past research have shown that thought or perception plays an important part in teaching. Centra (2005) stated that students' perceptions of learning were highly correlated with their overall ratings of teaching effectiveness of teaching learning process. Therefore, it can be concluded that the effectiveness of teaching and learning process, it can be don not only through assessment test but also through knowing students' perception.

4. Basic Assumption

The lecturers and students need reading materials as a component in reading class. But, not all of them are favorable for the students because their perception of reading material may be different from their lecturers. This research has assumption that the students' perception toward reading materials used in Reading 4 in English Department of Muhammadiyah Univercity of Purwokerto is appropriate.