

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of Research

Reading is a manner to build reasoning power. Tampubolon, (1987:6). Among the four skills, reading, listening, writing and speaking, they must properly be introduced to the students to reach the goal of language learning. Ramelan notes that by reading someone can get some information about science, technology, and other announcement of the world. Through reading someone can explore the world, countries that have never been visited before, and minds or ideas of great people in the past, all of which will enrich our experience and knowledge, and broaden our horizon, Ramelan, (1990:i) . It means that by reading someone can know something that have been known, seen, and visited before. Of course this way can make someone have good knowledge.

Teaching students to read can be difficult when students struggle and despite all efforts. The common problem faced by the teachers in English reading class deals with the students' low reading comprehension in every activity provided. This condition will increase by the competence of reading can be a good starting point to students' language mastery.

Based on the writer's experience when the writer observed the students of SMP Gunungjati Kembaran Purwokerto, the writer found that most of the students had problems in reading. The problems were the

students did not know the content of the text easily and the students felt difficult to answer the questions or exercise from the teacher because they didn't understand the content of the text after they have read.

Based on the condition above, the writer is interested in applying a technique to help the students in solving their reading problem. The technique which will be used is SQ3R. Robinson who developed this technique in Armstrong and Savage (1938:382) states that SQ3R technique is a five-step study plan to help students construct the meaning and remember the content while reading. The acronym stands for process are Survey, Question, Read, Recite, and Review. Survey of the contents makes students' focus on the topic of the text. Question developments provide aim guidelines for students in reading activity. Reading the text keep our mind on the content of the text and answer the question. Recite has purpose to reflect what they have read and reviews to recall memory as much as information about important information on the text.

This research is a classroom action research entitled, "*Improving Students' Reading Comprehension Through SQ3R*".

B. The Reasons for Choosing the Topic

There were some reasons of choosing the topic and doing a research;

Those are

1. Reading is one of the important skills that must be done well to get important information in the text, but there are a lot of students can not understand well the information.

2. SQ3R is a usefull technique for fully absorbing written information. It helps the readers to create a good mental framework of a subject, into which they can fit facts correctly.

C. The Problem of Research

The problem of this research is “Is SQ3R technique able to improve the students’ reading comprehension at the VIII grade of SMP Gunungjati Kembaran Purwokerto ?”

D. The Aim of Research

The aim of this research is to know whether or not SQ3R Technique can improve students’ reading comprehension at the VIII-A grade of SMP Gunungjati Kembaran Purwokerto in the academic year 2015 / 2016.

E. The Clarification of the Terms

1. Improving

Get better achievement or quality in reading competence than before.

2. Reading Comprehension

a. Reading

According to Tampubolon (1987: 6) reading is a manner to build reasoning power.

b. Comprehension

Revine in Renggo (2011:6) stated that comprehension is reading for understanding, reading for understanding is reading for meaning, and reading for meaning is comprehension, it means that

to comprehend a text the reader should understand what the text about.

3. SQ3R Technique

a. SQ3R

SQ3R is a useful technique for fully absorbing written information.

It helps you to create a good mental framework of a subject, into which you can fit facts correctly. It helps you to set study goals. It also prompts you to use the review techniques that will help to fix information in your mind. (www.mindtools.com)

b. Technique

Technique is a practical method applied to some particular task. (www.definitions.net)

F. The Contribution of Research

This research was expected to contribute to the improvement of English teaching process.

1. For teacher

It will enrich the English teaching technique; it will help the teacher in solving the problem about the students' reading comprehension.

2. For students

The SQ3R technique will improve their reading comprehension. They will understand about the content of the text by SQ3R technique, and it will make them get a good achievement in learning English.