

## **Chapter One**

### **Introduction**

In this chapter, the researcher discusses the introduction of this research. It consists of background of the research which talks about the main problem as well as the reason why the researcher chose this topic. Next, the researcher explains the statement of the research and the research question. Then, the objective of the research is discussed to provide a clear explanation of the points of conducting the research. Finally, the researcher explains the significance of this research and outline of the research.

### **Background of the Research**

Reading is the most important skill to increase students' language ability. It is in line with a research conducted by Krashen (2009). The result shows that the students acquire a language when they understand the meaning from reading and listening. It means that reading is an important skill in learning a new language. In addition, according to Patel and Jain (2008), reading is the most useful and most important skill for expanding knowledge of language compared to speaking and writing. It is also supported by Yilmez (2002) who stated that reading is important to students because by reading, it can improve their vocabulary, grammatical and raise level of communication. In summary, reading plays an important role in gaining linguistic knowledge, such as vocabulary and grammar. It also helps the students increase their English proficiency.

Generally speaking, the importance of reading is also stated in Al-Quran, Surah Al 'Alaq (96):1 (2014), in the first verse, it says, *Iqro*, which can be translated as "Read". This surah was the first revelation sent to the last prophet in Islam. In other words, the first thing that Allah command to mankind is to read. Therefore, the first things that people must do to get input or in learning is reading because by reading people can automatically increase their linguistic knowledge. To sum up, the most important skill which should be mastered by people is reading because it is the obligation declared in the holy Quran.

Based on the verse above, reading is important to fulfill what God commands upon everybody, including students in Senior High School in order to improve their vocabularies for various words that can be found when reading. It means that the habit of reading is beneficial to improve vocabulary mastery when the students learn a new language especially English. It is supported by Setyarini (2015) who stated that reading habit helps students enhance their vocabulary when they learn a new language. This statement is in line with Sari (2016) who stated that the benefits of reading habit are helping students get new information and enriching vocabulary mastery. Hopefully, the students will have good reading habit to improve their vocabulary mastery, so they will understand the language. For that reason, the teacher should promote reading habit to their students in the classroom.

However, it is not an easy for the students to have good reading habit because not all Indonesian students have good English reading habit. They still find it hard to develop reading habit in English. According to Iftanti (2015),

Indonesian students do not have good English reading habit even though they have been learning English formally since elementary school until senior high school. The difference of those who have a good reading habit and those who do not can be clearly seen. In other words, when the students' have low reading habit they will have a lack of vocabulary mastery. It is because according to Syaifuddin (2016), between reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery has a significant correlation. Then, it can be concluded that the students need to improve their reading habit in English, so they can have good vocabulary mastery.

From the explanation above, it can be concluded that English reading habit and vocabulary mastery correlate. That is why the researcher is interested in investigating the correlation between reading habit in English and students' vocabulary mastery in a senior high school because the researcher is curious to know senior high school students' English reading habit and their vocabulary mastery.

### **Statement of the Research**

Based on the background of the research and the reason above, there are two variables in this research including reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery. Moreover, this research focuses on the English reading habit because it will make students easier to acquire new vocabulary in English. This way, when students have a good reading habit, it means that they have good vocabulary mastery. Consequently, the researcher is curious to know how students' reading habit in English to improve their vocabulary mastery.

As the fact exist that, Indonesian students still have low reading habit in English because English is as a foreign language. This reality makes students difficult to improve their language skill, particularly in reading, whereas it is beneficial to understand the language itself. Based on that, the students need to increase their English reading habit first in order to enrich vocabulary mastery.

In this context, it is not an easy for the students to build good reading habit because the students believe that English is very difficult for them. It makes them difficult to understand the language when they are reading. Also it makes them not interested to read and build their reading habit especially English reading habit. For this reason, the researcher is curious to know how and what the correlation between reading habit in English and students' vocabulary mastery is.

### **Research Question**

There are three research questions to be investigated in this research:

1. How is senior high school students' reading habit in English?
2. How is senior high school students' vocabulary mastery?
3. What is the correlation between reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery?

### **Objective of the Research**

In relation to the research questions, the objectives of the research are:

1. To investigate the senior high school students' reading habit in English
2. To identify the senior high school students' vocabulary mastery

3. To find out the correlation between reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery

### **Significance of the Research**

This research is beneficial for the teachers, the students, and the other researchers:

**The teachers.** This research provides information which will help teachers increase their knowledge about the correlation between reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery. Also, this research will be of help to develop their teaching strategy which is appropriate for the students and support the students in improving vocabulary mastery and promoting English reading habit in the classroom.

**The students.** This research provides information which helps students to raise information about the correlation between reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery which makes them build the motivation of reading. So, they will know how to improve their reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery.

**The other researchers.** This research provides information which helps other researchers to raise information about the correlation between reading habit and vocabulary mastery. This research will also be a reference for the other researchers when they are interested in investigating the same topic.

### **Outline of the Research**

Chapter one was an introduction. The researcher explained the aims of the research. This chapter consists of the background research, statement of the

research, research question, objective of the research, significances of the research, and outline of the research.

Chapter two was a literature review. In this chapter, the researcher explained the literatures that related to the research. This chapter includes reading habit, the aspects of reading habit, the importance of reading habit, vocabulary mastery and related studies. Finally, the researcher explained the conceptual framework and hypothesis of this research.

Chapter three was research methodology. In this chapter, the researcher explained the research methodology that used in this research. This chapter told about research design, research setting, population and sample, validity and reliability, data collection procedure and data analysis.

Chapter four was finding and discussion. In this chapter, the researcher explained the data and the finding. There were three points that elaborated in this chapter, which were students' reading habit in English, students' vocabulary mastery and the correlation between reading habit and vocabulary mastery. In the last section, the researcher discussed the finding of the research.

Chapter five was conclusion. In this chapter, the researcher showed the conclusion of the entire chapter and recommendation from the teacher. The researcher showed the result which answers the research question and the researcher gave suggestion that related to the result for the students and teacher.