

## **Chapter One**

### **Introduction**

This chapter presents several points dealing with the main problem of this research. This chapter also talks about the reason why this research is conducted, and the scope of this research. Moreover, in this chapter identification of this research is also included to find the problem of this research. The purpose of the research is also mentioned in this chapter in order to answer the research questions. Then, the last part of this chapter is the significance of the research.

### **Background of the Research**

English is a very important language to our daily life because English is the main language to use in communication in most of the world. In English, there are four skills, which are reading, speaking, listening, and writing. Reading is one of the most important skills in mastering English because from there, we can get a lot of knowledge. Brown (2007) stated “reading ability will be developed best in association with writing, listening and speaking activities.”(p.357).The researcher agrees with Brown’s (2007) statement that reading skill will give a good effect towards other skills such as writing, speaking and listening. Nunan (2003) in Murad (2014) defined:

Reading is an essential skill for learners of English as a second language. For most of these learners, it is the most important skill to master in order to ensure success not only in learning English, but also in learning any content subjects in where reading is required. In short, with the strengthened reading skill, learners will make greater progress and development in all other areas of learning. (p.69)

Based on Brown (2007), in reading, there are two types of reading performance, such as extensive reading and intensive reading. There are two parts of intensive performance which are linguistics and content, while extensive is divided into three parts which are skimming, scanning, and global. However, this research will focus on skimming and scanning because Brown (1994) as cited in Hamad Bani and Bsharah (2014) suggested that “perhaps the two most valuable reading strategies for learners as well as native speakers are skimming and scanning” (p. 169). The statement showed that the most useful and helpful of reading strategies for learners or native speakers are skimming and scanning.

The research did a preliminary research interview with a teacher of SMP Muhammadiyah Kasihan, and the result revealed that students of SMP Muhammadiyah Kasihan who did reading practice for several times got several difficulties. The difficulties were limit of time to answer questions in reading test and lack of vocabulary so that they gave up continuing reading the rest of the passage and became lazy to read the whole passage. This problem usually appears in several test activities that include the reading comprehension. This activity will impact them in the future when they have English test of the National test, and affect their score too.

According to Nurhadi (2010), skimming is like sweeping every page to find any information from the books. It means that skimming is one of the reading skills to get

information in a quick way. According to Djuwarsih (2006, p. 464), “skimming is a skill of getting general idea of a text. It means that we need only short time to read the text.”The statement showed that skimming is a good way to use in reading comprehension when the time is very limited.

Buzan (2010) also mentioned that people usually use scanning in their daily life to find direction, place, and object and people. “People are so rare to use skimming. People use it in order to gain general overview of that material” (Brown, 2007, p.92). Moreover, “Scanning is reading skill in getting specific information from a text. When we want to know some specific information from the text, we should not read the whole passage carefully” (Djuwarsih, 2006, p.14).Basically, scanning is a reading skill that is used to find specific detail information in a quick way by finding keywords. The purpose of scanning is to search a specific answer in a high speed. Skimming and scanning are easy to do and appropriate for everyone when they only have limit of time to find information in a quick way.

The aim of this study is to find the effect of skimming and scanning to develop reading ability of students. The researcher thinks it is important to do the research because skimming and scanning are one of the fastest methods to find important and detail information in limited time. For example, when people do an exam or test, they can use the technique of skimming and scanning. In addition to the reason of the researcher to do this research, based on the results of the interview, the students of SMP Muhammadiyah Kasihan were lazy to read the whole passage of reading activities, they did not understand some of the vocabulary and it made them confused and stopped reading the next sentence of the passage. Thus, the researcher attempts to propose solution by giving the students information and exercises about skimming and scanning to

improve their reading comprehension. After that, the students can use that in their daily life especially in reading test.

### **Identification of the Research**

There are three points of identification problem in this research. Those problems are based on the interview with the teacher at SMP Muhammadiyah Kasihan. First, students were lack of time; it means that a lot of students of SMP Muhammadiyah Kasihan got difficulties in finishing the question in reading test because the limit of time they had.

Second, students were lack of vocabulary. The students of SMP Muhammadiyah Kasihan in grade 8 have few vocabularies because most of them do not apply the vocabularies in their daily life or in writing and speaking. Based on the researcher's experiences, a lot of students just waste their time thinking about the vocabulary that they do not understand and that make them in difficulties in finishing the task. Therefore, most of them just guess the answer rather than try to read the whole sentence and try to get the main point from a sentence.

Last, students are reluctant to read the whole text. This factor is another reason why most of the students get the wrong answer for the reading test. Most of the students are just not bother to read the whole passage and the students prefer to guess the answer or copy the answer from their friends.

### **Limitation of the Research**

This research focuses on the application of skimming and scanning technique in reading comprehension at SMP Muhammadiyah Kasihan grade 8. The reason why the researcher chose this SMP Muhammadiyah Kasihan grade 8 is because the students are very enthusiasm towards

studying English. Moreover, the students in grade 8 have learned skimming and scanning in depth. Therefore, the researcher just needs to give more input about skimming and scanning and a lot of support by saying a good thing to the students and help them if they do not understand about the questions or the text.

### **Research Question**

- 1) How effective are skimming and scanning techniques to improve the reading comprehension ability of students at SMP Muhammadiyah Kasihan?

### **The Purpose of the Research**

In line with the research question, the purposes of this study is to find out how effective skimming and scanning techniques are to improve the reading comprehension ability of students at SMP Muhammadiyah Kasihan.

### **Significance of Research**

There are three significant points of this study that provide valuable contribution there are to the students, the lecturers, and the future researchers:

**Students.** The findings of this research can help the students of SMP Muhammadiyah Kasihan to find detail information in reading text with limit of time. This research may also help the students to find out keyword.

**Lecturers.** This research contains the information about students' ability to skim and scan the reading text. The research findings may help the lecturers to find increase of students in reading text.

**Future researchers.** This research is expected to inspire the future researchers in conducting the next research dealing with skim and scan in reading text. The future researchers may use this research as a guide to conduct their own research or experiment concerning with skimming and scanning.