

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer presents a background of the research, the question and scope of the research, the research hypothesis, the objective hypothesis and significance of the research, the operational definition and systematization of the research.

### **A. Background of the Research**

Reading is one of the basic skills that must be developed as part of learning English. To develop English skills, students need to master the process of reading from word level to text level, including word choice, vocabulary, grammatical content, etc. Reading is an activity or cognitive process that seeks to find various information contained in writing, it is a complex activity that involves various factors that come from within and from outside factors which can be likened to a process of producing new knowledge, experiences, and attitudes. In addition, another challenge in teaching reading is cultural differences and the mother tongue used by students every day, so the reading products produced by students do not sound good in the proper English language culture. Several challenges also occur when the teacher has a large class when teaching, making it difficult for students to concentrate on learning and producing good reading skills.

Through reading comprehension, slowly you can understand it properly and rewrite the article according to your understanding. Reading

depends on the product of two components, they are word reading and language comprehension. This means that if one of the components is zero, overall reading ability is zero. Thus, if a learner cannot read any words or if a learner does not have any language comprehension skills, s/he cannot read (Oakhill, 2015, p. 3). This ability is very suitable for people who work as content writers or editors to edit other people's writings. Reporting from Indeed.com, here are some of the benefits that you can get if you master this skill: being able to understand, analyze, and respond to documents and written communications, communication in the workplace, improving writing skills so that they are clear and effective, can improve focus reading for a long time, good reading comprehension can make you look professional.

Nowadays, people can enjoy reading via the internet. The emergence of the internet can connect people from various parts of the world who did not know each other before by connecting computers to the internet network. Most of the world's people now use the internet, it can even be said that almost everyone, especially in urban areas, has had internet access. Over time the internet is growing very rapidly. Previously, internet access could only be enjoyed by certain people and its functions were limited, now everyone can use it without exception with access to much broader information and more diverse functions. Many people are very dependent on the internet in their daily lives, ranging from using social media for

entertainment or business, reading interesting articles on websites, to chat activities with closest friends.

Social media is a group of internet-based applications that are built on the ideological and technological foundations of Web 2.0 and allow the creation and exchange of user-generated content. An online medium, with its users being able to easily participate, share, and create content including blogs, social networks, wikis, forums and virtual worlds. Blogs, social networks and wikis are the most common form of social media used by communities around the world (Kaplan and Haenlein, 2010, p. 60). Nowadays many people benefit from using social media. There are so many benefits of media social activities, including socializing, channeling hobbies, seeking information, and much more, including channeling creativity. Currently, many people are using social media, especially teenagers. Teenagers in Indonesia often use social media to channel their hobbies, such as story writing, listening to music, or reading. There are so many social media that can be used to channel the hobby of reading. On social media people can freely read, such as blogs, Facebook, Line, Wattpad, and much more.

Wattpad is the result of a collaboration between Lau and Ivan Yuen based in Toronto, Canada and was officially launched in 2006. In its development slowly but surely, Wattpad began to spread to several countries including America, England, Australia, Philippines, Russia, Libya, Jamaica, United Arab Emirates and several other countries around

the world (Putri, 2019, p. 60). Wattpad administrators claim that in 2016 there were 45 million people per month accessing Wattpad, 16 billion minutes of time users spend accessing Wattpad. Wattpad is also claimed to have more than 300 million stories with 90% of Wattpad activity accessed via mobile and supports more than 50 languages. Wattpad can also be accessed online and offline.

When accessing Wattpad, readers are free to choose what type of reading they want to read because a search engine provides various genres. One of the most literary works on the Wattpad is a short story. In the Wattpad, the more readers like a short story, the more votes and comments the short story gets. The more votes and comments, the higher the rating of the short story writer. The advantage of a work being liked by readers is that it opens the possibility of the work being glimpsed by publishers so that the work will be printed and published. Apart from being published, interesting works were even filmed. Examples of Indonesian writers' Wattpad literary works which have achieved great success because they have been published and even made into films are *Dear Nathan*, *A: Me, Hate, and Love*, *Revan* and *Reina*, *The Perfect Husband*, *Assalamualaikum Candidate Imam*, *Serendipity*, and many other works.

Wattpad is a platform for aspiring and experienced writers, it allows them to publish their work, get feedback, and connect with other writers and readers. Wattpad is a blogging site and application that provides facilities for its users to write and read on online sites intended for users who like to

write, whether it is writing articles, short stories, serial stories or poetry. The use of a Wattpad as a learning medium to increase interest in reading can help increase student motivation. The Wattpad can be a place for someone to read according to their individual tastes. In addition, for users who like writing activities, Wattpad can be the best choice because this application provides writing fiction and nonfiction of various genres or types.

In this day and age, teachers are required not to be technology stutters, meaning that teachers must be able to conduct learning in the classroom by utilizing existing technology. Wattpad was chosen as the learning media that will be presented in this paper because Wattpad can be used for learning in class, this application can also be used as entertainment for students so that learning in class is not monotonous and not boring. This can give a distinct impression to students because students get learning and entertainment simultaneously in the classroom and can make it easier for students to understand learning. In addition, students are also familiar with this application, so the use of this learning media is quite easy to apply.

Related to the use of Wattpad, the writer examined Wattpad from readers' perceptions. According to Demuth (2013, p. 23), perception is the fact that the content and quality of sensory input play a determinative role in influencing the final percept. Sensory input, in their view, represents the cornerstone of cognition and by its own nature it determines further sensory data processing. Perception is called the ecological one because it attributes the determinative role to the environment and to its influence on the whole

process of perception. Therefore, the problem discussed in this paper is the student's perception towards the use of Wattpad in reading comprehension at fourth-semester students.

## **B. Questions and Scope of the Research**

In the section, the writer explained the question and scope of the research:

### **1. Question of the Research**

Based on the background, the writer in this study wanted to analyze the student's perception towards the use of Wattpad in reading comprehension. From the following statement above the research question is:

- a. What is the student's perception towards the use of Wattpad in reading comprehension for fourth students in STBA JIA?
- b. What is the impact of using Wattpad on the student's perception in reading comprehension for fourth students in STBA JIA?

### **2. Scopes of the Research**

Related to reading ability, there is reading comprehension. In the teaching and learning process, teachers need teaching media. There are many kinds of teaching media, including applications. The media studied in this research is the application, namely Wattpad. With the application, students can read many stories from Wattpad, the writer focused on students' perceptions of using Wattpad to improve their reading comprehension..

## **C. Objective and Significance of the Research**

In this section, the writer explain about objective and significance of the research as follows:

### **1. Objective of the Research**

The aims of this research are focused on the following statement:

- a. To know the student's perception towards the use of Wattpad in reading comprehension for fourth students in STBA JIA.
- b. To know the impact of using Wattpad on the student's perception in reading comprehension for fourth students in STBA JIA.

### **2. Significance of the Research**

The writer hopes this research can contribute theoretically and practically as follows:

- a. Theoretically

It is expected to inform students' perceptions about using Wattpad in reading comprehension for teachers and future researchers.

- b. Practically

It is expected that Wattpad can be used as an option of learning mediadia for students in reading comprehension.

#### **D. Operational Definition**

In this section, the writer explained the operational definition about :

1. Reading

Reading is an ability that a person has to identify symbols of language, pronounce them well and understand what they read.

2. Wattpad

Wattpad is an application platform and online community site for writers and readers.

3. Perception

It is a sensory impression as the result of organizing and interpreting processes in order to give meaning to their environment.

#### **E. Systematization of the Research**

The system of research means presenting this paper in a well-organized composition. The writer consists of five chapters as follows:

Chapter 1 Introduction, explains the background of the research where the writer stated reasons for conducting research. Meanwhile, the scope of the problem mentioned about the limitations of the problems carried out, the question of the research described something that the writer wants to know. Other than that, this chapter states the objectives of the research that goals to be achieved through research and the significance of the research that focused on function of the research. Last, the operational definition explains about a concept or theory that can be measured or



observed, followed by the systematics of the research that describes the things done in the research.

Chapter II Theoretical description explains the description about the reading covering definition, types, and issues related to reading. Next, point is Wattpad covering its definition, features, and use. Further, this chapter explains the perception covering definition, types, and factors along with research of relevance.

Chapter III contains the methodology of research that involves systematically the time and place of the research. Next points are population and sample that points out the details of participants and method of the research that explain about the definition of method implemented in this research. In addition, this chapter mentions instruments and variables of the research, and technique of the data analysis.

Chapter IV Data analysis presents how the data is calculated in data description. This chapter also mentions data interpretation where the writer describes the data from numbers into words.

Chapter V is the final chapter of the research. It consists of a conclusion that gives a summary based on the research. Moreover, it provides some suggestions which relate to the research.