

Chapter I

Introduction

The general information of the study is going to be discussed in this chapter. They are background, research question, research objective, research hypothesis, the scope of study, the significances of study. They are explained as follows :

Background

Reading skill is one of language skills needed to learn English language. To comprehend reading skill, we can read anything such as reading books, magazines, newspaper in order to get information. From reading activity, we can get knowledge and it provides access to information due to the fact. It is important to learn reading because people who can read well would be able to increase knowledge, and it is regarded as a good reader.

Reading is one way to search information that needed. Therefore, a reader needs some skills to support reading process. They are skimming and scanning. Grabe and Stoller (2002, p.13) stated that reading to search simple information is a common reading ability, and scan and skim the text is a process that can be used to find a specific piece of information or specific word. Thus, both skills will help the reader while reading and to comprehend the text. Besides, a good reader must has a technique that can be used while reading process namely speed reading technique. It can help the reader to find the information quickly.

Relate to reading skill, in University State of Gorontalo, Faculty of Letters and Culture, specially English Department, reading skill has been programmed in curriculum. It consists of Reading I, Reading II, Reading III, and Extensive Reading. Based on the researcher experience as a student and the result of observation in classroom, the lecturer taught some theories of reading, and given practices of analysis text.

To master reading comprehension, the students learn some materials such as skimming and scanning skill, previewing and predicting, vocabulary in context, how to find and understanding main ideas, topic sentence, paragraph, guess meaning from context, implicit and explicit meaning, inference , and speed reading. It also strengthened by syllabus (Reading II) that the competency expected from this subject, the students are expected to be able to develop of the skills of scanning and skimming, previewing and predicting, mastering vocabularies in context, topics of paragraphs, main idea, patterns of organization, making inferences and speed reading technique.

The researcher also do observation by asking to one of lecturer who taught reading skill, she added that the researcher can observe the students' reading comprehension by their reading speed as long as it limited on the students who already passed Reading I and Reading II, because speed reading technique is included in reading II. Thus, the researcher should take the students in Reading III to be the sample of research.

Refer to the explanation above, speed reading becomes a good technique for comprehending the text. It is because speed reading is a technique that need eyes and brain to work together in time, and try to more focused on the text by see the word in a text such as a group. In speed reading, a reader do not have to read all the letter. By using eyes and brain, it should be increase the comprehension of the reader.

Speed reading is designed by Evelin Wood in 1958. It is a technique that is very important to learn in order to know the important information quickly. According to Daiek and Anter (2004, p.116) "speed reading consist of visually grouping words together, reading them in chunks instead of separately." Therefore, speed reading help the students to read and understand the text quickly and can save the time.

Relate to the students way to comprehend reading text, the researcher has opinion that it is important to do a research about students' reading speed and reading comprehension. It is supported by Grabe and Stoller (2002, p.183) who states that "vocabulary, reading fluency and reading rate are central to skill reading."

Considering the explanation above, the researcher would like to do a research which is formulated with the title : **"The correlation between students' reading speed and students' reading comprehension."**

Research Question

Is there any correlation between students' reading speed and students' reading comprehension ?

Research Objective

The objective of research is to find out the correlation between students' reading speed and students' reading comprehension significantly.

The Scope of Study

The scope of study refers to speed reading and reading comprehension. The indicators of speed reading which are assessed to students consist of reading time and words per minute. Meanwhile, reading comprehension refers to some indicators : vocabulary of context, organization of text, main idea, implicit meaning, and explicit meaning of text. And tests becomes the instrument to assess speed reading and reading comprehension.

The Significances of Study

There are some significances of this study. First, this research is expected to help the students to understand reading text by using speed reading. Second, this research is expected to contribute the knowledge and skill of speed reading for lecturer n increasing students'

comprehension for learning English process. And the last, this research is expected to give a good contribution in improving the quality of learning English subject.