

## **Chapter I**

### **Introduction**

#### **I. Background of study**

Reading is the most important asset in the learning process because it is an essential skill for students of a foreign language. Reading is an activity in which someone doing to get information. Anderson et al (cited in Richard, 1985 p.3) explained that reading is the process of constructing meaning from written texts. It is a complex skill requiring the coordination of a number of interrelated sources of information. Thus, reading is item in the process of learning.

Teaching reading is the important thing in teaching-learning process of language study. It has aims to help students for add knowledge and get information in reading. In teaching reading students not only reading but also understand the text, analyze and interpret what they read. So, it can help students to know the meanings of each word, sentence, or paragraph in a passage.

Based on the observation I got in SMA Negeri 4 Gorontalo, especially at second grade, there are some of students have problems in reading. Their problems are less of mastery vocabulary and lack of understanding the grammatical. In this case, students who lack in reading can affect their reading process.

Furthermore, to make students easier in the process of reading they can use strategy. Reading journal is a great strategy it can be used to keep track of what they read. It works as a dated log or reading diary. Besides that, reading journal is as a strategy to develop students' reading ability. By reading journal the students

can record their reactions to what are they read, keeps track of students reading and gives more memorable literary experience. This is supported by Zimmerman (cited in Nurul 2013, p.1) he explained that Reading journal allow the students to “remember to hold on to their thinking” about what they are reading. By using reading journal the students can see how far the students understand about the text when they are reading.

Besides that, there are some way to keep reading journal such as write down their thoughts, write the title, author and lines/quotes after reading, and after read the reading text students should be summarize or review of the reading. So, it can easy for students to develop reading ability in articulate their response, to confirm their response, to develop ideas about what they have read, to prepare for class discussion, to practice for writing essays, and to have a record of their reading.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher chooses the topic of this research with the title " The use of Reading journal as strategy to develop students reading ability ".

### **Research question**

Based on the background of the research, the researcher get research question as follows:

1. How is the implementation of reading journal in teaching reading?
2. How the reading journal can help the students to develop reading ability?

## **Objective of research**

Based on the research question, the objective of research as follow:

To prove the use of reading journal as a strategy can help the students to develop their reading ability

## **Significance of research**

Significance of this research are:

### 1. Teacher

The teachers can know the extent to which the skills and knowledge of each student in learning reading and teacher can use reading journals as strategies in teaching reading.

### 2. Students

The use of reading journal can add much knowledge, add insight in thinking, and develop ideas about what they have read.

### 3. Researcher

The researcher can use reading journal in other skill such as writing skill.

## **Scope of study**

This study only focuses on reading journal as a strategy to develop students' reading ability. By using reading journal as a strategy students can successful in reading.