

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

I.1 The Background of Study

Reading is one of the four abilities that pupils must acquire when learning a language. Reading is the process of identifying and deciphering information from written texts. It requires a number of abilities, including the capacity to comprehend word meanings and make connections between new and prior knowledge. Duran (2013) asserts that, similar to cause and effect, reading and reading comprehension are related. This conveys the idea that reading should be done in order to fully comprehend the information that is presented in the text. One of the abilities that children need is reading since it allows them to learn new things. Reading offers opportunities to learn vocabulary, grammar, punctuation, and sentence, paragraph, and text construction, according to Harmer (2001). Thus, the ability to read well can help develop a variety of other talents. According to Grab (2009), reading is the primary method for comprehending a reading content. The reader learns a great deal of information and comprehension by reading.

Reading is an activity that needs to be done by all individuals, especially in the current era of globalization. Reading has the potential to improve a person's abilities, especially in understanding various concepts. Apart from that, reading also plays a role in developing critical thinking. Reading activities have a very important role because knowledge can be obtained through the reading process.

The North Sumatra State Museum, which draws attention to historical artifacts kept and conserved in this museum, is the reading material the researcher used for this study. The museum preserves cultural heritage collections, including the original cultural artifacts from the ethnic groups of North Sumatra and artifacts from the Dutch colonial era. It is regarded as a repository of history and unique goods. Because of this, visitors from abroad, in particular, like coming to this museum. As a result, the researcher chose the North Sumatra State Museum as the subject of this research proposal because a large portion of the Indonesian population is still ignorant about the museum's purpose, location, and contents. One type of cultural institution is the North Sumatra State Museum. This museum has a crucial role in preserving the cultural and historical heritage of the area. However, even though it has great potential as a source of knowledge, the North Sumatra State Museum is often not utilized optimally in

increasing reading interest and knowledge of the general public, especially students and researchers.

In the current information era, where technology and digital media dominate, traditional libraries and printed literature are increasingly being abandoned. Therefore, it is important to find innovative ways to connect the North Sumatra State Museum with the younger generation and wider society. One solution is to design museum-based reading materials, which combine the richness of museum collections with interesting and relevant literature.

Museum reading-based materials can be an effective tool in promoting the history, art and culture of North Sumatra to the public. Through this approach, the researchers can encourage interest in reading, increase understanding of regional history and culture, and motivate visitors to participate more in knowledge exploration. In the context of educational innovation, museum-based reading materials can also be a valuable learning tool for schools and other educational institutions.

Therefore, this research will focus on designing reading materials based on the North Sumatra State Museum. The goal is to create an engaging, informative, and accessible literary resource that will benefit the wider community, including students, researchers, and museum visitors themselves. Creative and effective steps in designing museum-based reading materials can be a relevant and sustainable solution in strengthening the role of museums as centers of education and knowledge.

Descriptive text is a type of text that describes or explains in detail an object, place, event, person or concept so that readers can clearly visualize the content being explained. The main purpose of descriptive text is to provide detailed information about a particular topic and allow readers to imagine or understand the topic without having to see it directly. The reading material that the researcher produces is descriptive in character, outlining the museum's core ideals as well as the background to the North Sumatra State Museum's founding. A descriptive text, according to Mahsun (2014: 28), is a text that describes a specific thing or item based only on its physical attributes. Another type of writing that describes or illustrates what the author will write is called a descriptive text. Scholars produce engaging and valuable reading materials to increase public awareness of the North Sumatra State Museum. Scholars produce engaging and valuable reading materials to increase public awareness of the North Sumatra State Museum. There are several previous studies taken by the authors:

The first study, Krismanto (2021), is titled "Problems of reading culture in Indonesia (Library study of problems & their solutions)." The authors have conducted several other studies. Reading comprehension is one of the things that students need to know and is equally important, according to both their research and the researchers'. There are still a lot of contributing factors to the relatively low reading proficiency of students. Their focus on students identifying the reasons behind low student learning and offering strategies to enhance their skills distinguishes our research from theirs, which focuses on giving the public reading materials to encourage them to add to their collection and develop a curiosity about reading.

The second, titled "Crisis in the ability to read fluently in Indonesian children during the Covid-19 pandemic," is Chandra (2021). Their research and the researchers' findings are similar in that reading abilities are crucial and help children become accustomed to reading at a young age. Additionally, the ability to read fluently while using care to employ pauses, intonation, and expressions in reading distinguishes their research from ours. Their ability to read fluently and their journals during the COVID 19 period is demonstrated by their attention to these details and their comprehension of the use of phrases and punctuation in sentences.

The third, titled "Teachers strategies in teaching reading comprehension," is Nurdianingsih (2020). Both of their studies and the researchers' use of interviewing tools and encouraging students to read more to understand more are commonalities. Their journal employs two teachers, and at different points during the study process, the first teacher reads aloud, uses brainstorming, and also requests more detailed information about the reading. This is how their research differs from ours. The second teacher employed a variety of techniques, including going through the dictionary, reading aloud, rereading, assessing particular assignments, and posing more focused queries. Afterwards, they combined their three stages of strategy pre-reading, while reading, and post-reading.

I.2 The Problem of Study

Regarding the aforementioned research, the author penned two inquiries:

1. What is the State Museum of North Sumatra?
2. How the North Sumatra State Museum can be used as reading material

I.3 The Objectivitas of Study

This research answers the following two questions:

1. To learn the definition of North Sumatra State Museum
2. To ascertain how to convert North Sumatra State Museum into a reading resource.

I.4 The Scope of Study(belum)

The researcher hopes that by carrying out this research, readers can extract historical values from reading materials written descriptively by studying the North Sumatra State History Museum.

I.5 The Significances of Study

Research generally yields benefits in the form of reference material that serves as the foundation for further scientific development.

These studies' advantages are:

- a. In theory: as reading material that can offer in-depth understanding of the region's history, culture, and heritage. A deeper comprehension of museum collections, their provenance, and their significance in relation to history and people's lives can be gained from this research.
- b. Practically: By offering scholars, researchers, academics, and the general public a useful source of information. The study's findings can serve as a guide for future research and education.