

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

According to Hendry Tarigan (in Sitompul, H.S, 2021: 2-3) reading is an important skill for humans to possess. Because reading a person can read information from a text that is either open or electronic. Reading is a process by which the reader receives messages that the writer conveys by words or written language. Furthermore, Anderson (1972: 211) states that reading is a process of grasping the meaning of the written word, of seeing the mind contained in the words written. Besides that, Hodgson (1960: 43-44) states that reading is a process of obtaining information transmitted by writers through the medium of words or written language. Lado (1976: 132) states that reading is understanding the language patterns of its written word.

Koch & Spo (2017) reading skills are also required for a person to learn from texts and are essential for lifelong learning. Harrison & Salinger (2002) Reading is a complex activity in which accomplished readers operate at multiple levels at the same time. They are decoding and establishing meaning while responding to what they read, selecting specific aspects to consider, and evaluating effects. At the lower levels, the emphasis is on accurate and fluent reading as well as reading with comprehension. Response to texts is included at all levels but becomes more prominent later, as are information retrieval strategies. The sense of a text as an artifact and its critical evaluation of it distinguishes upper-level students' responses. All of the following aspects are mentioned with varying emphasis throughout the levels: a) using various strategies, reading accurately and fluently; b) establishing meaning and demonstrating comprehension; c) making use of inference and deduction; d) locating and utilizing key aspects, ideas, and information; e) recognizing and analyzing character, language, theme, and structure; f) responding to what was read, expressing preferences, and making critical judgments; g) using texts to explain and support points a needed.

According to Richards and Schmidt (2002) reading skill as the abilities needed to be skilled at reading, such as understanding the main idea, understand sequences, notice specific details, draw conclusions, make comparisons and make predictions in second and foreign language teaching, especially with adults. These skills are sometimes taught separately.

Based on observation and interview with one of the English teachers at SMP Budi Sukamaju, the students' reading comprehension rate for text reading was still low. This is

because of the lack of motivation for reading, the ability to read underlearners, the minimum vocabulary of learners and monotonous reading materials.

In order to develop students' interest in reading, the researcher then propose a new reading materials. Researchers propose a local based culture to design a new reading text. The local culture chosen is from Danau Linting. Danau linting is a volcanic lake with a size of about 1 hectare and it containing of sulfur so that the water has greenish hue. Danau Linting is administratively located at three villages, which is Sibunga-bunga Village, Gunung Manumpak Village, and Durian IV Mbelang Village, Sinembah Tanjung Muda Hulu sub-district, Deli Serdang regency. The method of stimulating students to be motivated to read must be varied in order for students to view reading as a delight, so the researcher decided to do a study entitled "The Design Reading Material based on Danau Linting Folklore to Increase Reading Interest of Students" that is to produce new material for students.

1.2 Problem of Study

1. What is Danau Linting?
2. How to transform the story of "Danau Linting" into a reading material?

1.3 Objectives of Study

The objectives of this research are as follows :

1. To find out the Danau Linting
2. To find out the story of Danau Linting into a reading material

1.4 Scope of Study

Based on the background and identification of the problems above, this research is only limited to reading material based on folklore.

1.5 Significances of Study

The benefits of this research are:

1. For development and deepening of the folktales of Danau Linting
2. To add knowledge and insight about Danau Linting folklore for readers
3. As a comparison material for other researchers in the same research object from different locations

