

CHAPTER I

Introduction

1.1. Background of the study

Reading is one of four language skills which are basic skills that are important for learning. Reading is a language skill that aims to understand ideas, notions and feelings (Pujiono, 2012). The ideas that exist in the reading process, a person will experience a thinking process to understand ideas and ideas broadly. Reading is an interactive process, a process in which the reader engages in an exchange of ideas with an author via the text (Burns and Page, 1991:45). According to Burnes (1991:45) states that reading is to comprehend written discourse. Reader engages in an exchange of ideas with an author via the text in an interactive process. It is the processes which transfer meaning from writer to readers that when we call as message. The transfer process will run well if reader can catch the writer's message. Message itself can form as writer's ideas, opinions, knowledge, facts, feeling.

Grabe (2009) state that the purpose of reading are to search for information, for quick understanding, to learn, to integrate information, to evaluate, critique, and use information, for general comprehension. From this opinion we can conclude that the purpose of reading is to gain new knowledge or information about a topic, learn new concepts or improve understanding, improve language skills, analyze and channel information, and to form opinions and arguments based on in-depth understanding.

Reading is one of the main ways to gain new information and knowledge on various topics, which can be used in everyday. According to Ramelan (1990:1) reading is a good activity for learners, reading is also something crucial and indispensable since success of their study depends for the greater part on their ability to read. Reading plays very important parts in our life. Reading can provide access to a variety of information and knowledge about various topics, ranging from history, science,

technology, culture, to the latest developments in various fields, helping us learn to analyze, evaluate and formulate arguments based on the information we obtain.

Research shows that students with poor reading skills tend to have difficulty achieving adequate educational achievement. Poor reading skills are indeed a threat to achievement in their education. Students' ability to read is an important factor in their educational success. However, many students struggle with reading, often due to a lack of appropriate reading materials. This lack of reading materials can have a significant impact on students' reading ability and comprehension, which in turn affects their academic performance. The scarcity of books and the absence of functional libraries further hinder students' reading habits (Arafat, 2017; Ogunrombi, 1995). In Indonesia, the low reading ability is attributed to the absence of a reading culture, misperceptions about reading, and inadequate teaching methods (Tahmidaten, 2020). These studies collectively underscore the critical need for accessible and diverse reading materials to improve students' reading abilities. A lack of reading material has been identified as a key factor in the low reading ability of students. Zakiah (2024) and Ogunrombi (1995) both highlight the role of inadequate libraries and uninteresting books in this issue. Tahmidaten (2020) further emphasizes the need for diverse and suitable reading materials, as well as the importance of building a reading culture. Fatmawaty (2024) suggests that incorporating local wisdom-based material can positively impact students' reading ability. These studies collectively underscore the critical role of reading material in shaping students' reading ability.

Therefore, it is important to create interesting new reading material to help improve students' reading skills. Creating new reading material can introduce students to topics and areas of knowledge that may be new to them, making the new reading much more interesting and stimulating, and making students curious about the content of the text. Broad background knowledge helps students to understand the context of more complex

material: the world is constantly evolving and new information appears every day. New reading materials ensure that students receive the latest information that is relevant to current developments. In this study, researchers created new reading materials with a descriptive text type. Descriptive text is a type of text that aims to provide a detailed description of an object, place, person, or event. The main purpose of descriptive text is to enable readers to imagine and feel what is being described through the use of rich and detailed language. By using descriptive text, writers can give readers a more vivid and immersive experience, allowing them to feel and imagine the objects being described as if they were seeing them directly.

1.2. The Problem of Study

The research questions as follows:

1. What is Pos Bloc building?
2. How to transform Pos Bloc becomes a descriptive text for reading material ?

1.3. The Objectives of Study

The objectives of the research are formulated as follows:

1. To know about the building of Pos Bloc.
2. To transform Pos Bloc becomes reading text.

1.4. The Scope of the Study

This research explores how reading material can be designed to achieve predetermined learning objectives, such as developing reading skills or understanding texts through informative descriptive texts. The development of this research involves compiling information that is accurate, relevant, and interesting to readers. This may involve in-depth investigation, data collection, or consultation with subject matter experts.

1.5. The Significances of the Study

1. Theoretically

The theoretical benefit is that readers can gain knowledge through new reading material.

2. Practically

a. For Students

The research finding will expand their knowledge of the topic being studied. New reading material can be an inspiration for writing. Students can use the ideas they gain from the reading as a basis for writing essays, reports, or other creative work. This helps in the development of their writing skills. through new reading helps students expand their vocabulary in English and improve their mastery of the language. This can help them in verbal and written communication.

b. For Teachers

The research will provide new reading material to support teacher teaching, especially in teaching reading comprehension.

c. For other researchers

To support other related research as needed in order to enrich certain understandings.