**CHAPTER I**

**INTRODUCTION**

* 1. **The Background of the Problem**

Reading function as window of the world. It means that reading can add more reader’s knowledge through reading. The materials to read are not only books, newspaper, and other printed materials, but also non printed materials like nature surrounding the readers, like buildings, scenic mountains and panorama. Reading is the skill should be mastered in learning english as foreign language. Kinds of text books and materials are written in english. It needs comprehension in reading the text to get better in catch the idea and information. According to Weaver (2009:10) reading is a process to determine, what the reader’s brain, emotions and beliefs bring to the reading. It means that reading is the reader’s way in interpreting the printed word.

However, teaching reading comprehension is not an easy job for the teacher. The teachers need improve their teaching method or strategy in order to help the students get the point in reading the text. In learning English, each student must master the four language skills. Reading is a skill that must be mastered by everyone. By reading a lot of information can be obtained. Brown (2004:185) explains that reading inarguably the most essential skill for success in all educational context, remain a skill of paramount importance as we create assessments of general language ability.

Reading is only incidentally visual, the reader contributes more information by the print on the page. The role of reading is to find out information, monitor comprehension, modifies prediction, compare new idea with prior knowledge, with holds judgment, question self about the meaning, connect the organizes idea, and summarizes text segments. Reading is not a passive process in which readers take something out of the next without any effort to merely recognize what is in the text. It can be concluded that reading is one of important activities to get information.

Reading comprehension is the ability to fully understand what has been read. In comprehending the text the readers should be able to manage every part of the text, because it is easy to gain the comprehension in reading when the readers are able to recognize the text. Effective reading clearly identifies the purpose of reading. By doing so, the readers will get the right information as what they are searching. Based on the writer experience in teaching private class, the writer found that most of the students’ problem is reading comprehension.

They only read by reading the text from beginning to the end. But, when they found some difficulties, they stopped to read and began to look for word meaning in the dictionary. They do work per word translation. It is difficult for them to comprehend the text or to find out the information of the text. This fact showed that many students failed to comprehend reading text. Because of these conditions, the writer would like to conduct the research with Direct Method to improve the students’ reading at grade X of SMAS Satria Dharma because this strategy is simply to use and easy to be followed by all students.

* 1. **Identification of the Problem**

The problem of research is identified as being related to the following aspects:

1. The students do not know the meaning of word in reading text.
2. The students have lack interest to read the text in English.
3. The students have low reading comprehension

**1.3 Limitation of the Problem**

Limitation in this problem is to improve of students’ at SMAS Satria Dharma in reading comprehension by using direct method. There are some kinds of reading texts as narrative, descriptive, recount, etc. In this research, it is limited on narrative text.

**1.4 Formulation of the Problem**

The problem is formulated as : Is there any significant improvement of students’ reading ability through direct method at SMAS Satria Dharma?

**1.5 Objectives of the Research**

The objective of research is to investigate the improvement of students’ reading ability through direct method at SMAS Satria Dharma.

* 1. **Significance of the Research**

The findings of this research are expected to be useful for :

**1.6.1 Teachers**

Hopefully, the research will be beneficial in the area teaching reading.

* + 1. **Students**

Hopefully, the technique of the research can improve the students reading comprehension.

* + 1. **Next researchers**

This research also gives benefits for other writers who are interested in conducting the research in reading from others perspectives.