**CHAPTER I**

**INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 Background of the Problem**

Reading is an important skill. Goodman in Burt, Peyton, and Adam (2003: 33) stated that it is important to learn reading since it (1) helps people learn to think new language, (2) helps people build better vocabulary, (3) helps people more comportable with written English, (4) can help people plan to study in an English, speaking country. Student who master reading skills well will easy extract meaning from English text because they have better vocabulary in contexts. Moreover Harmer (1998: 63) stated that reading gives many exposures to students’ language acquisition. This is mainly influenced by socio-cultural value in which Indonesia has “speech habit” not “reading habit”. In order to bring the students having a reading habit, basically, formal environments have great efforts to encourage students’ motivation, intrinsically and extrinsically, especially, for reading English texts.

Reading is one of the most important skills in language learning. in reading the students’ are expected to be knowledgeable and familiar with what the teacher has explained in the context, where as in comprehension the students’ are expected to have more skill than to explain individual text or passage after comprehending them. The purpose of reading comprehension is to get some skill in understanding the text. Reading comprehension involves the students’ ability to find some information in reading text.

Reading is assumed as an activity increasing the knowledge. Reading develops the minds. It means that reading is very important. For the students’ interest reading, they can develop in their mind. In other word, reading is the window of world.

The reading skill becomes very important in the field of education, students’ need to be exercised and trained in order to have a good reading skill. Therefore, reading is the most important language skill for the student who study hard. By reading, the knowledge of the student will gradual be increased, beside developing their ability in other language skills

Students’ will develop their reading in order to get the content within the reading materials. In spite the importance of reading, many student still have a lot of problem in comprehending an English text. The ability of the student in comprehending English text is affected by many factors. Some of them are students’ knowledge, technique which is used in teaching reading, and students’ motivation in reading text.

Reading must be developed. It is necessary to read many reading materials. Students’ should not only develop their reading skill through formal education and assignment in various school textbook, but they also should read article in newspaper or magazines. Reading a lot makes learners get easier to understand and comprehend tests of reading and they have good result in outcome.

Reading is also something crucial and indispensable for the students because the success of their study depends on the greater part of their ability to read. If their reading skill is poor they are very likely to be fail in their study or at least they will have difficulty in making progress. On the other hand, if they have a good ability in reading, they will have a better chance to be succeed in their study.

As a matter of fact, there are many factors that influence the students’ ability in reading. One of the factors that influence the student’ abilities is the strategies used by the teachers in the teaching and learning processes in the class. As English teachers, they should use the appropriate strategies in teaching the reading.

There are many student who have low skill in reading, they didn’t master vocabulary and structure of the text, even they were not interested in reading, they fell bored and lazy to read some kinds of the text especially the long text. Consequently, they didn’t know about how to get the content of the text about, they were difficult to understand the text and answer the questions relate with the text.

Based one the reason above, it’s impossible for the students to get good understanding. Of the text if they didn’t have interest in reading, while the reading material cant stimulate them to enjoy the content.

Therefore, it needs to give solution to make the student are interested in reading actually, in the teaching reading, teacher should introduce the unique stories as an alternative way to give variation to the student in teaching and learning process. There are many stories that students can read to improve their understanding skill of the text, one of them is short stories.

It is know that there are various strategies that can be applied in teaching reading, such as: teaching by picture, discussion, and practicing of problem solving, used of short stories. However, in this research the writer is interested in finding out the result of teaching reading by using short stories as a media to teach the students’ ability in reading skill.

##### 1.2 Identification of Problem

Based on the background above, the writer will identify the problem focused on the students’ who have learned English for along time but most of them are having difficulties to master it. One of the students’ difficulties skill on reading. It is still found that the student have difficulties how to read well, and how to grasp the language patterns from the written representation. The problem is how reading short stories can influence the reading skill of the students.

##### 1.3 Limitation of the Problem

##### There structure of a short stories should also be received. An effective short stories scenes are usually arranged chronologically and show significant even ts in the life of the main character ( or characters ) during a few days or less.

##### There is a lot of strategies and methods that are used in teaching reading by teachers. In this research, the writer focused her research on the use of reading short stories on teaching the students’ reading skill of the second year students’ of SMA Negeri 1 panai hilir.

##### Formulation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problems above, it is formulated as follow how is the significant influence of using contextual teaching learning for teaching reading skill?

### **1.5 Objectives of the Research**

### The objectives of the study :

1. To know is the influence of using contextual teaching learning to improve reading skill.

### **1.6 Significance of the Research**

The findings of this research are significant for the following respects :

1. For teachers, that is by using short stories can be variation in teaching reading.
2. For students’ by using short stories can be an interesting material to read, in order to be easy to get the useful information.
3. For readers, by using short stories in teaching reading, it can be recommended media to improve reading.

# **1.7 Hyopothesis**

Hypothesis is determined as a tentative answer to research problem until the data gained can be proved ( Arikunto, 2010: 43 ). Based on the quotation, the writer purpose the hypothesis in the research as follows:

Ha = there is significant effect of using short stories for reading skill