

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Research Background

Reading is one of the basic learning for students (Abdellah, 2010). Students will be taught to read books first in class. Reading is one of the important aspects in learning English that must be mastered by all students at school (Kamaria, 2018). Having good English reading skills can help students to expand their knowledge. Students can get a lot of information through the reading texts they read. When students start to read a text, students can find words or information that are new to them. According to Sari et al., (2018) Reading comprehension is a person's ability to read, understand, and interpret words that have been written in a text or other reading material. So that it can be interpreted that reading are the ability of a reader to read the words of a reading material smoothly and without halting. According to Pourhosein Gilakjani & Sabouri (2016) Comprehension is the process by which the reader get generate meaning through interaction with a text and engagement with written language. Then, Pourhosein Gilakjani & Sabouri (2016) also state that, Reading comprehension is the process where the reader makes meaning from a text that has been read. Through this reading comprehension, the reader can find the important points of a reading. When readers find the important points of

the text they have read, they will start to make meaning from the content of the text. So that, having reading comprehension is very useful for readers to understand the contents of the text or reading that has been read.

However, there are still very few people who have an interest in reading books. According to Pambudi (2020) that the literacy level of students is low. Students can not understand the contents of the text properly. Here, the students are more interested in looking at smartphones than reading books to find information. That is because on their TV or smart phone there are pictures that are not boring. Unlike the case with books or other readings where only words are written. According to Donal (2015) we have to choose our favorite theme book, if we want to improve reading comprehension. Lack of interest in reading often occurs to students at school. Usually, students more often read with readings that contain an image.

This is proven by the findings found by researchers while conducting preliminary observations at SMA N 1 Selemadeg. From these findings, it can be seen that students' reading comprehension is still lacking. The lack of students' reading interest is because the books used to teach are less attractive to students (Donal, 2015). To teach students, the teacher usually used books provides by the school where most of the books only contain teks which is make the studnets lazy to read. So, it is need to find the tehniques to make students more interes to read.

There are several techniques to give students to learn reading comprehension. Some of these techniques are in the form of interesting media for students such as picture series, comic, magazines, etc. For example, a researcher named Elka in 2015 used picture series as a technique that can help teaching reading and learning English to be more fun. From the statement above, the researcher tested picture series as a media to determine students' reading comprehension.

According to Elka (2015) that an image is good to use as a medium for teaching students in class because the image used by the teacher can attract students' attention when carrying out the learning process. Picture series is one of the media that has pictures that are used to train students to read in class (Nurhayati 2014). Picture series can make students' creativity in class to convey their ideas or thoughts. In a study conducted by Hardiyanti in 2020, stated that series pictures can support the teaching and learning process in reading comprehension in the classroom. This can help students to improve their understanding of the readings they have studied. It is because picture series as cartoon strips have the potential to increase readers' interest in reading (Wright, 1989). Based on Pambudi 2020 the reading material used to teach students have more words that are not interesting. So that, makes students bored to read or understand the reading. Students have an interest in reading if the reading has an interesting story. The use of images is useful for contextualizing the process of a story, so that the reader

can understand what the story is about without having to focus on the text. It can be seen from the results of the researcher Hatina (2017) stated that Picture series can be used to make the learning process more interesting and easy to understand by students and can increase student motivation in learning.

Researchers used picture series instead of other readings. According to Rahanda (2021) Picture series have advantages such as there are several pictures that explain what the story is about which allows students to understand the story content. So students do not focus too much on pictures while reading. In contrast to other readings that have lots of pictures. This will make students more focus on the pictures than the text in the story. Elka's research (2015) the use of picture series had a significant effect on students' reading comprehension. Then, Rusrianti's research (2017) which uses picture series of the narrative text type. Picture series has various types of pictures that can improve some student skills, such as reading. In this study, the researcher used a picture series of narrative text types which contained several sentences under each image. In this study, researchers used picture series to know the effect on students' reading comprehension. In this study, researchers also use a different method, namely by making picture series that are interesting to students. Then, the researcher draws or create a series of pictures that match the characteristics of the students which aims to make students better understand the contents of the story.

In this study, researchers took place at SMA N 1 Selemadeg. That is because from the results of observations at SMA N 1 Selemadeg, the researchers found a problem, that the students' reading comprehension skills there were still low. So the school need a strategy to solve the problem. So the researcher took a place at SMA 1 Selemadeg as a place to test the effect of picture series on students' reading comprehension. Then, when the researcher made a preliminary observation at the school, they found out that there are many students who are not interested in reading the book or the researcher's text. Only a few of the students at SMA N 1 Selemadeg are less interested in reading books. There are many words in the book without containing the interesting things in the book. It makes it difficult for students to understand books or texts. Based of the literature review, one of the strategies to teach reading comprehension is the picture series. However, the use of picture series to teach reading for class eleventh at SMA N 1 Selemadeg have never been conducted before. This is because judging from its geographical location, SMAN 1 Selemadeg is located in an area far from urban areas.

This research was conducted of students in grade eleventh in SMA N 1 Selemadeg. According to Dahlan (2015) stated that students aged 16-19 years, can be focused on learning to read. Because, students will rarely read when they grow up. Thus, students can be taught to read from an early age, so that they become accustomed to reading as adults. The students in

grade eleventh, students are more focused on reading than writing as is the case with tenth grade students. While the twelfth graders will focus on studying the lessons to answer the Midterm tests. Thus, the eleventh grade students are more suitable to carry out this experimental research.

The problems of reading comprehension that occur in the school can make the Picture Series very useful in learning, especially in reading comprehension. Many researchers have conducted research in Picture Series such as Siti Hardiyanti (2020), Elka (2015), Rusrianti (2017), and Lailitsani (2017). Although many researchers have conducted research in Picture Series, However Picture Series that want to implement Picture Series using pictures made by researchers themselves in an experiment and to see their impact on reading comprehension may not have been done by many other researchers, so further research is needed.

Based on the problems above, the researcher is interested in raising the title of the research “The Effect Of Using Picture Series In Students Reading Comprehension In Eleventh Grade Students of SMA N 1 Selemadeg”.

## 1.2 Problem Identification

Reading comprehension is the important skill that has to be mastered by students in the school. Through reading comprehension the student can find hidden information in story text. Based on the background of this

study, there was a problem identified based on preliminary observation in SMA N 1 Selemadeg. It has a problem in reading because the media that used by the teacher were limited, such as: book or other text that used in the class. It made students bored in following the learning process. In other words, students are not able to comprehend the text well if the media that used is not interesting for them. Therefore, based on the identification of the problem above, an interesting media called picture series was used by the researcher in teaching reading. In Elka research (2015) picture series can make students understand more about the text. So, in this research, the researcher used picture series to know the effect on students' reading comprehension at SMA N 1 Selemadeg.

### **1.3 Limitation of the Study**

The limitation of this research was to investigate whether the picture series had any effect on student's reading comprehension of eleventh-grade at SMAN 1 Selemadeg. In this study, the researcher were taken two sample from class XI students of SMAN 1 Selemadeg during academic year 2022-2023. Name of sample was the experimental group and the control group. The limitation of this study is that it does not allow truly random sample selection, but uses the index classes. So, it is necessary to carry out further research that might use true experimental design. The importance of conducting this research is to know the effect of the picture series on

students' reading comprehension. So, the future research can conduct further research on other students.

#### **1.4 Problem of the Study**

Based on the statement above, the research problem can be formulated as follows:

Is there any significant different on student's reading comprehension between those who are taught using Picture Series and those who are taught using conventional strategies of students in SMA Negeri 1 Selemadeg?

#### **1.5 Objectives of the study**

Based on the formulation of the problem, the purpose of this study was to determine whether picture series had a significant effect on the reading comprehension of eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 1 Selemadeg.

#### **1.6 Significance of the Study**

The significance of this research is to provide information about the effect of picture series as a strategy for reading comprehension. The result of the study is expected to have theoretical and practical significance.



### 1.6.1 Theoretically

This research is beneficial for the development of science in the field of education. Then, this study also is expected to be able to develop learning practices and qualities in English subject, especially in reading.

### 1.6.2 Practical Significance

#### a) For students

This research is expected to have a positive impact on students, especially students' competence in reading. Through this research, it is also expected to provide the right strategies for students in the learning process, especially in reading.

#### b) For Teacher

This study is can help teacher employ efficient teaching method to introduce reading to students in the eleventh grade and also as a reference for teachers to use effective strategies to teach reading in class.

#### c) For other researchers

This research is important for future researchers to conduct further research on the effect of picture series on students' reading comprehension. Then, this research also can be a reference for other researchers who want to conduct additional research.