

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### **1.1 Research Background**

As a language skill, reading is often considered as crucial aspect of language ability because it deals with the information and communication. Reading is one of important skills in English that must be mastered by students in learning a language. Adapted from Pang, Muaka, Bernhardt, & Kamil (2003) clarify that reading has an important educational goal. Therefore, reading skill is a significant tool for academic success.

Reading plays a substantial role because reading has become a part of our daily life. Reading activity provides many benefits for human being. Meng (2010: 501) as cited in Herman, Sibrani, Pardede (2020: 86) stated that English reading has always been regarded as one of main aims in English teaching in colleges and Universities, because it can objectively reflect the student's abilities to acquire the language. For that reason, reading becomes an important aspect for humans especially in the education field.

In this addition, reading skill becomes the main thing for human because the developments in every aspect of life grow and develop very quickly. Reading can be done in anywhere and anytime. Nowadays, we can read a lot of information easier by the books, magazine, newspaper, internet, and else. Even current technological advances make it easy for humans, especially to get information quickly. For example, in the presence of various kinds of tools such as mobile phones, laptops, and others can be used as tools get information quickly. Adapted from Harmer (2003) in Ismail, Syahrufa, and Basuki (2017: 2) reading is one of the receptive skills of English. Reading is an activity to understand about passage or written text. However, the teacher or lecture expected the students acquire reading skill. Because, if the students cannot comprehend what they read clearly, reading learning process failed. Reading comprehension is also simply known as a kinds of thinking process which involves the reader to make inferences from the text. It can conclude that reading without comprehending is useless. According to Harmer (2007) in Martika and Hermayawati (2016:4) stated that reading as an

exercise dominated by the eyes and the brain, the eyes receive message and the brain then has to work out of the significance of the message. It means that reading makes students able to find every message of the texts.

In university level, the reading ability competence were taught in Private University of Yogyakarta at fourth semester student of System Information (SI) Department. Reading comprehension is the ability to understand information in a text and interpret it appropriately what is meant by the text (Grabe and Stoller, 2019). It means that reading comprehension is the ability to read text, process and understand the meaning. Reading can expand human knowledge. Besides we could also increase our knowledge, reading rate and also encourage our vocabularies. Meanwhile, if they are people do not like to read means they are lack of information.

The researcher has read a previous study which stated that some reasons that make people lazy to read such as they have less motivation, they feel boring when they see a long text, and they are lack of vocabulary that make them difficult to comprehend a text and spend their time in reading. Moreover, in this modern era, people are required to do many things in short time.

Having good comprehending related contexts or paper can make the students are getting good result. With the help of advanced the technology and the advent of the internet, it was easier for students to have access to use media to make reading comprehension more vibrant. That was many applications were existing now. One of them is BBC Learning English application which available now for students to include teaching materials and for the students to use as self-study aids.

Supporting from BBC websites (<https://www.bbc.co.uk>) explained that BBC Learning English is a department of the BBC World Service devoted to English language teaching. The service provides free resources and activities for teachers and students, primarily through its website. It also produces radio programs which air on some of the BBC World Service's language services and partner stations. It has won numerous awards, including two Eltons from the British Council and an English-Speaking Union award for innovation in English

language teaching. On the other hand, BBC Learning English is an online application both teachers and students can access to learn the contents anywhere and anytime. BBC Learning English Application is used for improving students' skills namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing. This media containing topical news stories every day, and all of the speakers are native. With daily updates of amazing and fun topical lessons; transcripts related to the topics, and quizzes are currently easier for students to use the media to learn English more vibrant. The flexible time to use the media gave the student an advantage to practice repeatedly.

Many of people materials are delivered as full length courses but each component of the course is standalone and can be studied on its own. This means, the learner can choose the best way for study; by following a full course or the individual materials most appropriate to them. People can search more about BBC Learning English current and future courses in the website. BBC Learning English also have a range of long running features such as 6 Minute English were learn about Grammar and Vocabulary, Grammar Gameshow, English in a Minute, English at Work The English We Speak and Lingohack, The English We Speak, News Review, Phrase Frenzy, Shakespeare Speaks, Small Talk, Sounds of English, The Teacher Room, etc.

Towards the application programs, the researcher focuses on the way of BBC Learning English help the students' in comprehend reading text. Therefore, the researcher tries to introduce the media as BBC Learning English which providing with many topical lessons, videos with transcripts related to the topics, and quizzes were made a better reading mastery for students of the System Information (SI) department at the private University of Yogyakarta. Therefore, the researcher tries to use the media as BBC Learning English to make a better reading mastery for students of the System Information department at a Private University of Yogyakarta.

## **1.2 Research Question**

Based on the background above, the formulated research questions are:

1. What are student's perceptions on the use of BBC at the fourth semester of System Information Department in a Private University of Yogyakarta?
2. What is the obstacles/benefits on the use of BBC at the fourth semester of System Information Department in a Private University of Yogyakarta?

### **1.3 Research Objectives**

This study aimed toward accomplishing the aim as follows;

1. To reveal the students' perception on the use of BBC at the fourth semester of System Information Department in a Private University of Yogyakarta.
2. To find out the benefits on the use of BBC at the fourth semester of System Information Department in a Private University of Yogyakarta.

### **1.4 Scope of the Research**

This paper offers for using BBC Learning English Applications as media to comprehend reading texts that represent in the Private University of Yogyakarta, especially students of the System Information Department at fourth semester. The researcher hopes that; BBC Learning English can help the students to realize reading text. Moreover, the media can encourage scholars to reinforce their reading.

### **1.5 Research Benefit**

The researcher expected that the findings of the study are going to be useful for the lecturer, students, readers, and researchers.

#### **1. The Lecturers**

The researcher hopes this paper could encourage English lecturers to use BBC Learning English application as media to advance the students more curious about reading text.

#### **2. The Students**

Students can use BBC Learning English application as an alternative and innovative media to realize reading texts. Students also can use BBC Learning English application for learning English material in a simple, easy, and quick way by looking at a programmer of BBC Learning English.

#### **3. The Readers**

The readers get more information about BBC Learning English application and they can use it depend on their needs.

#### 4. The Researchers

The other researchers get knowledge about how the innovation of study can pick up the students' in comprehends reading texts.

### **1.6 Definition of Terms**

The writer provides some key terms to form the readers understand of the terms utilized in the study included:

#### 1. Perceptions

Morgan et.al (1979:312) stated that perception is “what is immediately experienced by a person”. Meanwhile, basically, perception here refers to students' perception of System Information Department at Private University of Yogyakarta in fourth semester in academic year 2020/2021, who had qualified BBC Learning English application as supporting media to comprehend reading texts.

#### 2. BBC Learning English Application

Supported by BBC Learning English' website, BBC Learning English is a department of the BBC World Service dedicated to English language teaching. It has won numerous awards, including two Eltons from the British Council and an English-Speaking Union award for innovation in English language teaching.

#### 3. Reading

Reading is an activity to urge information and to know the texts about. However, reading is one of the important language skills that should be mastered. By reading, students can get more information and be smarter and more creative. Laddo (2007 in Furqon (2013) stated that reading forces the reader's brain cells to figure on a daily basis as this may keep the reader sharper and smarter”.