

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

English is an international language which has an important role in communication by people to interact with other people in the world. As international language, English is used to communication in almost the entire world in many countries. In Indonesia, It becomes the important subject in the national curriculum taught from junior high school to university. It is expected to give a good contribution in facing the globalization era.

In learning English, the student should master four language skills. They are needed by the people need to complete communication. First is listening skill. It is receiving language through the ears. Listening involves identifying the sounds of speech and processing them into words and sentences. The second is speaking skill. It is the delivery of language through the mouth. Speaking is probably the language skill that most language learners wish to perfect as soon as possible. The third is reading skill. It is the process of looking at a series of written symbols and getting meaning from them. The people are used their eyes to receive written symbols and the people use our brain to convert them into words, sentences and paragraphs that communicate something to the people. The fourth is writing skill. It is a method of representing language in visual or tactile form. The writer puts their thoughts into words in a meaningful form and to mentally interact with the

message. Language skills are usually grouped as receptive skills of reading and listening, and productive skills of speaking and writing (Riddle, 2003: 97).

Reading which belongs to receptive skill, can be defined as a process whereby one looks at and understands what has been written (Williams, 1999: 2). Reading is an essential skill for learners of English as a second language. For most of these learners it is the most important skill to master in order to ensure success not only in learning English, but also in learning in any content class where reading in English is required.

Reading was considered as a boring and stressful activity because of some factors such as selection of the text that wasn't proper to read by the students in certain level, monotonous post-reading activities (e.g., answering questions based on the texts and retelling the texts), monotonous learning models which is used by the teacher. Based on the researcher's observation at the eight grade students of SMP N 4 Jatisrono as the subject of research, the students at SMP N 4 Jatisrono have low interest in learning English especially in reading.

Based on the observation at the Eight grade students of SMP N 4 Jatisrono in 2013/2014 academic year, the researcher found some problems in learning reading, such as: the students were lazy to read, and they got difficulties in understanding a text and comprehending the meaning of words in the text. The students often fell bored and tired because teaching learning process at the eight grade students of SMP N 4 Jatisrono in 2013/2014 academic year especially reading comprehension is still conducted by applying monotonous method.

This is the reason why the researcher uses a new learning model to improve students' reading ability using pair check. Pair Check method is method in the delivery of learning materials aimed at encouraging students to learn critical thinking by solving problems contained in the examples by presented a pair check. it makes the students wouldn't bored and improve the students' reading comprehension. The researcher chooses Pair Check method to improve students' reading comprehension. The advantages of Pair Check method are: to improve cooperation among students, to make peer tutoring, to increase understanding of the concepts and processes of learning, and train students to communicate well with friends (Huda, 2013: 212).

Based on the statement above in this research the researcher interests to conduct a research with the title: The Implementation Of Pair Check Method To Improve Students' Reading Ability At The Eight Grade Students of SMP N 4 Jatisrono In 2013/2014 Academic Year.

B. Research Problems

Based on the background of the problem above, the statement of problem can be formulated as follow: "How is the implementation of pair check method to improve students' reading ability at the eight grade students of SMP N 4 Jatisrono in 2013/2014 academic year?"

C. Purpose of Study

Based on the statement of the problem above, the purpose of this research is as follow: “To know the Implementation of Pair Check method to improve students’ reading ability at the eight grade students of SMP N 4 Jatisrono in 2013/2014 academic year.”

D. Significance of Study

Theoretically, the significances of this study are:

1. For The English Teacher

This model can help the teacher to understand the way to handle the students in teaching reading by using Pair Check method and it will give contribution to successful teaching learning English especially in Junior High School.

2. For The Researcher

The researcher hopes this research will be useful as an experience and can implement this model in English learning process.

3. For The Institution

It becomes a source of consideration for the official institutional policy as an effort to produce better outcomes especially to increase students’ reading ability.

Practically, the significances of this study are:

1. The English Teacher

This model motivates the teacher to teach better and better in order to find learning model to improve the students’ reading ability.

2. The students

This model motivates the students to study reading well and improves students' knowledge in reading ability.

E. Scope and Limitation

This research focuses on the technique used in teaching reading which is used to solve students' problem in reading skill. Some technique which interesting method are like Pair Check, Team Assisted Individualization (TAI), and Brainstorming.

In this study, the researcher limits only on the implementation of Pair Check to improve students' reading ability at the eight grade students of SMP N 4 Jatisrono in 2013/2014 academic year.

F. Definition of Key Terms

To make easier in understanding this research, the researcher defines the key terms as follows:

Reading : As a process of “bringing meaning to and getting meaning from printed or written material” (Tarigan, 1979: 8).

Pair check : Learning methods between the two groups or in pairs. This model requires implementing cooperative learning in the students' independence and ability to solve problems. This method also trains social responsibility, cooperation, and the ability to pass judgment (Huda, 2013: 211).