

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Research findings and data analysis have been presented in the previous chapter. In this final chapter, the major findings and the data are briefly summarized. The later section will present some recommendations for future research and/or developments.

5.1 Conclusion

Derived from the findings and the data analysis which focus on the reading strategy used by high achieving students and low achieving students, the most frequently reading strategy used among group of students, and the correlation between reading strategy and reading comprehension achievement, the researcher could report the following findings.

Referring to the research question (RQ) 1, the high achieving students of the exact sciences program of the second grade of SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Babat had a highest mean score (3,84) in overall the global strategy, indicating high use. Overall problem solving strategy indicated 4,35. It showed that the level they used was higher. Overall support strategy revealed 3,61, meaning that they belonged to high level in using support strategy. To facilitate them to learn to read, they tended to always use the four items as favourite item of reading strategy in each three reading strategy categories; global strategy, problem solving strategy, and support strategy. The detailed favorite reading activities of each three reading strategies category are as follows.

First, in global strategy, four favourite reading activities were used by the high achieving students of second grade of SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Babat were they tended to always have a purpose when reading, use context clues to help better understanding of the reading, think about what they know to help them understand what they read, and check to see if guesses about the text are correct.

Besides, for problem solving the high achieving students tended to re-read to increase understanding when the text became difficult, read slowly and carefully to make sure understand what to read, pay closer attention to the material when the text became difficult, and try to get back on track when distracted or lose concentration.

Moreover, for the support strategy most of the high achieving students tended to translate from English into native language when reading, use reference materials (dictionaries, etc), go back and forth in the text to find relationships among ideas, and paraphrase/restate to better understanding.

In contrast, the low achieving students of the second grade of the exact sciences program of SMA Muhammadiyah tended to use less reading strategy. They tended to ignore the overall items of global strategy when they were reading because the result indicated most of items of global strategy were of low use. The finding coincides with Palincsar & Brown (1984) statement which state that the poor readers rarely prepare before reading. They often begin to read without setting goals. They seldom consider how best to read a particular type of text.

However, in the finding, it indicated that the some of low achieving students of the second grade of the exact sciences program of SMA

Muhammadiyah tended to sometimes employ problem solving and support strategy even though only some reading activities indicated medium usage. It demonstrated that the highest mean score of overall problem solving was 2,16, meaning that the low achieving students tended to sometimes try to get back on track when distracted or losing concentration, reading slowly and carefully making sure understand what to read, paying closer attention to the material when the text became difficult, and re-reading to increase understanding. The highest mean score of overall support strategy was 2,11, meaning that the low achieving students sometimes translated from English into their Indonesian when reading, using reference materials (dictionaries, etc), going back and forth in the text to find relationships among ideas, and reading the text when the text became difficult.

Regarding the research question 2 (RQ2)-the most frequently used strategy-problem solving strategies placed the first position. It means that problem solving strategy are the most frequently used strategies (M= 3,52). The second position is global strategy with the mean score of 2,84. The last position is support strategy, with the mean score of 2,81. This finding is line with the findings of studies by Monos (2005), Nashiriyah (2009), Zhang & Wu (2009), Li (2010), Aziz, et.al (2011), and Ghyasi, Safdarian, & Farsani (2011). It is found that the problem solving strategies scored the highest then followed by global strategies and support strategies. Considering the language which some studies' sample used, most of students under study used English as a foreign language like the sample of this study.

Based on the analysis of each of the three major categories, the students of the Exact Sciences program of SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Babat tended to have a favorite reading activities to enhance the understanding the text. In the global reading strategy use, they indicated superior in the activity of reading with a purpose in mind (M=3,46).

In problem solving use, the students mainly employed four reading activities; reading slowly and carefully (M= 4,46), trying to get back on track when distracted or losing concentration (M= 4,14), when text becomes difficult, re-reading to increase understanding (M= 3,96), and when text becomes difficult, paying closer attention to the material (M= 3,71). Meanwhile, in support strategy use, two reading activities were categorized as favorite reading activity; when reading, translating from English into native language (M= 3,93) and using reference materials (dictionaries, etc) (M= 3,91). In the fact, the finding shows that most of the second graders of the Exact Sciences program of SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Babat usually needed dictionary as an aid tool to translate the unfamiliar words to their Indonesian so they obtained good score in reading comprehension test. Considering the time allocation in Indonesia school especially senior high school, the KTSP English curriculum stated that they study English for four hours a week. As a result, the translation and using dictionary are the favorite reading activity used to improve their reading as effective reading strategy.

Among thirty (30) reading activities, there were only two reading activities which were categorized as low. G15 (I use tables, figures, and pictures in text

to increase my understanding) and S26 (I ask myself questions I like to have answered in the text) are not favorite reading activities. Since the cultural background of the students of SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Babat tended to be less critical, asking by themselves to understand the content of the text is only occasionally done.

Concerning the third research question (RQ3)- the correlation between reading strategy and reading comprehension achievement. This study found that there was a high correlation at the level of significance of $P < .05$ between reading strategy and reading achievement of high achieving students of the second grade of the Exact Sciences program of SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Babat. It demonstrated that $r = .716$ and $P = .013$ less than $P < .05$. Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected. It means that the high achieving students had high score in both reading comprehension test and reading strategy.

Meanwhile, the correlation between reading strategy and reading achievement of low achieving students indicated that there were mark correlation at significance level of $P < .05$. The present study found that r was 0.684 and p was $.029$, meanin that the correlation coefficient was less than the significance level ($p < .05$). Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected. It means that the low achieving students had low score both reading comprehension achievement and reading strategy.

As a result, the high achieving students got high scores in both reading comprehension test and reading strategy questionnaire. In contrast, the low achieving students got low scores in both reading comprehension test and reading

strategy. It can be concluded that the reading strategy affects the reading comprehension achievement.

5.2 Suggestions

5.2.1 For the Teachers

The first suggestion for the teacher of English as foreign language is that when he/she is teaching in reading class, he/she should teach and encourage the students, especially the low achieving students/poor students to use their metacognition and develop the reading strategy by giving reading exercises since the finding of the reading strategy used by groups of students indicated that the mean scores of both global strategy and support strategy were medium, meaning that the students still tended to have difficulty to activate their schema and metacognition to comprehend the reading text.

The second suggestion is the teachers use the effective reading strategy to the students such as how to comprehend the reading English academic text and reading English test so that they can comprehend the reading English academic text and reading English tests.

The third suggestion is that teachers ask the students to keep reading when they do not know some meanings of words or sentences in the text because the result of the most frequently used strategy indicated that the students who had good reading comprehension score usually used more translation to help them enhance their understanding of the text.

The last suggestion is to apply the reading strategy to the students in the classroom as teaching technique. It means that when the students are given some models of the effective reading strategy, they will practice it directly to train their reading skill especially for low achieving students.

5.2.2 For the Learners.

For the learners, the researcher would like to motivate and raise their strategic awareness in order to be able to select and use reading strategy more properly.

The reseacher would like to ask the students to read a lot of English materials from different sources, evaluate their own progress in reading comprehension by exercises in reading comprehension, and motivate them to ask their teacher about their reading difficulties.

5.2.3 For the School Principal.

The researcher suggests that the principal should introduce the reading strategies earlier such as placing the reading strategy as learning material in the MOS (New Students' Orientation Week) program so that they can read English materials more easily.

The researcher suggested that the principal should facilitate the teachers to get the knowledge about teaching reading strategy such as sending them to join seminar, workshop, etc.

The researcher suggests that the principal should provide some fun English materials in the school library and in the English laboratory so that the students

have chances to read and practice reading English materials happily using the proper reading strategy.

5.2.4 For Future Researchers.

The following are recommended for future researchers who would like to conduct this study about reading strategy and reading achievement of high achieving students and low achieving students. First, it is recommended that a similar study be conducted experimentally with two groups involving various English texts. Second, it is recommended that a non experimental study with different texts such as hortatory exposition, analytical exposition, and discussion text be conducted to explore the extent of reading comprehension. Third, it is recommended that both non experimental study and experimental study for EFL students be also conducted in senior high schools (social sciences or language program) or vocational schools. Fourth, it is recommended that trying out the instrument (reading comprehension test) be done twice to the pilot group to get the best instrument since this study tried out the instrument to the pilot study once. Last, it is recommended to replicate this study with bigger sample size to explore to what extent each reading strategy differs if applied to bigger population since this study was conducted with a limited number of students.

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