

# **Chapter 1**

## **Introduction**

### **1.1 Background of the study**

Reading as a skill is important, because Reading in fact is the ability which enables the learners to read with the purpose of extracting from the printed page, the thoughts, fact and information. People are enlightened by reading. By reading, a written message can be interpreted by the other person.. The main reason that motivates the writer to conduct this study is that the teaching reading at school is often boring for the students and thus not effective and students tend to read the whole text but don't get the idea of the text. What is worse is that the students cannot differentiate the parts of the text. In Indonesia, many students lack interest and skill in reading because they don't have certain reading strategy. They just read text by themselves which usually results in not knowing the content and context. Seeing this condition, the teacher should develop a reading strategy that helps students in understanding the content and context of reading. The researcher then thinks a solution for this problem. Reading comprehension is attained through successful interaction between the reader and the text. This interaction is the major factor that plays the most important role in comprehension. Because of these reasons, the writer wants to use THIEVES reading strategy to make students understand the part of the text and also 'steal' the information from the text. The writer intends to examine the use of THIEVES reading strategy in teaching reading. Its aim is to examine whether the use of THIEVES reading strategy will have effect on students'

reading achievement not. Therefore, the researcher wants to conduct an experimental research entitled: “The Effect of THIEVES Reading Strategy on Eight Graders’ Reading Achievement”.

### **1.2 Research problem/questions :**

This study is aimed to find the answer of the following research question :  
Does THIEVES reading strategy contribute positively to the students’ reading achievement?

### **1.3 The objective of the study**

The objective of the study is to find out the effectiveness of THIEVES reading strategy in enhancing students’ reading achievement.

### **1.4 Theoretical Framework**

Theory of Reading by Tampubolon (1987)

Reading is one of the four skills that should be mastered by the students. There are so many sources which people can use to read, for example : magazines, newspapers, novels, and books. Reading is a connection between eyes and text which purpose is to obtain the information from the written sources. Reading is one of the four basic language skills. Reading is the written form of sounds.

Theory of THIEVES Reading Strategy by Gear (2008)

THIEVES strategy is helpful for trying to determine what is important in a place of information text. This definition emphasizes that THIEVES makes

reading much easier. Students will find that, after reading the main body of the text, it will be easy for them to find the most important information that they need about the text, because they know how to be thieves

### **1.5 The Significance of the Study**

In this sub chapter, the writer described the significance of the study.

- a. Practically, it can be used to help teachers in teaching learning process and providing the active learning, creative, effective, innovative, and fun for students in the class. The researcher hopes it can be an additional strategy in teaching Reading in English. So, the students will get better achievement..
- b. Theoretically, this study will generate a result that will reject or accept the THIEVES reading strategy.
- c. This study may also be useful for other researchers to do further study with similar topic

### **1.6 The Scope of the Study**

The skill which was tested is reading skill. The strategy used was THIEVES reading strategy and The subjects were the eight graders of a private school in Surabaya during the odd semester of 2019-2020.

### **1.7 Hypothesis**

Null Hypothesis(H<sub>0</sub>) : There is no significant difference between students who are taught using THIEVES strategy and those who are not taught using THIEVES strategy.

Alternative Hypothesis(HA) : There is a significant difference between students who are taught using THIEVES strategy and those who are not taught using THIEVES strategy.

## **1.8 Definition of Key terms**

- a. Reading** : Reading is defined as a cognitive process that involves decoding symbols to arrive at meaning. Reading is an active process of constructing meanings of words.
- b. THIEVES Reading Strategy** : a reading strategy that helps the readers to learn how “steal” information from the title, headings, introduction, every first sentence, visual / vocabulary, ending and summary.