

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Education is essential for cultivating students' literacy skills, especially in reading comprehension. Reading serves not only as a fundamental academic skill but also as a gateway to knowledge across diverse subjects. The ability to read and comprehend a range of texts effectively plays a crucial role in students' academic success and future endeavors. As noted by Snow (2020), reading comprehension is a multifaceted process that requires cognitive engagement, prior knowledge, and strong instructional support from educators. To improve students' reading abilities, it is vital to implement effective strategies, such as skimming and scanning.

In the context of the Indonesian education system, the 2013 Curriculum emphasizes the importance of literacy development through innovative, student-centered learning. The Ministerial Regulation (Permendikbud) No. 79 of 2014 by the Ministry of Education and Culture encourages the integration of various learning strategies tailored to students' characteristics and learning needs. This flexibility allows teachers to adopt creative approaches, such as teaching skimming and scanning techniques, which can help students read more efficiently and understand texts more effectively.

Fahrurrozi et al. (2020) stated that reading is a fundamental skill that supports students' overall learning experience, as many educational activities rely on students' reading ability. In support of this, Zarei and Alipour (2022) found that the use of metacognitive strategies, including skimming and scanning, significantly improves reading comprehension. These strategies help students to identify main ideas quickly and locate specific information in a text, thus enhancing both speed and understanding. Additionally, the integration of digital tools and technology-based materials has been shown to increase students' engagement in reading activities (Yunus et al., 2023).

On this topic, students are anticipated to enhance their reading skills by employing suitable and effective strategies such as skimming and scanning. Meanwhile, teachers are encouraged to adopt innovative and adaptive approaches when implementing these strategies, tailoring them to meet students' comprehension levels and individual learning styles. However, observations and interviews conducted by the researcher at UPTD SMP Negeri 1 Mandrehe Barat reveal that despite numerous efforts to improve reading instruction, both teachers and students still encounter significant challenges. Notable issues include low student engagement, classroom distractions, and a limited variety of reading strategies that cater to students' specific needs.

Considering these challenges, this study aims to analyze the use of skimming and scanning strategies by English teachers in teaching reading at the eighth-grade level. The research also seeks to identify the obstacles encountered during the implementation of these strategies and offer recommendations for improvement. Further observations and interviews may be conducted to explore factors such as classroom management, teacher training, and student motivation, which could influence the effectiveness of reading instruction.

Therefore, this study underscores the critical role of teachers in students' reading comprehension through structured and innovative strategies such as skimming and scanning. By effectively implementing these evidence-based strategies, teachers can improve students' reading performance and better prepare them to face academic and real-world challenges.

Based on the phenomenon and previous research, the researcher is interested to more deeply examine “An Analysis of Skimming and Scanning Strategies in Teaching Reading Skill Used by English Teacher at Eighth Grade of UPTD SMP Negeri 1 Mandrehe Barat”.

1.2 Focus of the Research

Based on the background above, the focus of the research is:

1. To analyze skimming and scanning strategies in teaching reading skill used by English Teachers at Eight Grade of UPTD SMP Negeri 1 Mandrehe Barat.
2. To identify the challenges faced in skimming and scanning strategies in teaching reading skills used by teachers at Eight Grade of UPTD SMP Negeri 1 Mandrehe Barat.
3. To identify the solution faced in skimming and scanning strategies in teaching reading skills used by teachers at Eight Grade of UPTD SMP Negeri 1 Mandrehe Barat.

1.3 Formulation of the Research

Based on the focus of the research, the research question is formulated as follows

1. How to apply skimming and scanning strategies in teaching reading skills used by English Teachers at Grade Eight of UPTD SMP Negeri 1 Mandrehe Barat.
2. What are the challenges English teachers faces in applying skimming and scanning strategies to the teaching of reading skills in grade eight?
3. What are the solutions that English teachers use in implementing skimming and scanning strategies in teaching reading skills in grade eight?

1.4 Objective of the Research

Based on the research objectives, this study aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the reading skills learning strategies employed by grade VIII English teachers at UPTD SMP Negeri 1 Mandrehe Barat. By examining these strategies, the study seeks to determine their effectiveness in enhancing students' reading comprehension and overall literacy development. Additionally, this research highlights the various challenges teachers face in implementing reading strategies, including resource limitations, student engagement issues, and curriculum constraints. Understanding these aspects

will offer valuable insights into improving reading instruction and developing more effective teaching approaches to support students' learning outcomes.

1.5 Significance of the Research

The usefulness of the research results is the benefit to be achieved after the research is carried out. The uses of this research are:

1. Teachers

this study provides valuable insights into the reading skills learning strategies used in teaching reading comprehension. By understanding the effectiveness of different strategies, teachers can refine their instructional methods, adopt more engaging techniques, and address challenges to improve students' literacy development.

2. Students

by identifying effective reading strategies, this research can help students develop better reading comprehension skills. Improved reading abilities will not only enhance their academic performance but also equip them with essential literacy skills for future learning and career opportunities.

3. Schools and Educational Institutions

The findings of this study can serve as a reference for schools and policymakers in designing curriculum improvements and professional development programs for English teachers. Schools can use the insights from this research to support teachers with adequate resources, training, and teaching materials.

4. Future Researchers

This study can serve as a foundation for future research in the field of reading instruction, particularly in the context of English as a Foreign Language (EFL). Future researchers can build upon these findings to explore new strategies, assess their impact on different student demographics, or investigate the integration of technology in reading instruction.