

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

Reading is an integral part of learning English. Reading is a process of getting information about a text. Reading ability has an important role in human life because reading is an activity to gain knowledge. Activity like reading need to be improved in everyday life because it can increase intelligence and creativity in understanding the meaning of the text. Reading is important for learning other skills. Kusumawanti (2018) states that reading skill has the most important role for students' learning success since overall activities of learning are started by the reading activity.

In addition, reading is activity to learn the author's thoughts through written or printed materials. According to Puspita (2017), there are two primary reasons why people read. The first step is getting information. Therefore, readers are motivated to read in order to learn about anything they have never seen or heard before. The second purpose is to getting pleasure. In this case, readers read for their own amusement rather than specific information.

In teaching reading, teachers often find some problems. First, lack of vocabulary. Students have difficulties to know the meaning of the text and become bored in reading material. Second, difficulties in understanding the aspects of the text such as main idea, generic structure and language features of the text. Third, students less motivation to learn. So, the process is not effective. Teachers must create supportive learning environment and must be aware of



student's feelings. Teachers should use good method to make students active in the class and boost their motivation in learning.

Based on the problems above, researcher would use one strategy in teaching Reading, which is Snowball Throwing Technique. Wahidin (2020) states that Snowball Throwing Technique made students happy and fun because it was interesting for them. According to the results of research by Ulmi (2024), the Snowball Throwing Technique has a major impact on students reading ability. Similar research was also conducted by Fatimah (2020) mentions that Snowball Throwing Technique was effective in teaching Reading.

Snowball Throwing is one of the teaching technique that use the idea of throw ball that involves questions. The advantage of using the Snowball Throwing Technique will increase students' learning outcomes. By using the Snowball Throwing Technique, teachers can encourage greater student participation. Since this is a game, students need to be calm but in control, not arguing, chaotic, or disruptive. The Snowball Throwing Technique can help students learn how to be cooperative, responsible, and empathic. This technique also teaches students to be more considerate of others. In this research, the researcher would divided students into some groups. Then students have to make questions that will be shaped like balls and throw them to the other groups to answer the questions.

Based on the researcher observation on October 2024 at Tenth grade of SMKN 9 Padang, researcher found that many problems in reading. First, students were lazy to read English text. Second, many students could not

comprehend the text well because of lack vocabulary. Third, the teacher still used conventional method. Researcher concludes that the root of the problems is that students are less active in the learning process because the method that used less interesting for students.

From the background of the study above, the researcher is interested in doing research entitled: “The Use of Snowball Throwing Technique in Improving Student’s Reading Comprehension at Tenth Grade Culinary of SMKN 9 Padang.”

B. Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the problem explained above, several problems can be identified which are:

1. Students were less interest to read English text.
2. Students” still have difficulties in comprehending English text because they have less of vocabulary.
3. The teaching method is monotonous because still uses usual method.

C. Limitation of the Problem

As stated in the background above, there are several factors that influence students learning outcomes in the reading learning process. The limitation of the problem in this research is only discusses improving student learning outcomes with the Snowball Throwing Technique in Tenth Grade of SMKN 9 Padang.

D. Research Questions

Based on the problem limitations above, the problem can be formulated as follows:

1. How does the Snowball Throwing Technique impact students' Reading Comprehension in the Tenth grade at SMKN 9 Padang?
2. Is there any significant effect of using Snowball Throwing Technique on students' Reading Comprehension for the Tenth Grade of SMKN 9 Padang?

E. Objectives of the Research

Based on the problem formulation above, this research aims to:

1. To investigate the impact of the Snowball Throwing Technique on students' reading comprehension in the tenth grade at SMKN 9 Padang.
2. To find out whether there is a significant effect on using Snowball Throwing Technique for students' Reading Comprehension for the Tenth Grade of SMKN 9 Padang or not.

F. Significant of the Research

The results of this research are expected to provide the following benefits:

1. Theoretically

The result of this research are expected to be used for teaching and learning English, especially in using Snowball Throwing Technique in Reading Comprehension skill.

2. Practically

a. For Students

By using this strategy is expected to help students in learning English especially in Reading Comprehension and be more motivated in learn English.

b. For Teacher

The finding of this research are expected to help teacher to create more effective lesson plan.

c. For the Researcher

This research can be helpful for other researcher who want to conduct research about Reading Comprehension, especially with Snowball Throwing Technique.

G. Definition of Key Terms

a. Reading Comprehension

Reading comprehension is the ability to understand and interpret the meaning of text. It is not just about recognizing individual words and sentences, but also about understanding the meaning of the text as a whole, make conclusions, connecting ideas, and applying the information to new contexts.

b. Technique

Technique is a way of doing something to complete a task or achieve a goal. It often involves using particular skills, tools, or steps.

c. Snowball Throwing Technique

Snowball Throwing Technique is a collaborative learning that allows students to learn in a fun and interactive way. The teacher introduces a topic, and students are asked to write questions or ideas about the topic on pieces of paper, which they then make a “snowball.” Students throw the "snowballs" to their classmates. Classmates open it, read questions and ideas, provide answers, and discuss.