

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents an introduction to the paper. It covers the background of the study, significance of the study identification of the problem, the aims and goals, then research question.

A. Background of the Study

Reading strategies issue appear in EFL context, not only in formal education but also in informal education, for example in Islamic boarding school. Despite that, it is found to be very challenging in finding and reviewing related literature about EFL practices in Islamic boarding school, studies in Islamic schools are still blooming. Although most of them are not specifically about reading strategies in the second language, the presented issue is still in a pedagogical context.

Park & Niyozov (2008) found that the society in South and South East Asia tend to perceive *madrasa* as a negative image and they assume that people in *madrasa* did not implement factual information. The research was conducted in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippine, Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan. As learners, they need deep reading while delivering good information. The researchers argued that reading practice in Islamic boarding school is only a part of many rituals rather than employing reading strategies activity, it means there is a lack of awareness in reading. In addition, Hui (2012) asserted that if someone does not have good reading strategies, they will be easily swallowed up by extreme issue. Meanwhile, they need to implement reading strategies in

order to be more aware of the current negative issue and able to well inform with a careful study from reading.

The previous studies which related to this issue mostly focused on the students' reading strategies and the respondents are mostly university students (Alsheikh, 2011; Vianty, 2007). Alsheikh (2011) focused on the strategic reading of multilingual and multi-literate readers in a Midwestern university in the United State. Vianty (2007) studied the comparison of students' use of metacognitive reading strategies when reading in the two languages in Indonesia. Limited research is focus on the use of reading strategies among particular religious communities, such as Islamic boarding school. To fill this empirical void, the researcher intended to study the use of reading strategy when students' Islamic boarding school reading English. Therefore, the researcher interest to find about the strategies when they get difficult in reading English in order to face the challenge of the current issue.

B. Significance of the Study

This study is expected to have two impacts those are empirically and practically. Empirically, the study will provide empirical insight into reading strategies that are used by the student of Islamic Boarding School. In practical use, the study will serve the teacher and the students with a potential strategy in reading English that is used by the students of Islamic Boarding School through reading strategies.

C. Aims and Goals

The research is aimed to identify reading strategies used by the students of Islamic Boarding School.

D. Research Question

Based on the rationale above, the researchers formulate the research problem:

What are the reading strategies used by the students of Islamic Boarding School?

