

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Research

One of the most crucial components of communication is language, which is employed as a media of exchange between peoples throughout. Being an international language, English is highly significant and has numerous connections to different facets of human existence. The four language abilities that students should acquire while studying English are listening, speaking, reading, and reading Ilma( 2019). According to students should acquire English so they can read books that are relevant to their studies or careers. According to Erya ( 2021), Students in this day and age, particularly those in Indonesia, are unable to be without their smartphones and the pupils are drawn to something distinctive, digital, and online. Thus, the study's main focus is on using *Webtoon* to learn reading. A recent coined term, "webtoon," combines the words "website" and "cartoon," which refers to comic books.

In Indonesia, many people are now familiar with webtoons, which are online comics. The *Webtoon* platform boasts 60 million users worldwide and over 2 million active users in Indonesia as it enters its fifth year of operation Khasanah ( 2021). Based on the experience of researchers through PFP (practice field experience) in high school number 02 muaro jambi, the researchers found that some students had difficulty reading hand books exactly in tenth grade on English lesson, they could only read without knowing the meaning or purpose of the book and not a few students whose English pronunciation was less correct, besides lack of interest in reading because the book had no pictures. According to Khasanah (

2021) A picture story, like a comic, is not only written but also illustrated with a variety of images, which results in readings with an innate appeal.

The lack of reading skills for the students and the great interest of *webtoon* comic book readers in Indonesia made researchers interested in doing research in high school number 02 muaro jambi. With the presence of *webtoons* as student attraction to improve student reading skills, the researchers hope this study can improve reading skill for his special students in 10<sup>th</sup> grade students of upper secondary school number 02 muaro Jambi.

Based on the teaching experience of the researcher in the context of the student teaching program at senior high school 2 Muaro Jambi for 2 months, the researcher found that many students, especially 10th-grade students, have difficulty in reading texts, especially English texts. The researcher also found that, on average, students enjoy reading comics based on applications, namely *webtoons*, which, according to the researcher's opinion, greatly helps students in their ability to read English texts. Furthermore, the *webtoon* application includes English language features, which can help students deepen their ability to read English texts through something they enjoy.

## **1.2 The Identification of Research Problems**

Based on the explanation above, the Researcher wants to identify the problem as follows:

1. Students find difficulties to learn English, especially in understanding a word, as well as the low ability of students in reading comprehension.

### 1.3 The Limitation of Research

Clearly define the problem's boundaries to ensure that the discussion is focused and the research stays on topic. The researcher refined the research questions as follows in light of the aforementioned research identification:

1. The use of english comic through *webtoon* for reading comprehension at tenth grade.
2. The effect of students' reading comprehension of english comic through *webtoon* in learning English on student learning outcomes.

### 1.4 The Formulation of the Research

The researcher formulates a research question based on the title "Is There a Significant effect of Webtoon towards students' reading comprehension at the tenth grade students in senior highschool number 02 muaro jambi?"

### 1.5 Purpose of the Research

The purpose of this study was to determine the significant effect of students reading comprehension of english comic using the webtoon at the eleventh grade students in senior highschool number 02muarojambi.

### 1.6 Significance of the Research

1. The Students

To enhance their proficiency and encourage them to advance in their reading skills.

2. The Teacher

To improve their proficiency in using Webtoons to teach reading skills.

3. The other researcher

To become proficient in reading skills and to keep up with current information and knowledge.

### **1.7 Definition of the Key Terms**

Some of the terms used in this research require the following definitions:

#### **1. Webtoon**

The researcher uses webtoon, an online comic, to teach students how to read English comics. Because webtoon is very popular among students and in addition to the easy access where students only need to download the webtoon application through the apps store on the smartphone, with the presence of webtoon is expected to improve reading ability in students.

#### **2. Reading Comprehension**

Reading comprehension is the application of a skill developed for other purposes (Reading Comprehension). Kirby (2007)

#### **3. Significant Effect**

Significant effect refers to a notable and statistically meaningful impact that the use of Webtoon has on improving students' reading comprehension. It implies that the observed improvements in reading comprehension are unlikely to have occurred by chance and are attributable to the Webtoon intervention

