

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Reading is one of the abilities required of English as a Foreign Language (EFL) students that could not be isolated from any education study (Mokhtari et al., 2009). Furthermore, reading is one of the language abilities defined as receptive, in which readers learn from what they read and apply it in an academic environment as part of their education (Grabe, 2008). Moreover, reading is only one of the most straightforward cognitive processes, a mental technique for wondering and learning. From this perspective, reading is considered a complicated intellectual process with diverse interactions consisting of information processing, wondering, and learning (Hacker et al., 2009).

Indonesia is one of several countries where reading interest is extremely low. Reading is important because it allows one to broaden one's perspective on a subject. Furthermore, reading could change a person's character to be wise, creative, and critical (Sukriyadi, 2020). In the world of education, technology is required to support students' learning processes so that reading activities are not boring, thereby encouraging students' interest in reading.

The advancement of the digital era has made it simpler and easier for us. Because technology has provided various easy and possible facilities, all activities could be carried out differently. The advancement of information and communication technology is a factor that affects all aspects of human life. Essentially, technology has the ability to facilitate human activities. Today's demand for information and communication technology necessitates that its users develop this technology in various aspects of human life, no matter where they are.

Teachers are now expected to be able to create effective and appealing learning media for their students. Media is a method or tool that is actively designed for a specific purpose. Learning media is one of the media used as a communication tool in the teaching and learning process. Learning media are all types of physical equipment that are placed a lot to convey information and encourage interaction (Yaumi, 2017)

The role of media in learning is critical in improving the quality of the learning process, particularly in assisting students in the learning process (Rusman et al., 2012). Media are physical tools that contain information and messages for education (Sanjaya, 2012). Media serves as a tool for achieving learning objectives. All media information must be able to engage students both mentally and physically, or in the form of value activities, for learning to occur with various innovations. Wattpad is one of the learning media innovations in the form of website services that is also a social media application dedicated to writing and reading literary works.

Wattpad is an application that contains a collection of articles, short stories, novels, poetry, and the like. Wattpad is chosen as a medium that contains reading material because besides being able to be used for learning in class, this application could also be used as entertainment for students so that learning in class is not monotonous and not dull. Furthermore, it could give a distinct impression to students because students get learning and entertainment simultaneously in the classroom, making it easier for them to understand learning. In addition, students are also familiar with this application, so the use of this learning media is relatively easy to apply. Wattpad is effective to be used in writing and reading literature classes.

Wattpad's social media application as an effective medium for providing learning materials, channeling creative ideas, and improving students' vocabulary insight, based on technological sophistication, practicality, and interest, is the reason for

researcher to develop this one medium in the world of teaching literature, particularly in English (Putri & Rukiyah, 2021)

One advantage of reading is that it enriches students' vocabulary. A reader needs a large vocabulary so that when he reads, he won't have trouble digesting every word he says. When a reader's vocabulary grows as a result of reading activities, it becomes easier for the reader to describe something. Wattpad app readers who do not write could, of course, use it to communicate in their daily lives.

Seeing how important students' reading skills are, but which are often avoided by students because of their lack of interest in reading, it is interesting to examine whether reading habits based on the Wattpad application are related to reading skills. The reason for choosing the Wattpad application is that it is useful for students to read short stories. Wattpad contains various kinds of fiction that could be used as a source of student learning in reading stories.

There are previous related studies that use Wattpad as a reading medium. Lestari (2022) conducted a thesis entitled "The Use of Wattpad Strategy to Improve Student's Reading Skills at SMAN 3 Luwu Utara." this study observed to determine the students' improvement in learning reading skills using the Wattpad strategy for the eleventh-grade SMA Negeri 3 Luwu Utara. According to the findings, the researcher concludes that the use of the Wattpad strategy is effective in improving students' reading skills. Seftiani (2021) conducted a quantitative study entitled "Use of Wattpad to Increase the Student's Reading Comprehension." this study aimed to find out whether using Wattpad was effective to increase students' Reading Comprehension or not at Seventh Grade Students of SMP Negeri 2 Gantarangkeke in the academic year 2020/2021. Yunita et al. (2022) conducted a journal entitled "The use of Wattpad media to increase students' reading narrative text comprehension at SMK Miftahul Huda Cilegon." this study is quantitative research with reading tests and questionnaires for

the data collection. This research aims to find out i) the significant difference in students' reading comprehension of narrative text after being taught by using Wattpad media, and ii) the student's response to the use of Wattpad.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher conducted research entitled "The Use of Wattpad as English Reading Medium to Enrich Students' Vocabulary: A Case Study."

B. Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of the research is focused on using Wattpad as an English reading medium to enrich student's vocabulary and is limited to class X Senior High School students.

C. Research Question

Based on the problem discussed in the background above, the researcher formulates research questions as follows: How is the use of Wattpad as an English Reading Medium to Enrich Students' Vocabulary for class X Senior High School?

D. Purpose of the Study

This study aims to explore the use of Wattpad as an English reading medium to enrich student's vocabulary

E. Significance of the Study

The researcher hopes that the results of this study could provide many benefits to all parties, both theoretical and practical.

1. Theoretical benefits:

The results of this study could provide a valuable contribution to the development of scientific insight related to information literacy theory and reading interest.

2. Practical Benefits

a. For students

- 1) Students' reading skills and interests increase, so learning English is more beneficial.
 - 2) Increase students' understanding in understanding a reading, text, or story.
- b. For teachers
- 1) Teachers could use it as a reference or learning medium. In addition, they could be applied in carrying out teaching and learning activities in the classroom to create a conducive and fun learning atmosphere to produce maximum learning.
 - 2) Get a correct understanding of reading skills so they could use Wattpad appropriately in learning English.
- c. For school
- 1) Motivate schools to use the Wattpad application to stimulate their students' reading interest.
 - 2) Provide input for schools to socialize the use of the Wattpad application in improving the quality of educators and students.

F. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid mistakes and misunderstanding terms and content of the topic in this study, it is necessary to define the key terms used in this study:

1. Wattpad

Wattpad is an application platform and online community site for writers and readers. Through Wattpad, users could write or read information within the scope of cyber literature stories (literary world).

2. **Reading Medium**
Reading mediums are all printed media provided to the public in the form of books, magazines, tabloids, newspapers, brochures, and other printed material of an informative nature that could be read, studied, and benefited people's lives.
3. **Vocabulary**
Vocabulary is a collection of several words that are combined so that they have meaning or significance
4. **Student's Point of View**
The student's point of view is a student's view or thought of a truth and the truth is relative because it is influenced by personal elements and according to the views of each individual, both in the form of judgments and suggestions.