

**The Application of Skimming Strategy to Improve Students' Reading  
Comprehension Skill**

*(The Experimental Study to The First Year Students of English Department of STKIP  
Bina Bangsa Getsempena Banda Aceh)*

**SKRIPSI**

**Submitted in partial fulfillment of requirement  
for degree of sarjana pendidikan (S1)**

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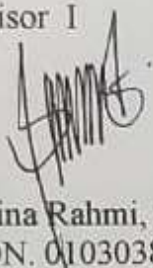
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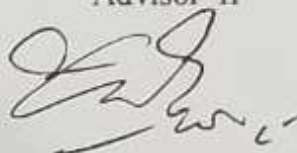
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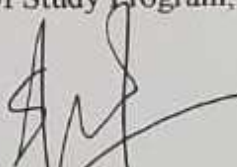
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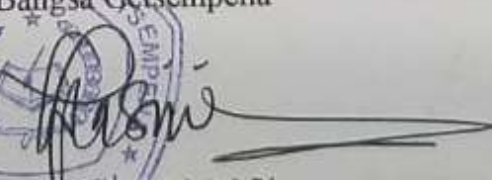
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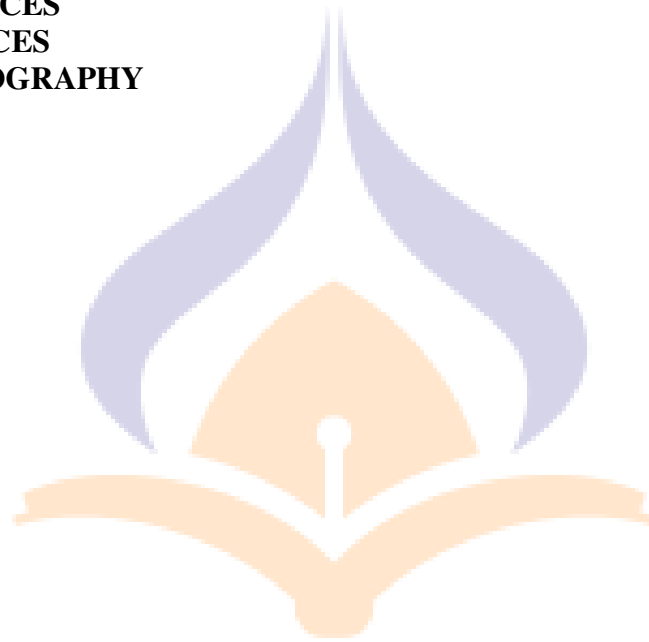
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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the discussion on the background of the study, problem of study, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope of study, hypothesis, definition of terms.

#### 1.1. Background of the study

Reading is one of English skills that the learners should understand in learning the foreign language. In the daily life, reading to be the most important part in teaching learning activities in the classroom, such as the students solve the material problem and to present the topic orally in front of the classroom.

Reading is a skill for searching a complete information in which the reader interacts with the text to create meaningful discourse. The reader is an active, individual problem solver that coordinates a number of skills and strategies to gain understanding as he reads a reading material. The purpose of reading is to develop fluency in which the reader is able to know what information they might need in a lesson. Reading activities are highly recommended to students because by reading they are able to understand what they want to know.

This activity is the most important thing in the classroom because when the students read some theory they can understand what the theory means and it helps them to know what they learn in the classroom.

Related to the statement above that the learners' enthusiasm be successful in learning process in the classroom is through the reading skill. Almost of the learners have the knowledge through by reading Harmer (2001: 153). Knowledge acquired by students is not only derived from the teaching and learning process at schools but also through reading activities from students' activities. Therefore, reading comprehension is an important requirement to be master and improvement of students' knowledge.

In addition, for students from elementary to university level, reading is crucial to do. They should read compulsory books or other materials related to their lessons. For students who are learning the language, reading is one of the skills that should be learned and considered as the most important activity because it can affect other language skill; listening, speaking, and writing. According to Harmer (2007: 283), reading is one of the skills that should be taught as part of teaching English.

Moreover, there are some difficulties that students do in reading as like how they get the main idea and how they use the good pronunciation from some paragraph. Therefore, students need a guidance to make them be able to improve their reading ability in learning process. The teachers have an important role to encourage students in improving reading comprehension skills. Reading is considered as an important aspect for students because of its valuable benefits in developing knowledge.

Reading is also the most important skill for learners especially in academic context because students need to understand and to handle the all aspects and difficulties reading. In general, the essence of reading consists as like identifying,

interpreting, and responding to components of a written message. It means that the individuals, in this case the students, must understand and interpret the meaning of words or symbols in a text to achieve their own goals or interests. In getting all the information components and getting meaning in the written message, many students find some difficulties because they have to go through the process in solving a particular puzzle (Brown, 2003: 299).

Related to this study, a study by Ghafura (2015) by the title "*The use of skimming technique in students, reading comprehension*" in which in this research the researcher used pre-test and post-test on short function text for the first year students of English department of STKIP Bina Bangsa Getsempena Banda Aceh. The result of this study reveals that the use of skimming technique in classroom is successful.

Based on the pre observation of STKIP Bina Bangsa Getsempena Banda Aceh, the researcher found some problems why the students consider reading to be hard. First, they feel harder when they are asked by the lecturer to decide the main idea from some paragraphs. Second, they read some texts yet they use the error pronunciation.

Related to those reasons above, the researcher thinks that skimming strategy can help and improve students' reading ability, especially to find the main idea in a text because skimming strategy is a strategy that teach them how to read well and find the main idea. Furthermore, the researcher interests in conducting a research under

the title "**Application of Skimming Strategy to Improve Students' Reading Comprehension Skill In The First Year Of English Department At STKIP Bina Bangsa Getsempena Banda Aceh**".

### **1.2 The problem of study**

Based on the background explained above, the problem of study was “does the use of skimming strategies improves reading comprehension skill of second semester of English department at STKIP Bina Bangsa Banda Aceh?”

### **1.3 The objective of the study**

The objective of the study is to find out whether the of skimming strategies in teaching reading can improve student's reading comprehension skill to the second semester students at STKIP Bina Bangsa Getsempena Banda Aceh.

### **1.4 Significance of the study**

The result of the research is expected to be a useful reference for the English language teaching particularly for teaching reading for student's and for the English teachers as well as researcher.

### **1.5 The Scope of the study**

According to Abromitis (2009:11), the scope of the study is necessary since it can simplify the subject for the researcher and solve the problem, such as time,

dexterity, cost and energy that emerge from the research planning.

Based on that, this study focuses on the use of skimming techniques in improving the students' reading abilities and the subjects are the second semester students at STKIP Bina Bangsa Getsempena Banda Aceh.

## **1.6 Hypothesis**

In this study, the hypothesis of the study are as follows:

Ho : The skimming strategies improve reading comprehension skill of the second semester of English department students at STKIP Bina Bangsa Getsempena Banda Aceh

Ha : The skimming strategies do not improve the reading comprehension skill of the second semester of English department students at STKIP Bina Bangsa Getsempena Banda Aceh

## **1.7 The definition of term**

The definition of terms are as follows:

### **a. Reading comprehension**

Based on Rzaikiwiz (2009:46), reading comprehension is said to be a very unique skill because not students can do it even though they have got the reading skill. The ability to read is the ability to read text, process it, and understand its meaning. Although this definition may seem simple, it is not always easy to teach,

learn or practice reading. Therefore, the reader cannot read with good comprehension if the subject of the text is one who does not know and has no real interest in it.

**b. Skimming**

Skimming as one of effective techniques that is useful to enhance the reading comprehension. According to Brown (2003:213), skimming is the process of rapid coverage of reading matter to determine its gist or main idea. It is a prediction strategy used to give a reader a sense of the topic and purpose of a text, the organization of the text, the perspective or point of view of the researcher and its usefulness to the reader.

