

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Research Background

Reading is an activity to get information or messages through the media in the form of text. Reading activity is not only as an assessment in learning activities (Reading Skills), but also to study, or even just for entertainment. The existence of information technology makes it easy for the public to access a variety of writings from professional writers and amateur writers. Even though there have been conveniences, the executive of *Tim Pelaksana Dewan TIK Nasional* (DETIKNAS) revealed that interest in reading using technology such a social media (Twitter and Facebook) is still low because users tend to use social media for narcissism. Regarding interest in reading, Suhajar Diantoro also conveyed at the *Kordinasi Nasional Bidang Perpustakaan Nasional* meeting in 2021, that the reading rate of books in Indonesia was in the 62nd position from 70 countries. Moreover, based on a survey conducted in 2019 by the Program for International Students Assessment (PISA) through the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) also stated reading interest in books in Indonesia is relatively low. One book is only awaited by 90 people when according to the standards set by UNESCO, at least every people have 3 new books every year. It can be concluded that Indonesia citizen has low interest in reading because they do not have the desire to explore books and continue reading (Khasanah, 2019). According to Khairuddin (2013), people who has a low interest in reading is happened because of the lack of pleasure and desire for the reading texts they find or the texts they read do not have the appeal that can grow the reading interest. In addition, people need those factors to increase their interest.

This low interest has been discussed in several studies about low interest in reading which showed with the title “An Analysis of Students’ Interest in Reading at UIN Ar-Raniry” by Maulidar (2018). The results are that students prefer to watch movies, read humor-themed books or stories rather than books

related to academics, and have difficulty understanding reading materials in English. The low interest in reading can also be seen from the actions of students who do not take time to go to the library, use the internet for things other than important reading, and do not feel much support from the learning system used by lecturers. In the second studies, “Analysis of Students' Interest in Reading” by Bawawa *et. al.* (2019), It was found that the cause of low reading among students is that the students easily get bored when reading, prefer to spend time playing rather than reading, and use language that is too rigid. In the third studies, “An Analysis of Students' Reading Interest During Learning from Home Amidst the Covid-19 Pandemic” by Utami & Nur (2021), It was also found that the causes of low reading among students were not much different from other studies, namely that students had difficulty reading because they used vocabulary that was difficult to understand, preferred to read fictional stories that suited their tastes, and did not have time to read.

The lack of interest in reading amongs students was also found in eleventh grade students of SMAS Wisuda Pontianak. According to the English teacher through pre-observation, students in 11th grade are less active in class because they do not really understand English, and still seem unfamiliar with the use of English, especially when asked to read. Moreover, the students also hard to find a reading media for themselves. Meanwhile, in Indonesia, English is one of the important subjects in school for examining students' academic capabilities, and reading is an important skill that needs to be mastered by students, especially for senior high school level (Sharma & Puri, 2020), and in curriculum 2013, eleventh grade students are expected to be able to understand and compose written texts, and analyze social functions, structures, and elements in a text. That is mean, the students have a low interest need to study more to improve their reading skills because as far as we know, one way to improve reading skills is to read. To overcome this, the teacher introduces them any kind of short stories to read and translated into Indonesian. One type of reading text used is fanfiction because it is popular among teenagers and easy to find.

After find out using interesting types of reading text, Fanfiction. The researcher is looking for information regarding the use of fanfiction in increasing reading interest. It found that, people in particular communities such as the Kpop Community (Kpop Fans), Anime and Comic Community (Anime and Comic Fans), and others have a fairly high interest in reading on fanfiction, it can be seen from the number of readers on reading sites and applications, namely fanfiction.net, asianfanfics.com, AO3, Wattpad, WordPress, etc (Simanjuntak *et. al.*, 2021; Pido *et. al.*, 2022). The type of reading uploaded on these sites and applications is called Fan-Fiction that defined by Bahoric and Swaggerty (2015) as a fiction story written by fans who generally use their idols as characters in the story.

From the study related to Fanfiction, it was found that the use of Fanfiction has the benefit of increasing interest in reading, especially for people who join Fan Communities. According to the first research entitled "The Influence of Fan Fiction: Alternative Universe (AU) in Increasing Indonesian Teenagers' Interest in Reading" by Maimun & Rachmani (2022), the results found that Treasure Makers (name of a boyband fan community) had a high interest in reading when reading Fanfiction because it uses their favorite idols as cast members in the story so that when reading, they find it easy to understand the content and are entertained. Treasure Makers also admits that fanfiction can be used as reading media. The second study entitled "I started reading when my idol is the character of the story' Study of Motivation to Read English Fanfiction" by Abdulrahman & Cahyati (2020) was also carried out on fan community members (k-pop and anime), was found that participants admitted reading fanfiction because they are interested in the use of characters in the story. It helps improve their English skills, such as increasing vocabulary and developing their writing skills.

However, this study focuses on students' reading interest in Fanfiction that used by the teacher as learning media spesifically in eleventh grade class. Therefore, the researcher conducted this research for 11th grade students of SMAS Wisuda Pontianak. This research aims to find out the reading interest,

and how fanfiction influences the students' reading interest. From this research entitled "*An Analysis of Eleventh Grade Students' Reading Interest in Fanfiction*", the researcher hopes it will be helpful for the English teacher in SMAS Wisuda Pontianak, and other educators to sure to use Fanfiction as a type of reading media in teaching English to increase students' interest in reading.

B. Research Question

The research question of this research is, "How is Fanfiction influences the eleventh-grade students of SMAS Wisuda Pontianak?"

C. Research Purposes

This research has two purposes to answer research' questions.

1. The reading interest in fanfiction of eleventh grade students of SMAS Wisuda Pontianak.
2. To find out how Fanfiction can influence the eleventh-grade students' of SMAS Wisuda Pontianak reading interest in Fanfiction.

D. Significance of Research

The significance of this research can hopefully provide theoretical and practical benefits.

1. Theoretical Benefits

Through the results of this research, the researcher hopes that this research can benefit the 11th grade students of SMAS Wisuda Pontianak to find new reading materials that can increase their interest in reading, and become an additional reference for similar research in the future. The researcher also hopes the results of this research can fill the gap, and inform readers about the importance of reading interest in students in teaching and learning English.

2. Practical Benefits

From the results of this research, researcher hopes it can make students and teachers aware about reading interest in teaching and learning English.

a. To Students of SMAS Wisuda Pontianak

For students, this research hopefully can help them to find new reading materials that they can use to improve their reading skills, and become ideas to use fanfiction as a learning media for study english.

b. To English Teacher of SMAS Wisuda Pontianak

For English teachers in SMAS Wisuda Pontianak, the researcher hopes this research can help the teacher find out whether students are interested or not in the type of reading used, so that it can be a supporter for continuing to use fanfiction in English classes, and can be guide in improving the quality reading media.

c. To Other English Teacher

For English teacher, it is hope that the results of this research can be information related to fanfiction, and make fanfiction an option as reading material for reading subjects in class.

E. Scope of Research

To reduce the scope of research, this research focuses on a single variable that focuses on reading interes, and uses two terms to avoid reader confusion.

1. Research Variable

In this research, the researcher used a single variable. Therefore, the variable classified as a single variable, “students’ reading interest”.

2. Research Terminology

The researcher provides the following explanations which are used in this research.

a. Reading Interest

Reading Interest is a way people get their interest from inside or outside to read. Readers who get interested from inside are people who read because of their own desires, while a reader who reads because of outside influences does it for a specific purpose and profit. Reading Interest has four aspects, these are the pleasure of reading, the frequency of reading, and awareness of the benefits of reading. If someone feels happy while reading, often reads, and feels the benefits of reading, it means they have an interest in reading. To find out whether someone has an interest in reading or not, can be assessed through influencing factors and indicators.

b. Fanfiction

Fanfiction is a type of reading text or fictional story that usually uses idol names or visualizations that are liked by writers and readers. In the world of Fanfiction, readers and writers have their own languages, such as the types of relationships and the use of characters. But in general, Fanfiction has the same genre as other stories. The types of relationships that can be found in Fanfiction are Enemies-to-lovers, Alternate Universe (AU), Soulmates, Body swapping, etc. The characters used by the authors are Canon, Fanon, Headcanons, Out of Character (OOC), Original Character (OC), etc.