

An Analysis of Students' Difficulties on Reading Text in Finding Main Idea at the Tenth Graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro

Trisna Dinillah Harya*Institut Agama Islam Negeri (IAIN) Metro Lampung, Indonesia* trisnadinillah@gmail.com

Abstract

Reading is about looking through the text for details. The context of this research is explained about the students' difficulties on reading text in finding main idea. The objective of this research is to know the difficulties that faced by the students in reading text, the factors of the students' difficulties in finding the main idea in text, the students overcome the difficulties in finding main idea in the text at the tenth graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro. The research design of this research was qualitative research. The data collecting technique of this research was documentation, observation, and interview. The sample of this research was ten students of Computer and Network Engineering in e class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro. The result of this research shows that the students' difficulties in reading text at the tenth graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro is the students still difficult to find the main idea in English text. The factors that caused the students difficult to find the main idea in text are students need a long time in answering question of main idea question, students do not focus while answering question, and students also do not know the meaning of the sentence. Also most of students at the tenth graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro are do not know what is main idea, and the students do not know how to find the main idea in the text. Another reason of the factor that make the students difficult to find the main idea in English text because of the long sentence, limit vocabulary of students, and the students' lack of reading strategy. The students' solving of the difficulties in finding main idea in the text are read again the text, ask the teacher, and ask friends for a help.

Keywords: Students' Difficulties Reading, Finding Main Idea, Reading Text

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INTRODUCTION

In the context of English, there are four skills to learn, namely speaking, reading, writing, and listening. Reading is one of the important skills. Reading called the important skill because it can help the students understand the text. In reading process, students should master at reading in order to prove the performance in English. Students also need to have good reading for acquiring knowledge and learning new information. If the students' reading ability is low, students will fail in study and will have difficulty to improve the progress. In other words, if the students' reading ability is high, students will have a better chance to improve the progress in study.

Moreover, reading is about looking through the text for details. Reading skill is about understanding of what has been read in the text. Learning to read is not easy because reading require a high level of reading skill. For example, if the reader cannot get the point, the reader also cannot find the main idea in the text.

Nurteteng Syaid (2018: 192) states that people want to obtain information about a specific subject in the text, people definitely have to read that text. Variety of texts that people read are signs, timetables, directories, maps, letters, tables, application forms, stories, text books, instructional, leaflets.

According to Fusthaathul Rizkoh (2014:3) Reading means an activity of reader to understand about passage or written text. In simple definition, reading can be defined as a process that requires comprehension to understand written text by mixing and classifying words into simple information or ideas that make the reader easier to gain the meaning of the text.

Moreover, reading means an activity of readers to get the message or information. In English learning process at the classroom, teachers usually use texts or books as a media to convey material of a subject to students. It means that students need to read a text or book to get the material of the subject.

Greselia Kaganang (2019:45) says that Reading can be one of the language skills that have big impact as the language input which is certainly important in the process of learning and improving language skills especially in English learning process. To support the students intend have good skill in extracting and absorbing information, the students must be having a good learning and practicing in reading.

Furthermore, on reading activity in English class many students find the difficulties in reading text. The difficulties that students faced when reading text are in finding, identifying, implied the main idea in the text and the factors which might caused the students difficult to finding, identifying, implied the main idea in the text are lack of understand the long sentences, lack of reading techniques, and lack of concentration when reading. So, it makes the students get the low score when answering the question, to minimize this problem the teacher should be patient to the students when teaching in order to know the students' ability and give the appropriate strategies for students . This also occurred on students at the tenth graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro. The students at the tenth graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro have difficulties in finding the main idea in the text.

In this case, the researcher conducted a pre-survey on April, 29th 2021at SMK Darul A'mal Metro. The researcher did the interview with the English teacher about the students' ability in reading skill. The researcher did the answer from the English teacher that the students at SMK Darul A'mal Metro are difficult to find the main idea in reading text.

In this research, the researcher chooses the tenth graders of Computer and Network Engineering in e class of SMK Darul A'mal Metro to observe. It consists of twenty one students. The researcher got the data of the tenth graders students of Computer and Network Engineering in e class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro.

Table 1
The data of the tenth graders students of Computer and Network Engineering in the class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro

No	Name of Student	Score	Symbol
1	ALLYA DHAIFINA PUTRI	63.33	IC
2	ANISA FATMALA SARI	60	IC
3	AQUILLAH YUPADA	36.67	IC
4	AYU BELA SAFIRA	80	C
5	DESNA ULANDARI	66.67	IC
6	FERA AMANDA ABELLIA	74	C
7	HANI PUSPITA SARI	56.67	IC
8	INTAN INDAH NUR MAHYA	46.67	IC
9	KANSYA ADISTIA DARMA	76.67	C
10	KHAFIFATUR ROHMAH	86.67	C
11	LESTARINA	53.33	IC
12	NANDA RUPHITA LESTARI	74.33	C
13	NOVA NUR ANISA	74	C
14	REZA HASNA NAURAH SALSABILA	74	C
15	RIFDA LAILATUL MAFIROH	83.33	C
16	ROFI' MAHMUDIAH	74.33	C
17	SALSABILA PUTRI CAHYA NINGRUM	50	IC
18	SEPTIANA SUKMA DEWI	80	C
19	SITI NUR HAYATI	74	C
20	VINA NUR AINI	66.67	IC
21	ZITA AZARIA	60	IC

Source: Taken on a pre-survey on April, 29th 2021 from English teacher's archive of the tenth graders students of Computer and Network Engineering in the class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro

Note. IC: In Complete
 C: Complete

From the score above, the students' ability in reading skill are low because of the Minimum Mastery Criteria (KKM) at the tenth graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro is seventy four. It can be found that eleven students complete the test and ten students are in complete.

Based on the statement, the researcher regards that students' difficulties should be analyzed. This research, designed to obtain an empirical description of the students' difficulties in reading text in English learning particularly. As a result, the researcher would like to conduct the research with the title "An Analysis of Students' Difficulties on Reading Text in Finding Main Idea at the Tenth Graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro

METHOD

This research discuss about an analysis of students' difficulties. In this case, the researcher focuses on the factors that caused the students difficult to find the main idea in reading text. The researcher uses qualitative research for the method of this research. According to Sugiyono (2015:15) qualitative research means research method that used to examine the condition of natural object, where the researcher is the key instrument.

The reason of the researcher uses qualitative research because, the problem is unclear, holistic, complex, dynamic, and full of meaning. So, it is not possible if the data on the social situation to be collected by using quantitative research with test and questionnaire instrument. Moreover, the researcher wants to realize the social situation deeply.

The researcher conducts the research at SMK Darul A'mal Metro for this research. To get the data, the researcher divides the data into two types. The two types of the data sources are described as follows:

1.The Primary Source

The primary source for this research is document of students' score in English class. The score of students in English class directed to ten students. Meanwhile, the results of the primary source for this research are the students' perspective about the difficulties that students faced in reading text on English class.

2. The Secondary Source

The secondary source in this research is something which related to the research. Something that relate to this research are the students at the tenth graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro, English teacher with English teacher's archive, books, and journals.

Data collecting technique is the most important step in research. It can be that because if the writer did not understand about the data collection technique, so the writer will not get the data with the set of data standard. Wherefore, the main purpose of research is to get data Sugiyono (2015:15) Thus, the researcher should get the data with data collection technique in order to conduct a research. Moreover, in this research, the researcher will collect the data through several techniques as follows.

1. Documentation

The documentation means that records of past event in the form of written source or documenter or it can be the archive of the school such as organization structure, and the vision and mission of SMK Darul A'mal Metro; picture and also the teacher's archive.

2. Observation

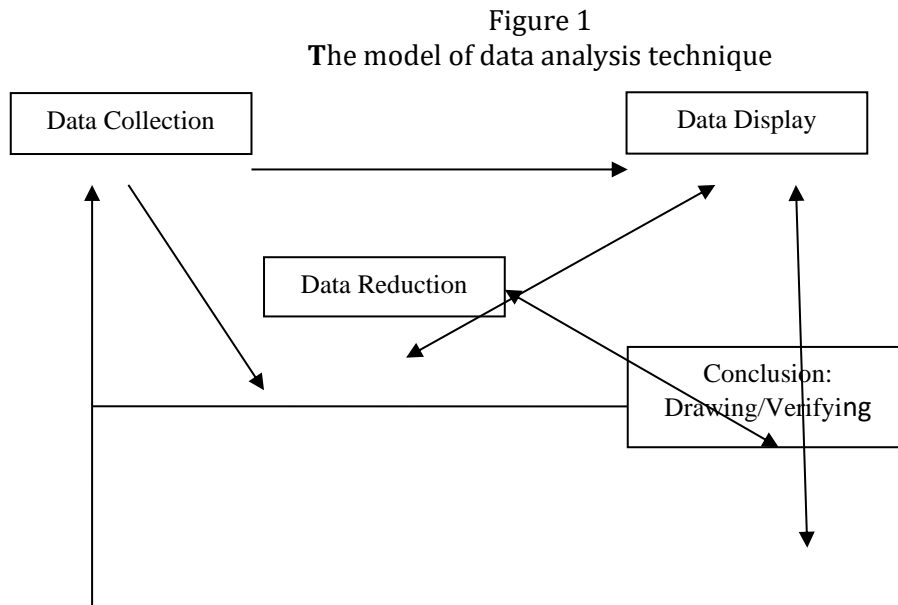
The researcher in this research use overt observation and covert observation. In this technique, the researcher observes the students activity in reading text to find the main idea at SMK Darul A'mal Metro.

3. Interview

The researcher conducts an interview with unstructured questions that related to students' perspective to the students at the tenth graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro. The aim is to know the students' difficulties in reading text to find the main idea.

Data Analysis Technique

The researcher applied the research model by Miles and Huberman in Sugiyono's book for the data analysis technique in this research. The component of this model is as follows.



Source: Taken from Sugiyono's book

The data analysis technique steps as follow

1. Data Collection

The data collection means the step for collecting a whole data to complete the research. This step occur when the researcher raise the data from observation and documentation to complete the research.

2. Data Reduction

The data reduction means the step to summarize some point. This step occur when the researcher make summary, select main point, and focus to the important thing. So, the researcher be able to give an overview about the data.

3. Data Display

This step occur when the researcher display the data into the text. Thus the researcher can be easier to comprehend the data.

4. Conclusion

This step occur when the researcher draw the data conclusion in data findings and verify the data of the research.

Research Approach

The researcher conduct a research approach as a case study to explore the factors that caused the students difficult to find the main idea in the text.

The steps for this research are stated below:

1. Determining a Research Problem

The researcher concerned on collecting the students' score in middle term reading test worksheet and also collecting the problem of the students.

2. Determining a Case

The researcher collected and determined the case. Once the case is gained, the researcher will analyze the case.

3. Reviewing the Literature

The researcher looked for the literature that relate to the research. The function of reviewing the literature is to determine the extent of this research relevant to the literature.

4. Collecting the Data

The researcher gained the data from the English teacher and also the students of the Tenth graders at SMK Darul A'mal Metro.

5. Analyzing and Evaluating the Data

Analyzing and evaluating is necessary to complete the data collection for the research. Analyzing is about select the research needs and evaluating is about summarized the research needs.

Reporting

The researcher made report in order to display the data and share the result to reader about the research.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The researcher doing overt observation by giving the students twenty five multiple choice questions about finding main idea. Then, the researcher found two students that got score 80-70, three students that got score 69-60, one student that got score 59-50, three students that got score 49-40, one student that got score 29-20. Then, the researcher classifying the students' score from overt observation which only three students that get the high score. Those students are Allya Dhaifina Putri (sixty eight), Desna Ulandari (seventy six), Vina Nur Aini (seventy two). So, it can be concluded that the students are difficult to find main idea on reading text.

The researcher did the result of covert observation by observed the students' activity in finding main idea. Eventually, the researcher found some students' activity in finding main idea that students need a long time in answering question, students does not focus while answering question. Also the students do not know the meaning of the word and sometimes the students do not know the meaning of the sentence, it means that students are low in vocabulary knowledge.

Afterward, the researcher did the interview on August, 25th 2021 with ten students of Computer and Network Engineering in e class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro.

The interview consisting of nine questions related to students' perspective. These are the questions and the answer from interview.

Question: 1. Do you like to read English text?

Answer:

S1: No, I don't.

S2: Yes, I do.

S3: No, I don't.

S4: No, I don't.

S5: No, I don't.

S6: No, I don't.

S7: No, I don't.

S8: No, I don't.

S9: No, I don't.

S10: No, I don't.

Question: 2. Do you often read English text?

Answer:

S1: Yes, I do.

S2: No, I don't.
S3: Yes, I do.
S4: No, I don't.
S5: No, I don't.
S6: No, I don't.
S7: No, I don't.
S8: No, I don't.
S9: No, I don't.
S10: No, I don't.

Question: 3. Is it difficult to understand English text?

Answer:

S1: Yes, it is.
S2: Yes, it is.
S3: Yes, it is.
S4: Yes, it is.
S5: Yes, it is.
S6: Yes, it is.
S7: Yes, it is.
S8: Yes, it is.
S9: Yes, it is.
S10: Yes, it is.

Question: 4. Do you have difficulties when understand English text? If so why?

Answer:

S1: Yes, I do. Because, it's not interesting when I can't know what's in text.
S2: Yes, I do. Because, I'm bad at vocabulary; So, I can understand about the text.
S3: Yes, I do. Because, I can't get the main point when understand English text.
S4: Yes, I do. Because it's not easy to find the main topic when I read English text.
S5: Yes, I do. Because of the long sentences so, I cannot get the point in English text.
S6: Yes, I do. Because of the paragraph is so long, it caused me hard to know what the text tells about and I don't like it.
S7: Yes, I do. Because of the limit vocabulary that I have when I reading English text make me don't know about the main idea inside.
S8: Yes, I do. Because, the structure of English texts is different it made me difficult to know the main point in that text.
S9: Yes, I do. Because, I'm confuse about the important idea in English text.
S10: Yes, I do. Because, I'm bad to remember the English meaning and at the end I can't get the main idea in the text.

Question: 5. What will you do if you find difficulties in understanding English text?

Answer:

S1: Looking for dictionary, ask to my friend.
S2: Looking for the meaning.
S3: Looking for dictionary.
S4: Looking for dictionary, ask friends.
S5: Not doing anything.
S6: Asking the teacher.
S7: Asking to teacher.
S8: Looking for dictionary.
S9: Trying to understanding the meaning.
S10: Asking to my teacher.

Question: 6. Do you know what is the main idea in English text?

Answer:

S1: No, I don't.

S2: No, I don't.

S3: No, I don't.

S4: Yes, I do.

S5: No, I don't.

S6: No, I don't.

S7: No, I don't.

S8: Yes, I do.

S9: Yes, I do.

S10: Yes, I do.

Question: 7. Do you know how to find the main idea in English text?

Answer:

S1: No, I don't.

S2: No, I don't.

S3: No, I don't.

S4: No, I don't.

S5: No, I don't.

S6: No, I don't.

S7: No, I don't.

S8: Yes, I do.

S9: Yes, I do.

S10: Yes, I do.

Question: 8. Is it difficult to find the main idea in English text? If so why?

Answer:

S1: Yes, it is. Because, so many paragraph in the text.

S2: Yes, it is. Because, I don't understand about the text.

S3: Yes, it is. Because, I don't know the text.

S4: No, it isn't.

S5: Yes, it is. Because, I difficult to know about the text.

S6: Yes, it is. Because, I ignore the text.

S7: Yes, it is. Because, the text is make me confuse.

S8: Yes, it is. Because, I difficult to understand the text.

S9: Yes, it is. Because, I'm ignoring the long paragraph.

S10: No, it isn't.

Question:9.What will you do if you find difficulties in finding the main idea in English text?

Answer:

S1: Trying to ask my teacher.

S2: Ask the teacher.

S3: Asking my teacher.

S4: Read all over the text.

S5: Repeat read the text twice or more.

S6: Look for my friend to help.

S7: Not doing anything.

S8: Read the text again then ask friend.

S9: Ask the teacher for a help.

S10: Read text again from the first to the last paragraph.

Based on the interview above, it can be seen that ten of students of the tenth graders of computer and network engineering in E class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro have the same difficulties on reading text which is in finding main idea.

According to the interview, the researcher found that eight of ten students are difficult to find the main idea. These are the difficulties that faced by students when finding the main idea:

Lack of long paragraph

On the report of interview, it can be known that three students are difficult to find the main idea because of the long paragraph in reading text. So, the first factor that faced by three of ten students of the tenth graders of computer and network engineering in e class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro is lack of long paragraph.

Poor of reading strategy

As stated on interview, it can be seen that four of ten students are difficult to find the main idea because of the students do not know reading strategy in finding main idea. So, the second factor that faced by four of ten students of the tenth graders of computer and network engineering in e class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro is poor of reading strategy.

Lack of vocabulary

On the word of interview, it can be classified that three of ten students are difficult to find the main idea because of limit vocabulary. So, the third factor that faced by three of ten students of the tenth graders of computer and network engineering in e class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro is poor of vocabulary knowledge.

Also from the data interview, it can be known that only two of ten students do not have difficulties on reading text in finding main idea because the students can solve the difficulties with students' ability. And for other students might solve the difficulties with teacher's help and friends' help. So, it means that students' difficulties on reading text in finding main idea at the tenth graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro are in paragraph components, reading strategy, vocabulary knowledge.

Afterwards, from the data result, the researcher found that in interview answer number nine that the students solve the difficulties with ask the teacher including four students, that the students solve the difficulties with ask the students including two students, that the students solve the difficulties with reading the text repeatedly including four students

Based on the research at the tenth graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro, the researcher would like to discuss as follows:

1. The difficulties that faced by students on reading text

This research was conducted by the researcher on ten students of the tenth graders of computer and network engineering in E class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro. From the data result in the previous elaboration, the researcher found that the students' difficulties in reading text at the tenth graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro is the students are difficult to find the main idea in English text. It can be known from the result of observation and interview. The researcher classified the students' score from overt observation which only three of ten students that get the high score. Those students are Desna Ulandari got 76, Vina Nur Aini got 72, and Allya Dhaifina Putri got 68. So, it can be conclude that the students are difficult to find main idea on reading text.

Then, the result of interview answer number four it can be seen that ten of ten students of the tenth graders of computer and network engineering in e class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro are difficult to find main idea on reading text.

2. The factors that caused the students difficult to find the main idea on reading text.

As stated in the data result in the previous elaboration, the researcher found in covert observation the factors that caused the students difficult to find the main idea

on reading text are: the students need a long time in answering question of main idea question, the students do not focus while answering question, and also the students do not know the meaning of the sentence. Furthermore, the factors that caused the students difficult to find main idea on reading text also can be known from the interview answers number six that most students including six of ten students at the tenth graders of computer and network engineering in E class in SMK Darul A'mal Metro do not know what is main idea. And from the interview answers number seven that seven of ten students do not know how to find the main idea.

Another factor that caused the students difficult to find the main idea on reading text are because of the long sentence of reading text, limit vocabulary knowledge of the students, and the lack of students' reading strategy. It can be classified in interview answers number eight that three of ten students of the tenth graders of computer and network engineering in e class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro is lack of long paragraph, four of ten students of the tenth graders of computer and network engineering in e class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro is poor of reading strategy, three of ten students of the tenth graders of computer and network engineering in e class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro is poor of vocabulary knowledge.

B. The way students solve the difficulties in finding main idea on reading text

Depending on students' answer of interview number nine the way students solve the difficulties in finding main idea on reading text the students read again the text, ask teacher or ask friends for a help. To solve the students' difficulties, the researcher conclude that students should learn more about technique to find the main idea, understanding more vocabulary, and more exercise to answer the question of finding main idea. Moreover, to solve the students' difficulties, the researcher concludes that teachers should improve the experience taught and give the students the skimming and scanning strategy when teaching.

The Researcher used some relevant previous research to support and prove the originality of this research. There are five researchers that had done the research in reading about analysis of difficulties. The first research is from Anita Lovia Girsang et.al., entitled "*An Analysis of Reading Comprehension Difficulties in TOEFL Test by High School Students*". The researchers did the research on high school students who had taken the TOEFL test. The objective of the research was to find out the difficulties that were felt by high students in answering reading comprehension questions on TOEFL test. The analysis of the data use qualitative research method. In addition, the result of the research can be found that the biggest problem in reading comprehension in the TOEFL test was due to the lack of interest in reading high school students so they would feel bored by seeing the text in front of them and it was still difficult for high school students to find the meaning of the text due to lack of vocabulary, and lack of practice to answer questions related to reading comprehension with the lack of practice, they think that the time to answer questions is not enough.

The second research is from Nining Warnidah and Bambang Suwarno Arono with the title "*Students' Difficulties in Making Inference in Reading Narrative Passage at the Social Eleventh Grade of SMAN 1 Curup*". The researcher conducts the research on the eleventh graders students of SMAN 1 Curup. The researchers present the purpose of this research is to find out the students' difficulties in making inference in reading narrative passages. The researchers used reading test to get data. The researcher also presents the result that the students' overall difficulty in making inference in reading narrative passages belonged to "moderate" category.

Next, the prior research entitled "*The Difficulties Encountered by The Second Grade Students of SMA YPTB Ketong in Reading Comprehension*" written by Sudarto, Nadrun and Andi Naniwarsih. In this research, the researchers conducted this research in SMA YPTB Ketong. Goal of this research is to find out the difficulties in reading

comprehension encountered by the second grade students of SMA YPTB Ketong. The data was collected by interviewing the students and the English teachers. The researchers conclude that the result of interview from the teachers shows that in the teaching process they do not know the name of the method, explain more and more because students get confused in understanding and translating the words in reading text. The student have insufficient vocabulary so that they find it difficult to understand reading comprehension, difficult in getting message from the reading text, to understand the teacher's explanation and words in English that have more than one meaning.

Then, journal of Fernandita Gusweni Jayanti from Universitas Bengkulu entitled "*Reading Difficulties: Comparison on Students' and Teachers' Perception*". Students of English Department Program at the University Bengkulu were randomly chosen in this study and also teachers who teaching reading course. This study conducted in order to examine and compare students' and teachers' perception regarding students' reading difficulties. The method of this study used questionnaire. For the result of the study, students and teachers agree in some points and in some points there are different perceptions.

The last study is taken from journal of Ratih Laily Nurjanah published in Universitas Ngudi Waluyo with the title "*The Analysis on Students' Difficulties in Doing Reading Comprehension Final Test*". The writer observes this study on students of English Literature at Universitas Ngudi Waluyo. This study is an attempt to find out the difficulties that students faced when doing reading comprehension to find the technique or method to overcome the problem and answer the research questions. The writer chose explanatory multi-method strategy for the method of this study. The result show that students face problem related to poor habit of reading and less interesting reading comprehension course in classroom.

Referring to the prior research, the researcher focused on analyzing students' difficulties. Based on background study the researcher wants to know the factors that causes students difficult to find the main idea in text. For that, the researcher wants to conduct a new research entitled "*An Analysis of Students' Difficulties on Reading Text in Finding Main Idea at the Tenth Graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro*".

From what has been previously described in the background of the study and identification of problems, researcher found that doing research cover all the things that have been stated before is not possible. Therefore, researcher and English teacher decided to limit the problems with conduct research that focuses on something more specific, This research, designed to obtain an empirical description of the students' difficulties in reading text in English learning particularly. As a result, the researcher would like to conduct the research with the title "An Analysis of Students' Difficulties on Reading Text in Finding Main Idea at the Tenth Graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro".

Referring to the problem of the study, the implication of the research is hopefully able to know the difficulties that faced by the students in reading text, the factors of the students' difficulties in finding the main idea in text, the students overcome the difficulties in finding main idea in the text at the tenth graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro.

The implication of the research for the students, the researcher hopes that the students be able to find the main idea in every kind of text on reading skill. For the teacher, the researcher hopes that the teacher be able to improve the experience in solve the students' difficulties and give the appropriate strategies to students. For the researcher, the researcher hopes that the researcher be able to give result on description factors of the students' difficulties in finding the main idea in text that faced by the tenth graders at SMK Darul A'mal Metro.

CONCLUSION

The difficulties that faced by students on reading text according to the research result and discussion that explained in chapter IV, the students are difficult to find the main idea on reading text. It can be seen from the result of observation and the students' answer of interview. Then, the researcher classified the students' score from overt observation which only three of ten students that get the high score. Those students are Desna Ulandari got 76, Vina Nur Aini 72, and Allya Dhaifina Putri got 68. Moreover, the result of interview answer number four it can be seen that the students of the tenth graders of computer and network engineering in e class at SMK Darul A'mal Metro are difficult to find main idea on reading text. So, it can be conclude that the students are difficult to find main idea on reading text.

Furthermore, the factors that caused the students difficult to find the main idea in text according to the research result and discussion that explained in chapter IV, the students need a long time in answering question of main idea question, the students do not focus while answering the questions, and the students also do not know the meaning of the sentence. It can be seen in observation result.

Also it can be seen in interview answers that most of students at the tenth graders of SMK Darul A'mal Metro are do not know what is main idea, and the students do not know how to find the main idea in the text. Another reason of the factor that make the students difficult to find the main idea in English text because of the long sentence, limit vocabulary of students, and the students' lack of reading strategy.

Thus, from the students' answer of interview according to the research result and discussion, the solving of the difficulties in finding main idea in the text are read again the text, ask the teacher, and ask friends for a help. To solve the students' difficulties, the researcher conclude that students should learn more about technique to find the main idea, understanding more vocabulary, and more exercise to answer the question of finding main idea.

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION

Trisna Dinillah Harya performed the experiment.

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