# An Analysis of Students' Ability in Reading Comprehension by Using Barrett's Taxonomy at English Department Universitas Negeri Padang 

Liza Purnamasari ${ }^{1}$, Edi Trisno ${ }^{2}$

${ }^{12}$ English Department, Faculty of Languages and Arts, Universitas Negeri Padang Correspondence Email: lizapurnamasari32@gmail.com

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#### Abstract

This research aims to analyze students' ability in reading comprehension using Barrett's taxonomy at English Department Universitas Negeri Padang. The population of this research was students of the 2018 Academic Year English Language Education study program who had taken five reading classes. 28 students were taken as samples of this research by using simple random sampling technique. Test and questionnaires were used as research instruments. This research uses Barrett's taxonomy as an indicator consisting of five levels, namely: Literal, Reorganization, Inferential, Evaluation, and Appreciation. This is descriptive research using a quantitative approach. The results of this study indicate that the ability of students in reading comprehension is in the poor category with a total average score of 53.86. The findings of this study indicate that majority of students face difficulties in comprehending the questions in form of evaluation. It is proved by the data that students have a low ability in understanding evaluation with a total average score was $31.79 \%$. Then, factors affecting the students' reading comprehension ability are the students' linguistic knowledge (65.48\%), students' perception ( $63.04 \%$ ), lecturer influence ( $62.50 \%$ ), family influence (46.88\%), and environment (59.52\%).


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## INTRODUCTION

English has become an important language that is needed to master well besides the national language or Bahasa Indonesia. According to Faliyanti (2015), as an international language, English is learned by students from primary school until

university in Indonesia. Therefore, the government has established that teaching English is one of the required subjects in junior high schools, senior high schools, and university levels.

In learning English, students need to master four basic skills. These skills are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. As EFL learners, Students are challenged to master those skills. Students need to master those skills because each of them has a significant function in enhancing students' English proficiency (Princess, 2018). One of the most crucial linguistic skills is reading. According to Kusumawanti and bharati (2018), reading ability is the most significant English proficiency in students' learning achievement because reading activity initiates and develops overall learning activities. Reading may provide a lot of information. Reading can help someone to find the information he/she needs with specific information.

In English Department of Universitas Negeri Padang, reading is taught from five distinctive levels. It is listed on the curriculum; they are basic reading, intermediate reading, advanced reading, critical reading, and extensive reading. The bad point is there are many students had difficulty in reading comprehension even though they have learned reading skills.

Reading comprehension is affected by a variety of factors, including readers' fundamental skills (Klingner, Vaughn, and Boardman, 2007:6). These factors include reading words, fluency, having a strong vocabulary, and knowing words. Besides, according to Weiner's (1979) theory, several factors impact somebody's success or failure related to students' achievement in reading comprehension. The factors are internal and external factors. The internal factor comes from students' linguistic knowledge and their perception toward themselves. Language proficiency and reading comprehension skills are typically indicated by students' linguistic performance (Gan, Z., Humphreys, G. \& Hamp-Lyons, 2004); (Yilmaz, F. \& Kahyalar, 2017; Gilakjani, A. P. \& Sabouri, 2016). Next, external factors are related to lecturer influence, family influence, and environment. Reading comprehension skills can be impacted by lecturer factors such as teaching strategies, instructional resources, reading lesson content, and the potential applications of the knowledge acquired. Moreover, family involvement and supportive environments encourage them in reading comprehension ability.

Besides those factors above, the question types also affect the students' ability in reading comprehension. According to Asrida and Fitrawati (2019), the most challenging reading comprehension problems students face are main idea questions, mentioned detail questions, transitional questions, context questions to discover the meaning of simple words, and inquiries about the passage's tone. It is in line with (Hidayati, 2018) who stated that students' difficulties in reading comprehension are related to the question types of reading comprehension tests. She discovered that students had trouble accessing references, answering main idea questions, and generating inferences questions. The questions can help students develop concepts, provide background information, clarify their thought processes, and even reach higher levels of thinking.

The student's performance in reading comprehension shows that they read the text and answer the question based on what appears in the text (Vindy et al., 2020). Thus, the questions should stimulate students to process the content and create their
own opinion after rephrasing them into their own words. Therefore, the taxonomy should be used to structure the reading comprehension questions. Bloom's taxonomy and Barrett's taxonomy are two well-known taxonomies in education. The most highlight difference is Bloom taxonomy can be implemented in all subjects according to the general function and designed items, which is to analyze low-level skills versus higher-level skills (Marzano \& Kendall, 2007); meanwhile, Barrett's Taxonomy is more specific (Reeves, 2012). Hence, this study uses Barrett's Taxonomy.

Thomas C. Barrett's made this taxonomy in 1968; it is suitable for analyzing the reading comprehension questions. There are some reasons for the use of Barrett's Taxonomy, as follows: to develop the instructional activities, identify the questions, and specify the reading comprehension instruction (Blair, Helman \& Rupley, 1981: 242 as cited in Rahma, 2019). This taxonomy consists of five levels; literal comprehension, reorganization, inferential comprehension, evaluation, and appreciation. Barrett's taxonomy is used to create reading comprehension questions that improve students' reading abilities since they are based on suitable levels of thinking skills. Therefore, the students should exercise the questions based on Barrett's taxonomy (Vindy et al., 2020).

There are some studies that have been conducted about students' reading comprehension ability in the past. Safura and Helmanda (2020) have conducted a study to investigate how well students could understand reading texts, particularly how to grasp the main idea. According to the findings, the students' comprehension of the main idea was only at a low level when it came to mastering reading texts. As a consequence of the questionnaire, it was also discovered that the techniques and environment of the classroom provide the most challenges to teaching reading. Then, (Sari et al., 2020) also conducted research entitled "Understanding the Level of Students' Comprehension Ability". The results showed that the students have low level of reading comprehension ability and they struggle to determine both literal and non-literal meanings well. Students still have difficulty explaining the contents of the text they are reading which were the basic skill in reading comprehension.

Regarding Barrett's Taxonomy, several studies have also done by researchers. Akhir (2021) did research to investigate how the Barrett's Taxonomy Reorganization Method affected the ability in intensive reading. Then, Novitasari (2017) also conducted a study that aims to determine if there is a balanced distribution of problems requiring low-level and high-level thinking in the government-published textbook for eleventh grade students.

Based on the description above, the previous researches focused on several skills in reading comprehension, such as main ideas, inference, and vocabulary. In regards to Barrett's taxonomy, some studies also have been conducted and give information about the effect of using Barrett's taxonomy and on the frequency of reading comprehension questions based on Barrett's taxonomy. Those previous researches have given information about students' ability in reading comprehension and Barrett's taxonomy.

However, the previous researches did not provide information about students' reading comprehension ability by using Barrett's taxonomy. Therefore, this research analyzed the students' ability by using five levels of comprehension in Barrett's
taxonomy; they are literal comprehension, reorganization, inferential comprehension, evaluation, and appreciation. Besides, the researcher also finds out the factors affecting students' reading comprehension ability. Barrett's taxonomy is used to analyze because it is more detailed to evaluate reading comprehension. So, the student's ability could be seen by answering the question types and the level of reading comprehension based on Barrett's taxonomy. Therefore, the researcher conducted the research entitled "An Analysis of Students' Ability in Reading Comprehension by Using Barrett's Taxonomy at English Department Universitas Negeri Padang".

## METHOD

This research is a descriptive research and aims to know the students' ability of reading comprehension using Barrett's taxonomy and factors that affect their reading comprehension at English Department UNP. Then, this research entails numerical data. So, the researcher chose quantitative research that uses descriptive method. Quantitative research is the gathering and analyzing numerical data to explain, describe, predict, or manage events of interest (Lorraine R. Gay, Geoffrey E. Mills, 2011). Therefore, it was appropriate to answer the research objective in analyzing the ability of students in reading comprehension using Barret taxonomy at English Department of Universitas Negeri Padang.

The population in this study was 2018 academic year students of English Education Study Program at UNP. They are divided into four classes and one of them is an international class that is considered to have different competence or ability among other classes. Thus, the population of this research was three classes (K2, K3, and K4). A simple random technique was used to select the sample in this research. The total population in this research was 112 students, and then the researcher took $25 \%$ of the total population as the sample in this research. So, the sample in this research was 28 students. The researcher employed a reading comprehension test and a questionnaire as research instruments in this research. This test consisted of several texts or passages with 50 multiple-choice questions. The participants answered the test in 90 minutes individually. Then, the questionnaire was adapted from Taladngoen (2020) that consisted of 19 items questions. The data were presented in percentage of students' scores to find out the students' ability and the factors affecting their reading comprehension.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

## Research Finding

A. Test

Based on the test, the researcher found that the mean score was 53.86. It was categorized into the poor category. Then, the findings of this research were divided into the five indicators of Barrett's taxonomy that consist of literal, reorganization, inferential, evaluation, and appreciation. The data were collected from a reading comprehension test that consisted of 50 questions. The researcher calculated the percentages of students' ability in reading comprehension after collecting data and distributing the students' ability for each indicator of Barrett's taxonomy.

Table 1. The Percentage of Students' Answer

| No | Indicators | Correct answer | Incorrect answer |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. | Literal | $55.16 \%$ | $44.84 \%$ |
| 2. | Reorganization | $53.12 \%$ | $46.88 \%$ |
| 3. | Inferential | $55.58 \%$ | $44.12 \%$ |
| 4. | Evaluation | $31.79 \%$ | $68.21 \%$ |
| 5. | Appreciation | $56.55 \%$ | $43.45 \%$ |

The table above showed the percentage of students' answers in the test based on the indicators of Barrett's taxonomy. There are five indicators in Barrett's taxonomy; they are literal comprehension, reorganization, inferential comprehension, evaluation, and appreciation. It can be seen that the highest percentage of students' correct answers was in appreciation comprehension. It was proved by $56.55 \%$ of students who were able to obtain the right answer and $43.45 \%$ of students were not able to get the right answer. On the other hand, the lowest percentage of the students' correct answers was in evaluation comprehension, which was only $31.79 \%$; meanwhile, $68.21 \%$ of students could not answer it correctly. It means that the students had difficulty answering the question related to evaluation comprehension. In literal comprehension, there were $55.16 \%$ of students who answered correctly; while $44.84 \%$ of them answered incorrectly. In the reorganization, there are $53.12 \%$ of students received the right answer and $46.88 \%$ did not. In the inferential, there were $55.58 \%$ of students who answered correctly, and $44.12 \%$ of them who could not answer correctly. Then, the students' ability in each indicator of Barrett's taxonomy can be described as follow:

## 1. Literal Comprehension

Table 2. The Percentage of Students' Answer in Literal Comprehension

| Indicat <br> ors | Sub-indicators | Total of <br> correct <br> answer | Total of <br> incorrect <br> answer |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Literal | Recognitions or <br> recalls of details | $59.52 \%$ | $40.48 \%$ |
|  | Recognitions or <br> recalls of main ideas | $62.5 \%$ | $37.5 \%$ |
|  | $50 \%$ | $50 \%$ |  |
|  | $32.14 \%$ | $67.86 \%$ |  |
|  | Recognitions or <br> recalls of cause and <br> effect relationships | $55.36 \%$ | $44.64 \%$ |
|  | Recognitions or <br> recalls of character <br> traits | $71.43 \%$ | $28.57 \%$ |


| Average | $\mathbf{5 5 . 1 6 \%}$ | $\mathbf{4 4 . 8 4 \%}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Category | Moderate |  |

The table above showed the percentage of students' answers for each subindicator in literal comprehension. It is shown that students got the highest percentage of correct answers in recognition or recall of character traits. It was proved by the percentage of students who answered correctly was $71.43 \%$ and $28.57 \%$ of students were not able to respond correctly. Then, the recognition or recall of main ideas was the second high percentage with $62.5 \%$ correct answers and $37.5 \%$ incorrect ones. Next, the third high percentage was recognition or recall of details with $59.52 \%$ of students who answered the question correctly and $40.48 \%$ of students who were not able to get the correct responses.

On the other hand, recognition or recall of comparisons was the lowest percentage of correct answers among others. It was proved by the percentage of students who answered correctly was only $32.14 \%$; while, $67.86 \%$ of them answered incorrectly. It was the most difficult sub-indicator in literal comprehension. Next, recognitions or recalls of cause and effect relationships was the second difficult indicator with the percentage of students' correct answers was $55.36 \%$, and $44.64 \%$ was incorrect. Then, the students' answer in recognition or recall of sequence was the same both correct and incorrect with the percentage was $50 \%$ and $50 \%$.

## 2. Reorganization

Table 3. The percentage of Students' Answer in Reorganization

| Indicators | Sub- <br> indicator | Total of <br> correct <br> answer | Total of <br> incorrect <br> answer |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Reorganization | Classifying | $58.93 \%$ | $41.07 \%$ |
|  | Outlining | $17.86 \%$ | $82.14 \%$ |
|  | Summarizing | $76.79 \%$ | $23.21 \%$ |
|  | Synthesizing | $58.93 \%$ | $41.07 \%$ |
| Average |  | $\mathbf{5 3 . 1 2 \%}$ | $\mathbf{4 6 . 8 8 \%}$ |
| Category |  | Moderate |  |

The second indicator in the test was reorganization. The table above showed that the average percentage of students' correct responses was $53.12 \%$. It indicates that the category of students' answers for reorganization comprehension was moderate. There are four sub-indicators in this indicator. The first sub-indicator was classifying. There were $58.93 \%$ of students could answer correctly and $41.07 \%$ of them could not answer correctly. The second one was outlining. It was the most difficult part of this indicator. It was proved by the percentage of students' correct response was only $17.86 \%$ and $82.14 \%$ of students were not able to understand the question.

On the other hand, students got the highest percentage in summarizing. It was proved by the percentage of students' correct answer was $76.79 \%$ and only $23.21 \%$ of them who could not answer the questions accurately. The last sub-indicator was
synthesizing. There were $58.93 \%$ of students who responded correctly and $41.07 \%$ of students could not respond correctly.

## 3. Inferential

Table 4. The Percentage of Students' answer in Inferential Comprehension

| Indicators | Sub-indicators | Total of <br> correct <br> answer | Total of <br> incorrect <br> answer |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Inferential | Inferring supporting <br> details | $37.50 \%$ | $62.50 \%$ |  |  |  |
|  | Inferring the main <br> idea | $59.52 \%$ | $40.48 \%$ |  |  |  |
|  | Inferring sequence | $42.86 \%$ | $57.14 \%$ |  |  |  |
|  | Inferring <br> comparisons | $67.86 \%$ | $32.14 \%$ |  |  |  |
|  | Inferring cause and <br> effect relationships | $82.14 \%$ | $17.86 \%$ |  |  |  |
|  | Inferring character <br> traits | $39.29 \%$ | $60.71 \%$ |  |  |  |
|  | Predicting outcomes | $41.07 \%$ | $58.93 \%$ |  |  |  |
|  | Inferring about <br> figurative language | $76.79 \%$ | $23.21 \%$ |  |  |  |
| Average | $\mathbf{5 5 . 8 8 \%}$ | $\mathbf{4 4 . 1 2 \%}$ |  |  |  |  |
|  | Category |  |  |  |  | Moderate |  |

The percentage of students' responses in inferential comprehension is revealed on the table above. It showed that the average percentage of students' right answers was $55.88 \%$ and it was classified in the moderate category. There are eight sub-indicators in this part. In inferring supporting details, there were $37.50 \%$ of students who could answer accurately; meanwhile, $62.50 \%$ of students could not answer it correctly. It was the lowest percentage of students' right answers in this part. It means that students had difficulties in answering the question about inferring supporting detail. The second sub-indicator was inferring the main idea. There were $59.52 \%$ of students got the correct response and $40.48 \%$ of them did not. Next, in inferring sequence, $42.86 \%$ of students responded the question properly, while, $57.14 \%$ of them answered it incorrectly. In inferring comparisons, $67.86 \%$ of students could respond correctly and $32.14 \%$ of them were not able to answer accurately.

The fifth sub-indicator which was inferring cause and effect relationships got the highest percentage of the students' right answers. It was proved by the percentage of students' correct answers was $82.14 \%$, and only $17.86 \%$ of students got the incorrect answer. It demonstrates that students were able to answer the questions in this part. Meanwhile, inferring character traits was classified in low percentage because that was only $39.29 \%$ of students who could answer correctly and $60.71 \%$ of them could not. Next, in predicting outcomes, there were $41.07 \%$ of students got the
right answer and $58.93 \%$ of them did not. The last one was inferring about figurative language and it is also classified as high percentage of students' correct answers. It was proved by the percentage of students' correct answer was $76.79 \%$ and only $23.21 \%$ of them who answered incorrectly.

## 4. Evaluation

Table 5. The Percentage of Students' answer in Evaluation
Comprehension

| Indicators | Sub-indicators | Total of correct <br> answer | Total of <br> incorrect answer |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Evaluation | Judgments of reality <br> or fantasy | $10.71 \%$ | $89.29 \%$ |  |  |  |
|  | Judgments of fact or <br> opinion | $53.57 \%$ | $46.43 \%$ |  |  |  |
|  | Judgments of <br> adequacy or validity | $7.14 \%$ | $92.86 \%$ |  |  |  |
|  | Judgments of <br> appropriateness | $50 \%$ | $50 \%$ |  |  |  |
|  | Judgments of worth, <br> desirability or <br> acceptability | $37.50 \%$ | $62.50 \%$ |  |  |  |
| Average |  |  |  |  | $\mathbf{3 1 . 7 9 \%}$ | $\mathbf{6 8 . 2 1 \%}$ |
| Category |  |  |  |  |  |  |

There are five sub-indicators in this part. In judgments of adequacy or validity, there were only $7.14 \%$ of students who could answer the question correctly: meanwhile, $92.86 \%$ of them could not answer it correctly. It was the lowest percentage among others. It means that students had difficulty in understanding question related to judgments of adequacy or validity. The second sub-indicator which was classified into low percentage was judgments of reality or fantasy. There were only $10.71 \%$ of students who could answer correctly; meanwhile, $89.29 \%$ of them could not answer correctly. It means that students were not able to understand and answer the questions related to judgements of reality or fantasy.

On the other hand, the highest percentage of students' answers in this part was judgments of fact or opinion. There were $53.57 \%$ of students got the right answer; while, $46.43 \%$ of them did not. In judgments of appropriateness, the percentage of students' answers both correct and incorrect answer was the same. It was $50 \%$ and $50 \%$. The last, in judgments of worth, desirability or acceptability, there were $37.50 \%$ of students who answered correctly and $62.50 \%$ of them answered incorrectly. In general, the students' ability in the evaluation was categorized into low category. It was proved by the average percentage of students' correct answers were only $31.79 \%$ and it was the low percentage among other indicators. It means that students had difficulty in answering questions related to evaluation comprehension.

## 5. Appreciation

Table 6. The Percentage of Students' Answer in Appreciation Comprehension

| Indicators | Sub-indicators | Total of <br> correct <br> answer | Total of <br> incorrect <br> answer |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Appreciati <br> on | Emotional response to <br> the content | $60.71 \%$ | $39.29 \%$ |
|  | Identification with <br> characters and incidents | $65.48 \%$ | $34.52 \%$ |
|  | Reaction to the author's <br> use of language | $78.57 \%$ | $21.43 \%$ |
|  | Imagery | $21.43 \%$ | $78.57 \%$ |
| Average |  |  |  |
| Category |  | $\mathbf{5 6 . 5 5 \%}$ | $\mathbf{4 3 . 4 5 \%}$ |
| Moderate |  |  |  |

The table above showed that $60.71 \%$ of students could answer correctly related to the emotional response to the content and $39.29 \%$ of them could not respond correctly. In identification with character and incidents, there were $65.48 \%$ of students got the proper response; meanwhile, $34.52 \%$ of them did not.

The highest percentage of students' correct answers was in reaction to the author's use of language. It was proved by the percentage of students' correct answers was $78.57 \%$ and only $21.43 \%$ of students got the incorrect response. Meanwhile, $21.43 \%$ of students answered correctly in imagery and it was the lowest percentage of students' answers. There were $78.58 \%$ of students who could not answer correctly in this part. It was the most difficult part among others.

## B. Questionnaire

The researcher distributed a questionnaire that consists of 19 items in order to identify the factors affecting students' ability in reading comprehension. The questionnaire was adapted from Taladngoen et al., (2020). The factors were classified as internal and external. Internal factors involve students’ linguistic knowledge and students' perception. Then, lecturer influence, family influence, and environment are the external factors. The result of the questionnaire is presented in the figure below:

Figure 1. Internal Factors Affecting Students' Reading Comprehension


Figure 1 showed that internal factors that affect students' reading comprehension ability is dominated by students' linguistic knowledge ( $65.48 \%$ ) rather than the students' perception (63.04\%).

Figure 2. External Factors Affecting Students' Reading Comprehension


Figure 2 showed that the external factor most affecting students' reading comprehension ability was lecturer influence ( $62.50 \%$ ), followed by environment (59.52\%), and family influence (46.88\%). More detailed explanations are given below:

1. Internal factors
a. Students' Linguistic Knowledge

Table 7. Percentage of Students' Linguistic Knowledge

| Items | Total <br> Score | Total <br> Percentage |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| When you do not know the meaning of vocabulary <br> or expressions in the reading, you do not <br> comprehend the content of the reading. | 78 | $69.64 \%$ |


| When you do not understand the grammatical <br> structures of sentences in the reading, you do not <br> comprehend the content of the reading. | 68 | $60.71 \%$ |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| When you have little or no knowledge related to the <br> reading content, you do not comprehend the main <br> idea of the reading. | 74 | $66.07 \%$ |  |  |
| Mean |  |  |  | $65.48 \%$ |

Most of students' linguistic knowledge that affects their ability in reading comprehension was vocabulary knowledge (69.64\%), followed by background knowledge (66.07\%) and grammatical knowledge (60.71\%).

## b. Students' Perception

Table 8. The Percentage of Students' Perception

| Items | Total <br> Score | Total <br> Percentage |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| You always feel bored when you have to read <br> English-reading materials. | 70 | $62.50 \%$ |
| When you are sick, you are distracted from <br> reading | 73 | $65.18 \%$ |
| When you feel stressed or anxious, you cannot <br> concentrate on reading. | 88 | $78.57 \%$ |
| When you have personal problems, you lose <br> concentration on reading. | 60 | $53.57 \%$ |
| When you feel that the reading materials are too <br> difficult, you want to give up reading. | 62 | $55.36 \%$ |
| Mean |  |  |

The students' perceptions affected the students' reading comprehension as high as $63.04 \%$. It was lower than students' linguistic knowledge. From the data, the students' feeling of stress or anxiety was the most internal factor that affected students' reading comprehension ability ( $78.57 \%$ ). In contrast, the students' personal problems affected the students' ability the least (53.57\%).
2. External Factors
a. Lecturer Influence

Table 9.The Percentage of Lecturer Influence

| Items | Total <br> Score | Total <br> Percentage |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| The introduction of reading lessons by the <br> lecturer is intriguing, so I feel attracted to read. | 71 | $63.39 \%$ |
| When the lecturer introduces reading content that <br> I feel I can apply gained knowledge in the future, <br> I am eager to read and pay more attention. | 78 | $69.64 \%$ |


| Reading activities that are outdated make me feel <br> uninterested and lose concentration on reading. | 77 | $63.39 \%$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The lecturer has interesting reading teaching <br> techniques that attract my interest in reading. | 60 | $53.57 \%$ |
| Mean | $62.50 \%$ |  |

In finding, it was found that in external factors, lecturers' influence affected the most in students' reading comprehension ability ( $62.50 \%$ ). Regarding subexternal factors under the lecturer factor, the introduction of future-relevant reading content had the greatest impact on students' reading comprehension skills ( $69.64 \%$ ). On the other hand, the lecturer's interesting reading teaching techniques had the smallest influence on students' ability for reading comprehension (53.57\%).
b. Family Influence

Table 10. The Percentage of Family Influence

| Items | Total Score | Total <br> Percentage |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Family members have encouraged me to <br> read in English since I was young. | 55 | $49.11 \%$ |
| My parents are strict and always demand me <br> to read in English regularly. | 50 | $44.64 \%$ |
| Family members are aware of the <br> importance of English reading, so they <br> always provide English reading books at <br> home. | 52 | $46.43 \%$ |
| My parents pay attention to my English <br> learning and especially my grades in English <br> reading related subjects. | 53 | $47.32 \%$ |
| Mean |  |  |

Next, the family influence factor showed that family members' support had the most impact on students' ability ( $49.11 \%$ ). Meanwhile, the demand of family members to read English regularly impacts the students' ability the least ( $44.64 \%$ ). The student's ability was impacted by $46.43 \%$ of the student's knowledge of the importance of English and the availability of English reading materials at home. Moreover, parents' attention to students' English learning also affected students' reading comprehension ability ( $47.32 \%$ ).

## c. Environment

Table 11. The Percentage of Environment

| Items | Total Score | Total <br> Percentage |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| When I read in a place that is too hot or too <br> cold, I cannot concentrate on the reading. | 63 | $56.25 \%$ |
| When there are interrupting or loud noises <br> when I am reading, I lose concentration on <br> reading. | 69 | $61.61 \%$ |
| Insufficient light in the pace where 1 am <br> reading causes poor visibility of the reading <br> texts, so l cannot concentrate on the reading. | 68 | $60.71 \%$ |
| Mean | $59.52 \%$ |  |

Lastly, the environmental factor affected the students' reading comprehension ability as much as $59.52 \%$. The interrupting noises affected the students' ability in reading ability the most ( $61.61 \%$ ). However, the temperatures affected the students' reading comprehension the least ( $56.26 \%$ ). The students' ability to comprehend what they were reading was negatively impacted by inadequate lighting by as much as $60.71 \%$.

## Discussion

The finding of this research was gotten from the analysis of students' correct answers to the reading comprehension test at English Department Universitas Negeri Padang. It was found that the ability of the students in reading comprehension test was in the poor category with the mean score was 53.86 .

The finding is in line with Putri (2019) who analyzed the students' ability in reading comprehension for second-year students at SMK YPM ZAIN PAUH KAMBAR Padang Pariaman. It was based on Brown's (2004:4) indicators of identifying topic, main idea, detail (stated and unstated information), recognizing pronoun reference, determining the meaning of word in context, and distinguishing explicit and implicit meaning. The result showed that the ability of the students in reading comprehension was in the low category with the mean score was 54.65 . This result indicated that the students got difficulty in reading comprehension. The finding of the research is also supported by research conducted by Kurniawati (2020) who analyzed students' ability in five reading comprehension skills: main idea questions, directly answered questions, indirectly answered questions, vocabulary questions, and overall questions. She employed those skills as measures to know the students' comprehension of the TOEFL test at the English Department of UNP. The result of this study showed that students' comprehension of the TOEFL reading passages was poor with the average score of the students was $51 \%$.

The research findings revealed that evaluation comprehension was the lowest percentage among the other indicators of Barrett's taxonomy. It is proved by data that show the mean percentage of students' correct answers in evaluation comprehension was only $31.79 \%$ while the incorrect answer was $68.21 \%$. It means
that the students were not able to understand the questions in form of evaluation well. On the other hand, the highest percentage of the ability of students in Barrett's taxonomy was appreciation comprehension with $56.55 \%$ correct answers while the incorrect was $43.45 \%$. It indicates that more than half of the students could respond the questions correctly in form of appreciation.

In the evaluation level, the students were required to evaluate the passage's main idea using either internal or external criteria, such as the reader's experiences, knowledge, or values in relation to the topic (Barrett's, 2018). The students faced some problems at this level. They had difficulty in determining whether incidents, events, or characters in the passage could exist in real life, determining whether the supporting information related to the topic, judging the writer's treatment to the topic is accurate and complete, determining the part of the passage is relevant or not, and pass judgment on the character's actions in particular accidents in the passage. In addition, the students also had difficulty on outlining and recognizing or recall of comparisons.

The second research question aimed to find out the factors that affect students' ability in reading comprehension. Both internal and external factors played roles in affecting students' reading comprehension ability. In internal factors, the students' linguistic knowledge was the major internal factor that affects students' reading comprehension ability ( $65.48 \%$ ). Most of students' linguistic knowledge that affects their ability in reading comprehension was vocabulary knowledge ( $69.64 \%$ ), followed by background knowledge ( $66.07 \%$ ) and grammatical knowledge ( $60.71 \%$ ). Then, the students' perceptions affected the students' reading comprehension as high as $63.04 \%$. It was lower than students' linguistic knowledge. From the data, the students' feeling of stress or anxiety was the most internal factor that affected students' reading comprehension ability ( $78.57 \%$ ). In contrast, the students' personal problems affected the students' ability the least (53.57\%).

The external factors affected students' ability in reading comprehension through the lecturer influence, family influence, and environment. In finding, it was found that in external factors, lecturers' influence affected the most in students' reading comprehension ability $(62.50 \%)$. On the other hand, family influence had the least impact the students' ability in reading comprehension (49.11\%). Compared with some previous researchers that also investigated the factors affecting students’ reading comprehension ability, the researcher found that this study is similar in some aspects to a study conducted by Safura \& Helmanda (2020). Safura \& Helmanda (2020) found that the main factors affecting students' reading comprehension were the method used and the class situation.

## CONCLUSION

Based on result and analysis from previous chapter, the researcher discovered that the students' reading comprehension ability at English Department Universitas Negeri Padang was in the poor category with the mean score was 53.86. The highest students' ability based on Barrett's taxonomy was in appreciation level with the total mean percentage of the students' correct responses was $56.55 \%$. Then, the lowest students' ability based on Barrett's taxonomy was on the evaluation comprehension
with the total mean percentage of the correct answers was $31.79 \%$. It demonstrates that the students were not able to comprehend the questions in form of evaluation.

In addition, the most affecting factors in students' reading comprehension ability came from internal factors. Students' linguistic knowledge such as vocabulary knowledge, background knowledge, and grammatical knowledge was the majority of internal factors affecting students' reading comprehension ability with the total percentage was $65.48 \%$. On the other hand, the family influence was the external factor affecting students' ability in reading comprehension the least with the total percentage was $46.88 \%$.

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