

## **ABSTRACT**

### **A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN FIELD-INDEPENDENT AND FIELD-DEPENDENT STUDENTS IN READING COMPREHENSION ACHIEVEMENT AT SECOND GRADE OF SMAN 1 AMBARAWA PRINGSEWU**

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Field independent students tend to do their tasks individually because they think they have self-respect and self-confidence. Field dependent students on the other hand tend to have group discussion than self study. By knowing the characteristics of both field independent and field dependent, it is expected that the teacher can help students to create suitable atmosphere in the class activities in order to make minimum differences on reading comprehension achievement between both of them because basically they have advantages and disadvantages in teaching learning process.

This research was conducted at the second grade of SMAN 1 Ambarawa Pringsewu in the 2012/2013 academic year consisting of 34 to 35 students in each class. The researcher took one class as the try out class; it was XI IPA 3 and one class as the experimental class; it was XI IPA 1. The experimental class was classified into two groups namely, field-independent and field-dependent. The writer used a quantitative method because it is functional for providing factors connected with second language development. The research design is Ex Post Facto which concerns with the finding of a direct relationship between the independent and dependent variables.

The result of the research proves that there is a significant difference between field-independent and field-dependent students in reading comprehension achievement at second grade of SMAN 1 Ambarawa. The finding proved by the evidence on the reading score and the computation of t-test. The mean score in field-independent is 72.38 and the mean score of field-dependent students is 56.56. The result of computation shows that the Sig. (2-tailed) is 0.000. It means that the students' scores in field-independent group are significantly different from that of in the field-dependent group, since Sig. (2-tailed)  $< \alpha$  ( $p < 0.05$ ;  $p = 0.000$ ). In other words, field-independent students are better than field-dependent students in reading comprehension achievement. In addition, field-independent students tend to be more independent, competitive and self-confident.

Keyword : Field-dependent, Field-independent, Reading comprehension achievement.