ABSTRACT

THE CORRELATION BETWEEN STUDENTS’ CRITICAL THINKING AND THEIR READING COMPREHENSION ABILITY AT THE THIRD GRADE OF SMPN 3 NATAR LAMPU NG SELATAN IN 2014/2015 ACADEMIC YEAR

ERNI WIJAYANTI
Lampung University

This study is aimed at (1) investigating whether there is any significant correlation between students’ critical thinking and their reading comprehension ability at SMPN 3 Natar Lampung Selatan.

To achieve that goal, the researcher carried out quantitative study with correlation study which was one of the kinds of ex-post facto design. The population of this research was the third grade students of SMPN 3 Natar Lampung Selatan in 2014/2015 academic year was chosen one class IX C as a sample by using random sampling. The number of the students of each class about 35 students. The instruments of this research were critical thinking test and reading test.

The results of data analysis showed that there was correlation between students’ critical thinking and their reading comprehension ability. The data collected were analyzed by using Pearson Product Moment, that the coefficient correlation between students’ critical thinking and their reading comprehension ability was 0.746. The statistical analysis correlation was significant (p>0.1 p= 0.00). Therefore, the null hypothesis (H0) is rejected and the alternative hypothesis (H1) is accepted. The result of this research showed that critical thinking has simultaneous correlation on students’ reading comprehension ability. It indicated that critical thinking simultaneously have significant correlation and contribution on the reading comprehension ability.

**Keywords**: correlation, critical thinking, reading comprehension