

## **ABSTRACT**

### **THE EFFECT OF SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION IN READING CLASS ON STUDENTS' READING COMPREHENSION**

By

Faradina Primarini Noorhaya Sari

The aims of this study were to investigate the effect of small group discussion in reading class on students' reading comprehension and the difficulties that students face on comprehending a text. This research was conducted in SMAN 1 Kalianda in 2015/2016 academic year. The subjects of this research were 24 students of grade XI MIA 2 who were taken by using random sampling.

This study was a combination of quantitative and qualitative studies since it was intended to get result that was oriented to the product (quantitative) and process (qualitative) in one study. Based on quantitative study, the design of this research was one group pretest-posttest design. The instruments of this study were reading comprehension test and interview.

The first result of this research showed that t-value was higher than t-table ( $10.270 > 2.032$ ) and the value of significant level was  $0.00 < 0.05$ . The difference of the mean score between the pretest and posttest was 15.375 (from 69.79 to 85.16). It meant that there was an effect of small group discussion in reading class on students' reading comprehension. The second finding revealed five difficulties that the students faced on comprehending a text namely vocabulary, sentence, phrase, reference, and background knowledge. The implementation of Small group discussion in teaching reading comprehension was able to resolve those difficulties since it required the students to share, discuss, and unite their thought or problem on comprehending the content of the text with other members of the group.

In short, it can be concluded that small group discussion technique is a suitable and effective technique which can improve students' reading comprehension and resolve the difficulties on comprehending a text.