ABSTRACT

IMPROVING STUDENTS' READING COMPREHENSION ABILITY THROUGH STORY MAPPING STRATEGY AT SMA NEGERI 1 TERUSAN NUNYAI

By:

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Reading is an important skill in English. Reading also has important role in education in Indonesia, most of questions in National Examination are about reading. The problem of this research was that students had difficulties to comprehend the reading text. The objectives of this research were (1) to find out whether there is any significant improvement of students' reading comprehension ability after being taught using Story Mapping strategy at SMA Negeri 1 Terusan Nunyai (2) to find out which aspects of reading that improve the most after being taught by using Story Mapping strategy.

The research was quantitative using one-group pretest and posttest design. The population of this research was the first grade students of SMA Negeri 1 Terusan Nunyai. The sample was class X MIA 5 consisting of 32 students taken random by using lotery. The instruments for collecting data were reading test (pretest and post test), observation sheet and interview guide.

The result of this research showed that teaching reading using story mapping strategy improved students' reading comprehension ability. It could be seen from the improvement from the result of the mean score in the pretest and posttest, the gain was 12.3687, from 58.7594 in the pretest up to 71.1281 in the posttest. The data were analyzed by using t-test in which significance was determined by $p<0.05$. The aspect of reading that improved the most was specific information, the gain was 16.8%. By using Story Mapping, students were easy to comprehend the text and got detail information from the text. Story Mapping also made the students more active and creative in learning process.

It can be concluded that the implementation of Story Mapping strategy could improve the students' reading comprehension ability and specific information as the aspect of reading that improved the most. Briefly, the findings suggest that Story Mapping can be applied as alternative strategy to improve students' reading comprehension ability, since through this strategy students become active and creative in the learning process.

Key Words: strategy, story mapping strategy, reading comprehension ability