ABSTRACT

USING AUTHENTIC MATERIALS TO ENHANCE STUDENTS’ READING COMPREHENSION ACHIEVEMENT AT THE FIRST GRADE OF SMAN 2 METRO

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This research is aimed at investigating whether there is any significant effect of the use of authentic materials on the students’ reading comprehension achievement. It was focused on five aspects of reading comprehension (identifying main idea, determining specific information, identifying reference, making inference and understanding difficult vocabulary). In addition, this research investigated the students’ perceptions on the use of authentic materials on their learning process. The research used qualitative and quantitative research. It was conducted in SMAN 2 Metro and class X IPA 2 was chosen as the sample of this research by using purposefully sampling technique. The data were collected through reading comprehension test (pretest and posttest) analyzed quantitatively then interview analyzed qualitatively.

Based on the data analysis, the result showed there was a positive effect of the students’ reading comprehension after they were taught by using authentic materials (p<0.05; p=0.000). Furthermore, the result from the interview revealed that most students had positive perceptions on the use of authentic materials in reading comprehension. It could be seen from their perception on the use of authentic materials on their learning process that they enjoy the reading activity and have positive effect on their motivation; and they can be more directly to their needs. It can be said that authentic materials are effective to help the students improve their reading comprehension.

It is suggested that the English teacher should consider using authentic materials in their teaching reading comprehension as alternative materials because these materials can increase the students’ motivation and has a positive result in teaching learning activities in the class.

Key words: Authentic Materials, Enhance, Reading Comprehension