

ABSTRACT

IMPROVING STUDENTS READING COMPREHENSION THROUGH SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION USING NARRATIVE TEXT AT THE EIGHT GRADE STUDENTS OF SMPN 18 BANDAR LAMPUNG

By

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Reading is one of most complicated language skills. In fact, reading is a crucial language skill because through reading we can discover new knowledge. There are 5 main aspects in reading such as determining main idea, finding specific information, finding reference, finding inference and vocabulary. In school, students reading comprehension was low because of inappropriate teaching technique. Then, this research used small group discussion technique in teaching reading.

Due to the case stated earlier, the aim of this research is to find out whether there is significant differences after being taught through small group discussion technique, and to find out what aspect that improves the most. This research used one group pre-test and post-test. The sample of this research was 8H students at SMPN 18 Bandar Lampung. The instruments were pre-test and post-test. The data were analyzed using repeated measure T-test which the significance level was determined by $t\text{-value} > t\text{-table}$.

Evidently, the result of this study showed that there is significant differences of students' reading comprehension after being taught through small group discussion technique where the $t\text{-value}$ was higher than $t\text{-table}$ ($11.107 > 2.051$). Determining main idea was the aspect that improved the most after implementing small group discussion technique. It is proved that small group discussion technique improves students reading comprehension. Furthermore, during implementing small group discussion technique, there were some problems such as the class situation was not conducive, limited time allocation, and the lack of students' knowledge. The hypothesis in this research was accepted. In summary, small group discussion technique can be used to improve students reading comprehension.

Keywords: small group discussion, reading comprehension, teaching reading, main idea, students' improvement