## **ABSTRACT**

## THE COMPARISON OF READING COMPREHENSION ACHIEVEMENT AND ATTITUDES BETWEEN THE STUDENTS TAUGHT THROUGH COOPERATIVE INTEGRATED READING AND COMPOSITION (CIRC) AND THOSE THROUGH GROUP DISCUSSION

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This study aimed at investigating i) the differences of students' reading comprehension achievement between the students who were taught through CIRC and those through group discussion, and ii) the students' reading attitudes after the implementation of CIRC and group discussion. The subjects were 40 junior high school students of the eighth year in Central Lampung, Indonesia. Reading tests in the form of multiple choices and a questionnaire were employed to elicit the data. The data from the reading tests (the pre and the post tests) were then compared to find out the difference between them, using independent sample T-test. The data of the students' attitudes were grouped according to the students' responses with respect to their attitudes.

The results showed that there was a statistically significant difference of reading comprehension achievement between the students in the experimental class and those in the control class (.000<.05). Regarding the students' attitudes, 95 per cent of the students had a positive attitude of the implementation the CIRC. This suggests that CIRC facilitates students to improve their reading achievement as well as their attitudes.

**Keywords**: CIRC, Group Discussion, Reading Comprehension, Narrative Texts.