

**ABSTRACT**  
**THE IMPLEMENTATION OF WORD MAPPING STRATEGY TO**  
**IMPROVE VOCABULARY ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SEVENTH GRADE**  
**STUDENTS AT SMPN 3 NATAR**

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Vocabulary is one of the language components which is important to be learned by the students. To assist them learning the vocabulary, the teacher needs to choose an effective method. In this research, word mapping is employed to help the students learned new vocabulary. This research is aimed to find out whether there is a significant improvement of students' vocabulary achievement after being taught by using word mapping strategy.

The study was conducted at SMPN 3 Natar. The data were taken by using vocabulary test that focused on three vocabulary aspects which are form, meaning, and use. The population was the seventh grade students of SMPN 3 Natar. The samples were the students of VII G. The study was conducted over six meetings, which included a try-out test, a pre-test, three treatment sessions using the word-mapping strategy, and a post-test. The data were analyzed by using SPSS 26.

The result of this research showed that there is statistically significant improvement in students' vocabulary achievement at a significance level of 0.000, which is lower than the standard significance value ( $<0.05$ ). The minimum score on the pre-test was 28.3, and the maximum was 76.6, whereas the post-test scores ranged from a minimum of 51.6 to a maximum of 98.3. Among the various aspects of vocabulary, the use aspect showed the highest improvement with the gain 29.4 and the percentage 39.46%. In conclusion, teaching activities through word-mapping strategies effectively enhance students' ability to learn and use vocabulary in context.

**Keywords:** word mapping strategy, vocabulary achievement