

A STUDY ON THE ABILITY OF THE SECOND YEAR STUDENTS OF MTS DAARUN NAHDHAH THAWALIB BANGKINANG IN COMPREHENDING RECOUNT TEXTS

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Abstract: *This descriptive research was aimed to find out the ability of the second year students of MTs Daarun Nahdhah Thawalib Bangkinang in comprehending recount texts. The research data were collected in November 2016. The subject of this research was class VIII-A which consisted of 31 students. The data were collected by giving a test to the students in the form of multiple choice test. The test contained 40 items. Based on the research, it was found out that first: the ability of the second year students in reading comprehension is in good level with the mean score of 63.71. Second, the students' mean score in finding the main idea is in good level with the mean score of 63.87, finding the factual information in event is in good level with the mean score of 70.97, finding the factual information in re-orientation is in good level with the mean score of 70.32, in finding the meaning of vocabulary is in average level with the mean score of 58.39, in finding references is in good level with the mean score of 63.23, in finding inference is in good level with the mean score of 63.23, in finding social function is in good level with the mean score of 61.29. As a conclusion, the highest score obtained by the students is in finding factual information in event with the mean score of 70.97 which is categorized into good level, and the lowest score that the students got is in finding the meaning of vocabulary, with the mean score of 58.39 which is categorized into average level. It is recommended that the students must do more practice and read books to improve reading skills, especially in finding meaning of vocabulary, because the students got the lowest score in that term. Next, English teachers are recommended that be more creative and use or apply any strategies to teach the reading strategies that can be used in answering reading comprehension questions. The last, other researchers are recommended that conduct this research in other skills.*

Keywords: *Students' Ability, Reading Comprehension, Recount Texts*

SEBUAH PENELITIAN MENGENAI KEMAMPUAN SISWA KELAS 8 MTS DAARUN NAHDHA THAWALIB BANGKINANG DALAM MEMAHAMI TEKS RECOUNT

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Abstrak: Penelitian deskriptif ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui kemampuan siswa kelas delapan MTs Daarun Nahdhah Thawalib Bangkinang dalam memahami teks recount. Data penelitian dikumpulkan di bulan November tahun 2016. Subjek dalam penelitian ini adalah siswa kelas VIII-A yang terdiri dari 31 siswa. Data dikumpulkan dengan memberikan test kepada siswa dalam bentuk pilihan ganda. Tes terdiri dari 40 soal. Hasil penelitian yang diperoleh adalah sebagai berikut; pertama, kemampuan siswa dalam pemahaman membaca teks recount secara keseluruhan berada pada level bagus dengan nilai rata-rata 63.71. Kedua, nilai rata-rata siswa dalam memahami ide pokok berada pada level baik dengan nilai rata-rata 63.87, dalam memahami informasi faktual di event adalah berada pada level baik dengan nilai rata-rata 70.97, dalam memahami informasi faktual di re-orientation adalah berada pada level baik dengan nilai rata-rata 70.32, memahami makna kata-kata sulit berada pada level rata-rata dengan nilai rata-rata 58.39, dalam mengidentifikasi reference berada pada level bagus dengan nilai rata-rata 63.23, memahami inference berada pada level bagus dengan nilai rata-rata 63.23, dan memahami tujuan teks berada pada level bagus dengan nilai rata-rata 61.29. Nilai tertinggi diperoleh siswa dalam memahami informasi faktual di event berada pada level bagus dengan nilai rata-rata 70.97. Sedangkan nilai terendah diperoleh siswa dalam memahami makna kata-kata sulit dengan nilai 58.39, yang masuk dalam kategori rata-rata. Murid disarankan untuk lebih banyak latihan dan membaca buku-buku untuk meningkatkan kemampuan membaca terutama dalam menemukan arti kosa kata, karna murid mendapatkan nilai terendah di aspek itu. Selanjutnya, guru bahasa Inggris disarankan untuk lebih kreatif dan menerapkan berbagai strategi untuk mengajarkan strategi membaca yang bisa digunakan untuk menjawab soal-soal pemahaman membaca. Yang terakhir, untuk peneliti selanjutnya disarankan untuk melakukan penelitian ini pada kemampuan lainnya.

Kata Kunci: Kemampuan Siswa, Pemahaman Membaca, Teks Recount

INTRODUCTION

English is an international language. It is learned in any countries because people have found out that knowledge of English is one of passports for better career and better pay. It is an advanced knowledge and is used for communication with the entire world. Mastering English as an international language is essential. One of the needs of being competence in English is for fulfilling a requirement in applying for a job. When people read job vacancies in newspaper, mastering English is one of qualifications needed. English is taught in schools in almost every country. In Indonesia, English is taught as one of foreign languages from junior high school. It is hoped that the students can use English as an international language.

The target of learning English is for one to be competent in the language. Components and language skills namely; listening, speaking, reading and writing. As one of language skills, reading should be mastered by students. Carrell et al (1988) states that reading is the most important of the four skills in a second language, particularly in English as a second or foreign language. It means that reading is the most important skill to be developed in the classroom. Harmer (1991) points out that reading is an exercise dominated by eyes and brain. In reading, eyes and brain have big relationship. The eyes receive message from what we read and the brain has to work out the significance and make us understand what the message is about.

Recount text is a kind of text that is studied by the second year students of Junior High School including MTs Daarun Nahdhah Thawalib Bangkinang. The expectations of KTSP in learning recount texts are that students not only read the text or book but also comprehend what they read. The comprehension will be shown by one's ability to answer questions correctly the text provided, questions can be on finding main idea, factual information, meaning of vocabulary in context, reference and inference as stated by King and Stanley (1989) as the five components of reading comprehension.

Based on the writer's observation and the information from the English teacher, there were still many students who do not reach the minimum criteria of achievement (KKM) that is 75 for English subject. The students are still confused in deciding main idea, and they lack vocabularies, so it is very difficult for them to clearly understand the information implied in the text. Then the writer analyzed the result of students' test in comprehending recount text. The writer noticed that most of mistakes lied on finding meaning of vocabulary. From their score of the test, we know that some of the students cannot comprehend the recount text well, but the level of students' ability in comprehending recount text has not been identified scientifically. Furthermore, there is no one does such study in that school. It means that there are many possible studies to be conducted. In this study, the writer wants to find out the ability of the second year students of MTs Daarun Nahdhah Thawalib Bangkinang in comprehending recount texts. For others, if they already know the ability of the students, they can think about what treatment or strategy that can improve students' scores in comprehending recount texts. So, that the writer was interested to do this research. Therefore, this study will answer the research question about how the ability of the students in reading comprehension and what is most difficult aspect and the easiest aspect in reading comprehension.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

This research is a descriptive research investigating the students' comprehension ability of recount text. Gay (1987) states that descriptive research involves collecting data in order to test hypothesis or answer question concerning the current status of the subject of the study. In this case, the purpose of this research is to describe, clarify, and interpret the ability of the second year students in MTs Daarun Nahdhah Thawalib Bangkinang in comprehending recount text.

Instruments Technique and Analysis

This research used quantitative data to find the result of this research. Quantitative data is basically data measured on a numerical scale. In collecting the data, researcher used test. The data was analyzed from students score. The instrument that used in this research were multiple choice test. Before the test was given to the sample class, the test will be given to the try out class to know the validity of the test. The material of the test was about comprehending descriptive texts.

To analyze the data, the researcher used the followings formula:

- a) To know the difficulty level

$$F.V = \frac{R}{N}$$

Where:

F.V = Facility Value

R = the number of correct answer

N = the number of the students

(Adopted from Heaton, 1991)

- b) To know the discrimination index

$$D = \frac{CorrectU - CorrectL}{N}$$

Where:

D = Discrimination Index

N = Number of students

U = Upper students answer

L = Lower students answer

(Adopted from Heaton, 1991)

- c) To know mean score

$$M = \frac{\sum fx}{N}$$

Where:

M = the mean score in each topic

$\sum fx$ = The sum individual score

N = the total number of individual

(Adopted from Wayan and Sumartana, 1986)

- d) To know standard deviation

$$SD = \sqrt{\frac{\sum d^2}{N - 1}}$$

Where:

SD = Standard deviation

$\sum d^2$ = The total mean of the test

N = The number of the students

(Adopted Heaton, 1991)

- e) To know the reliability

$$Rii = \frac{N}{n - 1} \left[1 - \frac{m(N - M)}{NX^2} \right]$$

Where:

Rii = the reliability of the test

N = the number of items in the test

M = the means score on the test for all the tests

X^2 = the standard deviation of all test score

(Adopted from Heaton, 1991)

- f) To know the percentage of the classification of the students' ability

$$P = \frac{X}{N} \times 100\%$$

Where:

P = the students' individual score

X = the right answer

N = the total number of items

(Adopted from Hatch and Farhady, 1982)

Furthermore, the level of the student's score would be classified into five levels of mastery. The classification could be seen in this following table:

Table 14: The Classification of Students' Score

No	Scores	Category
1	80-100	Excellent
2	61-79	Good
3	50-59	Average
4	0-49	Poor

(Adopted from Harris, 1974)

RESEARCH FINDING

The data of the research was analyzed to find out the ability of the second year students of MTs Daarun Nahdhah Thawalib Bangkinang in comprehending recount texts. There were 7 components of reading and recount texts that analyzed from the data, namely finding main ideas, finding factual information in event, finding factual information in re-orientation, finding meaning of vocabulary, identifying references, making inferences, and finding social function. The presentation of individual score of the students in reading comprehension can be seen in the following table.

1. Individual Score

Table 1. Percentage of the students' scores

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	80-100	4	12.90	Excellent	63.71
2	60-79	20	64.50	Good	
3	50-59	3	9.70	Average	
4	0-49	4	12.90	Poor	
Total		31	100%		

The table describes about mean score of students ability in comprehending recount texts. The mean score is 63.71. the table shows that 4 student (12,90 %) is in excellent level, 20 students (64,50%) are in good level, 3 students (9,70%) are in average level, and 4 students (12,90%) are in poor level. In short, it was obtained that the mean score of the students in reading comprehension 63.71. It can be restated that the ability of the second year students of MTs Daarun Nahdhah Thawalib Bangkinang in reading comprehension is in good level.

2. The Classification of the Students' Ability in Each Components of Reading Comprehension

a. The Students' Ability in Finding Main Idea

Table 2. Students Score Classification in term finding main ideas

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	80-100	12	38.70	Excellent	63.87
2	60-79	10	32.30	Good	
3	50-59	0	0	Average	
4	0-49	9	29	Poor	
Total		31	100%		

For finding main ideas, there are 12 students (38.70%) are in excellent level, 10 students (32.30%) in good level, and 9 students (29%) are in poor level. The researcher finds out that the students' mean score in finding main ideas is 63.87. It can be concluded that the ability of the second year students of MTs Daarun Nahdhah Thawalib Bangkinang in comprehending recount texts, in term of finding main ideas is in good level.

b. The Student's Ability in of Finding Factual Information in Event

Table 3. The Students Score Classification in term finding factual information in event

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	80-100	17	55	Excellent	70.97
2	60-79	12	38.70	Good	
3	50-59	0	0	Average	
4	0-49	2	6.30	Poor	
Total		31	100%		

For finding factual information in event, there are 17 students (55%) are in excellent level, 12 students (38.70%) in good level, and 2 students (6.30%) are in poor level. The researcher finds out that the students' mean score in finding factual information in event is 70.97. It can be concluded that the ability of the second year

students of MTs Daarun Nahdhah Thawalib Bangkinang in comprehending recount texts, in term of finding factual information in event is in good level.

c. The Student's Ability in of Finding Factual Information in Re-orientation

Table 4. The Students Score Classification in term finding factual information in re-orientation

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	80-100	16	51.60	Excellent	70.32
2	60-79	10	32.25	Good	
3	50-59	0	0	Average	
4	0-49	5	16.15	Poor	
Total		31	100%		

For finding factual information in re-orientation, there are 16 students (51.60%) are in excellent level, 10 students (32.25%) in good level, and 5 students (16.15%) are in poor level. The researcher finds out that the students' mean score in finding factual information in re-orientation is 70.32. It can be concluded that the ability of the second year students of MTs Daarun Nahdhah Thawalib Bangkinang in comprehending recount texts, in term of finding factual information in re-orientation is in good level.

c. The Students Ability in Finding Vocabulary in Context

Table 5. The Students Score Classification in Term Vocabulary in Context

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	80-100	7	22.60	Excellent	58.39
2	60-79	11	35.50	Good	
3	50-59	6	19.30	Average	
4	0-49	7	22.60	Poor	
Total		31	100%		

For finding vocabulary in context, there are 7 students (22.60%) are in excellent level, 11 students (35.50%) in good level, 6 students (19.30%) in average level and 7

students (22.60%) are in poor level. The researcher finds out that the students' mean score in finding vocabulary in context is 58.39. It can be concluded that the ability of the second year students of MTs Daarun Nahdhah Thawalib Bangkinang in comprehending recount texts, in term of finding vocabulary in context is in average level.

d. The Students' Ability in Finding Reference

Table 6. The Students Score Classification in term finding reference

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	80-100	12	38.70	Excellent	63.23
2	60-79	13	42	Good	
3	50-59	0	0	Average	
4	0-49	6	19.30	Poor	
Total		31	100%		

For finding reference, there are 12 students (38.70%) are in excellent level, 13 students (42%) in good level, and 6 students (19.30%) are in poor level. The researcher finds out that the students' mean score in finding reference is 63.23. It can be concluded that the ability of the second year students of MTs Daarun Nahdhah Thawalib Bangkinang in comprehending recount texts, in term of finding reference is in good level.

e. The Students' Ability in Finding Inference

Table 7. The Students Score Classification in term Finding Inference

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	80-100	14	45.20	Excellent	63.23
2	60-79	8	25.80	Good	
3	50-59	0	0	Average	
4	0-49	9	29	Poor	
Total		31	100%		

For finding inference, there are 14 students (45.20%) are in excellent level, 8 students (25.80%) in good level, and 9 students (29%) are in poor level. The researcher finds out that the students' mean score in finding inference is 63.23. It can be concluded that the ability of the second year students of MTs Daarun Nahdhah Thawalib Bangkinang in comprehending recount texts, in term of finding inference is in good level.

f. The Students' Ability in Finding Social Function

Table 8. The Students Score Classification in term Finding Social Function

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	80-100	10	32.25	Excellent	61.29
2	60-79	12	38.75	Good	
3	50-59	0	0	Average	
4	0-49	9	29	Poor	
Total		31	100%		

For finding social function, there are 10 students (32.25%) are in excellent level, 12 students (38.75%) in good level, and 9 students (29%) are in poor level. The researcher finds out that the students' mean score in finding social function is 61.29. It can be concluded that the ability of the second year students of MTs Daarun Nahdhah Thawalib Bangkinang in comprehending recount texts, in term of finding social function is in good level.

g. The Mean Scores of the Students' Ability in Reading Comprehension

Table 9. The Classification of Students' Mean Score in Comprehending Recount Texts

No.	The classification of the question	Mean score	Level of ability
1.	Finding main idea	63.87	Good
2.	Finding factual information in events	70.97	Good
3.	Finding factual information in reorientation	70.32	Good
4.	Finding meaning of vocabulary	58.39	Average
5.	Finding reference	63.23	Good
6.	Finding inference	63.23	Good
7.	Finding social function	61.29	Good
Mean Score of the whole test		63.71	Good

Based on the research finding in reading comprehension there are 4 students get excellent level. It means that they could comprehend the text well. Then, there are 20 students categorized into good level, it means they have good ability in reading comprehension. After that there are 3 students categorized into average level, and there are 4 students categorized into poor level. It means that the students should practice more in reading comprehension. The researcher also found out from the components of reading comprehension, the highest score that students gain is in finding factual information in events with the mean score 70.97. On the other hand the lowest score that students gain is in finding meaning of vocabulary with the mean score 58.39. It happened because in finding factual information in event, the answer was already in the text. While finding meaning of vocabulary, the students have to know the meaning of the word and choose the word that has similar meaning.

This finding is in line with the finding of previous research that from Najmatul Fahli (2015) with the title An Analysis of the Students' Ability in Comprehending Recount Text at the Second Grade of SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Pekanbaru. In this related study also showed the highest score is the ability of the students is in finding factual information.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMENDATION

Based on the research finding, in comprehending recount texts ability, there were 4 students (12.90 %) are categorized into excellent level, 20 students (64.50%) are categorized into good level, 3 students (9.70%) are categorized into average level, and 4 students (12.90%) are categorized into poor level. The researcher also found out that the mean score of the students' ability in comprehending recount texts is 63.71. It

means that the students' ability in reading comprehension the students were in good level and the students cannot reach the minimum standard of this school (KKM).

In addition, the mean score of the students' ability in comprehending recount texts in terms of finding main ideas is 63.87 (good), in terms of finding factual information in event is 70.97 (good), in terms of finding factual information in re-orientation is 70.32 (good), in term of finding meaning of vocabulary is 58.39 (average), in terms of finding reference is 63.23 (good), in terms of finding inference is 63.23 (good), and in terms of finding social function is 61.29 (good). The lowest of mean score for each components of reading comprehension is finding meaning of vocabulary and the highest of mean score for each components of reading is finding factual information in event.

Concerning the conclusion, there are several recommendations that are useful for teaching and learning English. Firstly, English teachers should be more creative and use or apply any strategies to teach the reading strategies that can be used in answering reading comprehension questions, and also put some efforts to develop the students' motivation and encourage them to practice in comprehending recount texts in order to make the students familiar with reading materials especially in identifying vocabulary. Secondly Students should musto do more practice in reading to improve reading skills especially in finding meaning of vocabulary. It is because the students got the lowest score in that term. The last one, it is highly recommended that this research can be applied as a reference for the next researcher.

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