

A STUDY ON THE SECOND YEAR STUDENTS' ABILITY IN COMPREHENDING NARRATIVE TEXTS AT MAN 1 PEKANBARU

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Abstract: *The purpose of this study is to find out the ability of the second year students of MAN 1 Pekanbaru in comprehending Narrative texts. The number of population was 352 students divided into eleven classes. The writer used cluster random sampling technique to determine the sample. The samples were 68 students. The needed data were taken from the students' score in comprehending narrative texts. The test comprehends five narrative texts of which all text has eight items or 40 items all together. The time allocation was 90 minutes. The result of the study revealed that the mean score was 77.5 which indicated that the students were in good level of ability. The highest mean score (87.20) was in finding references. The lowest mean score (61.76) was in finding the meaning of vocabulary.*

Keywords: *Students' ability, Reading Comprehension, Narrative Texts*

SEBUAH PENELITIAN MENGENAI KEMAMPUAN SISWA KELAS 2 MAN 1 PEKANBARU DALAM MEMAHAMI TEKS- TEKS NARATIF

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Abstrak: Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui kemampuan siswa kelas 2 MAN 1 Pekanbaru dalam memahami teks-teks naratif. Jumlah populasi adalah 352 siswa dibagi ke dalam sebelas kelas. Penulis menggunakan teknik cluster random sampling untuk menentukan sampel. Jumlah sampel adalah 68 siswa. Data yang dibutuhkan diambil dari skor siswa dalam memahami teks-teks naratif. Ada lima teks naratif dimana semua teks memiliki delapan item atau masing-masing 40 item. Alokasi waktu adalah 90 menit. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa nilai rata-rata adalah 77.5 yang menunjukkan bahwa siswa berada di level yang baik dari kemampuan. Rata-rata skor tertinggi (87.20) adalah dalam mencari referensi. Rata-rata skor terendah (61.76) adalah dalam menemukan makna kosa kata.

Kata kunci: kemampuan siswa, Reading Comprehension, Narrative Teks

INTRODUCTION

In learning English, the students must learn four the language skills. They are: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. All of those skills are interrelated to each other. For example, before students are able to use written communication, they should be able to use spoken communication. From the four skills above, reading is one important skill in English learning. The fundamental goal of any reading activity is to understand the content and not only to know the language. Reading is an activity when people try to get what the author wants to tell in the form of sentences. Reading has many benefits. Reading can help people to feel better and increase their knowledge. Reading a text is one of the student's activities which need comprehension in order to get the meaning of a text.

RAND Reading Study Group explains that reading comprehension is one of capabilities that high school graduates should have acquired during their years in school. There are some types of text by Senior High School students that should be learned by teachers. They are report text, narrative text, recount text, and analytical exposition text. In this study, the writer focuses on narrative text. In Senior High Schools, there are some types of texts learned by the students. Based on the 2013 curriculum for the second year students of MAN 1 Pekanbaru, one of the types learnt by students is narrative text.

By learning narrative texts, the students will learn the use of simple past tense and they will master this kind of tenses because one language feature of narrative text is use simple past tense. On the other hand, narrative text consists of much new vocabulary; it will make students notice much vocabulary. It is expected that it will improve their knowledge about difficult word. The last thing that will improve English skill of the students by learning narrative text is attract interest of students to read more. So, this phenomenon is very important to be researched because the students should be able to answer the questions based on the narrative texts. However, to measure how good the students are in comprehending narrative text, a teacher should give a reading comprehension test to them because the main goal of reading is to gain comprehension or ability to find the meaning of what they have read and answer the questions based on the narrative texts.

To be able in comprehending the text, the students should master all elements which build the contents of test. It means they are not only to a quire the meaning of difficult words, answer the question based on the text, and find out the meaning of the text. There is also important things can be supported to comprehend the text. Overall, the phenomena mentioned above encourage the writer to observe MAN 1 Pekanbaru. The writer was interested in examining how the ability of the students in comprehending narrative texts.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

This is a descriptive research. According to Gay (2009), the descriptive research is determines and describes the way things are; involves collecting numerical data to test hypothesis or answer questions about the current subject of the study. It means the descriptive research is a research that describes an event, a phenomenon happening now which is related to the condition that occurs at that time. The participants of this research were the second year students of MAN 1 Pekanbaru. For this purpose, class XI MIA 4 and XI IIS 4 became the subject of the research which consists of 68 students.

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 writer used a test as instrument in collected the data. The test was multiple choices. 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 narrative texts.

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

- a) To know the difficulty level

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

Where:

F.V = Difficulty level

R = the number of correct answer

N = the number of the students

(Adopted from Heaton, 1975)

- b) To know mean score

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

Where:

M = the mean score in each topic

$\sum fx$ = The sum of the respondents' score

N = the number of the respondents

(Adopted from Heaton, 1982)

c) 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)

d) To know the reliability

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

Where:

R_{ii} = the reliability of the test

N = the number of items in the test

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

X² = the standard deviation of all test score

(Adopted from Heaton, 1975)

e) To know the percentage of the classification of the students' ability in answering question, the following formula is used:

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

Where:

P = Percentage of the students per group/level

X = the number of frequency in one level

N = the number of students

(Adopted from Wayan and Sunartana, 1986)

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

Table 1: The Classification of Students' Score

No	Scores	Category
1	81-100	Excellent
2	61-80	Good
3	41-60	Mediocre
4	21-40	Poor
5	0-20	Very Poor

(Adopted from Harris, 1974)

RESEARCH FINDING

The result of this research is presented by showing the percentage of the students' scores and the classification scores of the students' ability in comprehending narrative texts. The data is analyzed based on students' score in terms of eight components. Namely finding factual information, finding main ideas, finding the meaning of vocabulary, identifying references, making inferences, finding social functions, finding generic structures, finding language features.

Percentage of Students' Ability in Reading Narrative Texts

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	81 – 100	22	32.35	Excellent	77.5
2	61 - 80	46	67.65	Good	
3	41 – 60	0	0	Mediocre	
4	21– 40	0	0	Poor	
5	0 – 20	0	0	Very poor	
	Total	68	100		

The table describes about mean score of students ability in comprehending narrative texts. The mean score is 77.5. 22 students (32.35%) are in Excellent level, 46 students (67.65%) are in good level, and there is no student (0%) is in mediocre level, poor level, and very poor level. It can be concluded that the ability of the second year students of MAN 1 Pekanbaru in comprehending narrative texts is in good level.

The Students' Score Classification in Term Finding Factual Information

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	81 – 100	31	45.5	Excellent	83.52
2	61 - 80	19	28	Good	
3	41 – 60	17	25	Mediocre	
4	21 – 40	1	1.50	Poor	
5	0 – 20	0	0	Very Poor	
	Total	68	100		

For the students' ability in finding main ideas, there are 31 students (45.5%) classified in excellent level, 19 students (28%) in good level, 17 students (25%), 1 students (1.50%) in mediocre level, and no student (0%) belong to poor and very poor level. From the data above, the researcher can find out that the students' mean score in finding factual information is 83.52. It can be concluded that the ability of the second year students' of MAN 1 Pekanbaru in comprehending narrative texts in terms of finding factual information is in excellent level.

The Students' Score Classification in Term Finding Main Ideas

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	81 – 100	6	8.82	Excellent	75
2	61 - 80	42	61.76	Good	
3	41 – 60	19	27.92	Mediocre	
4	21 – 40	1	1.50	Poor	
5	0 – 20	0	0	Very Poor	
Total		68	100		

The students' ability in terms of finding main ideas, can be describe as follows: 6 students (8.82%) are classified in excellent level, 42 students (61.76%) classified in good level, 19 students (27.92%) classified in mediocre level, 1 student (1.50%) classified in poor level, and no student (0%) classified in very poor level. From the data above, the writer can find out that the students' mean score in finding main ideas is 75. It can be stated that the ability of the second year students' of MAN 1 Pekanbaru in comprehending narrative texts in terms of finding main ideas is in good level.

The Students' Score Classification in Term Finding Meaning of Vocabulary

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	81 – 100	4	5.88	Excellent	61.76
2	61 - 80	13	19.11	Good	
3	41 – 60	41	60.30	Mediocre	
4	21 – 40	10	14.70	Poor	
5	0 – 20	0	0	Very Poor	
Total		68	100		

The students' ability in terms of the finding meaning of vocabulary, can be described as follows: 4 students (5.88%) classified in excellent level, 13 students (19.21%) classified in good level, 41 students (60.30%) classified in mediocre level, 10 students (14.70%) classified in poor level, and no student classified in very poor level. From the data above, the writer can find out that the students' mean score in finding the meaning of vocabulary is 61.76. It can be stated that the ability of the second year students' of MAN 1 Pekanbaru in comprehending narrative texts in terms of finding meaning of vocabulary classified in good level.

The Students' Score Classification in Identifying References

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	81 – 100	38	55.88	Excellent	87.20
2	61 - 80	18	26.47	Good	
3	41 – 60	11	16.17	Mediocre	
4	21 – 40	1	1.50	Poor	
5	0 – 20	0	0	Very Poor	
Total		68	100		

The students' ability in terms of identifying references, can be described as follows: 38 students (55.88%) are in excellent level, 18 students (26.47%) are in good level, 11 students (16.18%) are in mediocre level, and 1 student (1.50%) in poor level, and no student belongs to the very poor level. From the data above, the writer can find out that the students' mean score in identifying references is 87.20. It can be stated that the ability of the second year students' of MAN 1 Pekanbaru in comprehending narrative texts in terms of identifying references is in excellent level.

The Students' Score Classification in Term Making Inferences

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	81 – 100	1	1.50	Excellent	73.38
2	61 - 80	48	70.58	Good	
3	41 – 60	16	23.52	Mediocre	
4	21 – 40	3	4.41	Poor	
5	0 – 20	0	0	Very Poor	
Total		68	100		

The students' ability in terms of making references, can be described as follows: 1 student (1.50%) classified in excellent level, 48 students (70.58%) in good level, 16 students (23.52%) in mediocre level, and 3 students (4.41%) in poor level. From the data above, the writer can find out that the students' mean score in making inferences is 73.38. It can be stated that the ability of the second year students' of MAN 1 Pekanbaru in comprehending narrative texts in terms of making inferences classified in good level.

The Students' Score Classification in Finding Social Function

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	81 – 100	22	47.35	Excellent	81.47
2	61 - 80	29	52.64	Good	
3	41 – 60	17	25	Mediocre	
4	21 – 40	0	0	Poor	
5	0 – 20	0	0	Very Poor	
Total		68	100		

The students' ability in terms of finding social function of narrative texts, can be described as follows: 22 students (47.35%) classified in excellent level, 29 students (52.64%) in good level, and 17 students (25%) in mediocre level. From the data above, the writer can find out that the students' mean score in finding social function of narrative texts is 81.47. It can be stated that the ability of the second year students' of MAN 1 Pekanbaru in comprehending narrative texts in terms of finding social function of narrative texts classified in excellent level.

The Students' Score Classification in Term Finding The Generic Structure Texts

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	81 – 100	23	33.82	Excellent	80.58
2	61 - 80	24	35.29	Good	
3	41 – 60	21	30.88	Mediocre	
4	21 – 40	0	0	Poor	
5	0 – 20	0	0	Very Poor	
Total		68	100		

The students' ability in terms of finding generic structure texts, can be described as follows: 23 students (33.82%) classified in excellent level, 24 students (35.29%) in good level and 21 students (30.88%) in mediocre level. From the data above, the writer can find out that the students' mean score in finding generic structure is 80.58. It can be stated that the ability of the second year students' of MAN 1 Pekanbaru in comprehending narrative texts in terms of finding generic structure texts is in good level.

The Students' Score Classification in Term Finding the Language Features

No	Range Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Ability	Mean Score
1	81 – 100	18	26.47	Excellent	77.05
2	61 - 80	23	33.82	Good	
3	41 – 60	26	38.23	Mediocre	
4	21 – 40	1	1.50	Poor	
5	0 – 20	0	0	Very Poor	
Total		68	100		

The students' ability in terms of finding language features, can be described as follows: 18 students (26.47%) classified in excellent level, 23 students (33.82%) in good level, 26 students (38.23%) in mediocre level, and 1 students (1.50) in poor level. From the data above, the writer can find out that the students' mean score in finding language features is 77.05. It can be stated that the ability of the second year students' of MAN 1 Pekanbaru in comprehending narrative texts in terms of finding language features classified in good level.

DISCUSSION

The mean score of the second year students of MAN 1 Pekanbaru in reading narrative texts is 77.5. It is analyzed based on Harris formula. Besides that, 22 students are in excellent level. Then, there were 46 students categorized into good level. And no one was categorized into mediocre and poor level. It means that they had good ability in reading narrative texts. Students may satisfied with this result, but they still need to practice more in reading comprehension, especially in comprehending narrative texts.

The students' ability from each reading component can be described as follows: three components are in excellent level and five components in good level. There is a difference in terms of the mean score for each component. The most difficult components to comprehend in narrative texts are in terms of finding meaning vocabulary with the score 61.76. On the other hand, the easiest aspect of reading comprehension is finding references with the main score 87.20. Meanwhile, the other aspects such as finding inference was 73.38, finding generic structures was 80.58, finding language features was 77.05, finding main idea was 75.00, finding social function 81.47, and finding factual information 83.52.

Finally, based on the findings were answered the research question about the ability of the second year students of MAN 1 Pekanbaru in comprehending Narrative texts.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION

According to the result of this research, it was found that the second year students' reading ability at MAN 1 Pekanbaru in comprehending narrative texts was good. It can be seen from the students' mean score was 77.5 and it was categorized into 'Good' level.

Concerning the conclusion, there are several recommendations that are useful for teaching and learning English. Firstly, the writer suggested for the next researcher when collecting the data should be accompanied by the teacher to prevent cheating between the students so the result be more accurate. Second, considering that the students' ability level in comprehending narrative text is in good level. For students' who get excellent level should not too satisfy with this result. They have to keep this achievement and should do improvement to get perfect result. For students who get good level, they should learn more about narrative text and should do much improvement to get perfect result. Third, considering the students' lower score in terms of finding meaning vocabulary, finding inference, and finding main idea, the teacher should increase the time allocation of teaching regarding the three aspects.

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