

A STUDY ON THE ABILITY OF THE THIRD YEAR STUDENTS OF MAN 2 PEKANBARU IN COMPREHENDING NEWS ITEM TEXTS

Windi Mei Syaputri, Supriusman, Dahnilsyah

Email : windi.meisyaputri@student.unri.ac.id, supri62@yahoo.co.id, Danil_71@yahoo.com

Contact : 082392020561

*Student of English Language Education Department
Teacher Training and Education Faculty
Universitas Riau*

Abstract: *This descriptive research aims to discover the ability level of the third year students of MAN 2 Pekanbaru in comprehending news item texts. The population of this research was all of the third year students of MAN 2 Pekanbaru, academic year 2019/2020. The numbers of sample were 25 students which were chosen by using cluster random sampling technique. The data were collected by means reading comprehension test in the form of multiple choices by giving 8 news item texts with 40 multiple choice items. The results of the data analysis shows that the mean of the students' score in comprehending news item texts is 70.88. It can be concluded that the ability of the third year students of MAN 2 Pekanbaru in comprehending news item texts is in good level. Based on the result of the students' scores in each of reading comprehension component, the lowest component of reading comprehension is the ability in finding the meaning of vocabulary 52.00 and the highest one is the ability in finding inferences 80.00.*

Key Words: *Study, Ability, News Item Text.*

STUDI KEMAMPUAN SISWA TAHUN KETIGA MAN 2 PEKANBARU DALAM MEMAHAMI TEKS BERITA

Windi Mei Syaputri, Supriusman, Dahnilsyah

Email : windi.meisyaputri@student.unri.ac.id, supri62@yahoo.co.id, Danil_71@yahoo.com

Contact : 082392020561

Mahasiswa Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris
Jurusan Bahasa dan Seni
Fakultas Ilmu Keguruan dan Pendidikan
Universitas Riau

Abstrak: Penelitian deskriptif ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui kemampuan siswa kelas tiga MAN 2 Pekanbaru dalam memahami teks berita. Populasi penelitian ini adalah siswa kelas tiga MAN 2 Pekanbaru pada tahun akademik 2019/2020. Jumlah sampel adalah 25 siswa yang dipilih dengan teknik cluster random sampling. Data dikumpulkan dengan menggunakan tes pemahaman bacaan dalam berbagai tipe pilihan dengan memberi 8 teks berita dengan 40 item pilihan ganda. Hasil analisis data menunjukkan bahwa rata-rata skor siswa dalam memahami teks berita adalah 70.88. Dapat disimpulkan bahwa kemampuan siswa kelas tiga MAN 2 Pekanbaru dalam memahami teks berita sangat bagus. Berdasarkan hasil skor siswa di masing-masing komponen pemahaman bacaan, komponen pemahaman bacaan terendah bagi siswa adalah dalam menemukan sinonim dan kata 52.00 dan yang tertinggi adalah menemukan kesimpulan pada teks 80.00.

Kata Kunci: Kemampuan, Pemahaman Teks Berita.

INTRODUCTION

The writer was interesting in finding out the ability of the third year students of MAN 2 Pekanbaru in comprehending news item text because: first, the importance teaching reading is the main reason for writer to conduct this research which is in teaching reading the teacher should be able to make reading as a habit to the students. Second, one of the texts that are very closed to the student's life is news item text because it is a text that tells newsworthy events, it can available in technology development, television, magazines, and newspapers. Thus, the students can explore their unforgettable experiences they already had or people around them in news item text. Third, by learning news item the students learn to use simple past tense and they will master this kind of tenses because one of language features of news item text is use past tense. On the other hand, news item text consists of much new vocabulary; it will make students sign much vocabulary. News item text is also become one of the texts that will be examined in national examination.

Teaching news item text is not always simple as most of people think. According to the teacher's interview, some of students faced difficulties in comprehending news item text. The cases were: to find main idea and lack of vocabulary meanwhile based on curriculum 2013 in learning news item text, the students are expected be able to identify such information from the text, identify social function and also identify the generic structures of news item text.

In this case, the writer needs to find out about the real condition of students' ability level in comprehending news item text as well as the component or reading comprehension and also the ability level in comprehending news item texts for each component.

These are the reasons why the writer are motivated in conducting a research entitled: A Study on Ability of the Third Year Students of Islamic high school MAN 2 Pekanbaru in Comprehending News Item Text.

METHODOLOGY

The writer collected the data from the third year students at MAN 2 Pekanbaru from February to April 2019, which is located on Jl. Diponegoro, Pekanbaru. The research was conducted by doing some steps: doing try out at XII MIA 4 class, on February 28, 2019 and sample test at XII MIA 5 class on Monday, March 18th, 2019. An activity related to the accomplishment of this research was done from February to April 2019.

This is a descriptive research which has only one variable that describes the ability level of the third year students of MAN 2 Pekanbaru. According to Gay (2000) descriptive research involves collecting data in order to answer questions concerning the current status of subjects of the study.

McMilan (1996) stated that population is a group of elements of cases, whether individuals, object, or events that conform to specific criteria and which intended to generalize of target of the research. According to the title of this research, the population was the third year students of MAN 2 Pekanbaru they were divided into nine classes which are 5 classes of Mathematics and Exact Science (MIA), 2 classes of Social Science (IPS), 1 International class (KI), and 1 Acceleration class (SCI-BI). The

number of population was 221 students. The specification of the population can be seen on the table below:

Table 3.1 the Distribution of Population

	Classes	Number of Students
	XII SCI-BI	17
	XII MIA 8	20
	XII KI	20
	XII MIA 4	24
	XII IPS 2	29
	XII IPS 3	30
	XII MIA 6	26
	XII MIA 5	25
	XII MIA 7	30
	Total	221

According to Gay (2000), sampling is the process of selecting a number of individual for study in such a way that represents the larger group from which they were selected. McMillan (1996) stated that cluster random sampling is sampling in which groups of subject are selected randomly. In this research the writer used cluster random sampling, the population was divided into try out and sample. In this case, the writer took two classes, XII MIA 4 as the try out class which consisted of 24 students and XII MIA 5 as the sample class which consisted of 25 students.

The data of this research are quantitative. The instrument used to collect the data was an objective test in the form of multiple choices. The test consists of 40 items of the eight texts about news item. The test should be completed in 90 minutes.

Table 3.2 the Blueprint of the Instrument of the Research

No	Aspects and Features of the Test	The item numbers
1.	Finding main ideas	1, 16, 21, 32, 38
2.	Finding factual information in background events	4, 12, 30, 34, 35
3.	Finding references in sources	8, 19, 20, 26, 27
4.	Finding inferences	3, 17, 22, 23, 36
5.	Finding the meaning of vocabulary in context	5, 9, 18, 25, 40
6.	Finding social function of news item texts	6, 24, 28, 29, 37
7.	Finding generic structure of news item texts	2, 10, 11, 13, 15
8.	Finding language features of news item texts	7, 14, 31, 33, 39
	Total Item	40

(Harris, 1974)

To analyze the data and to find out the student's ability level in reading comprehension, the writer used procedures as follows:

To know each of students' score individually, the data calculated by using the following formula:

$$M = \frac{X}{n} \times 100$$

Where:

M = individual score
 X = correct answer
 n = number of items

(Wayan and Sumartana, 1986)

After getting all of students' score, the students' ability can be seen. Next, to find out the mean score of the students in reading comprehension, the mean score was calculated by using this formula:

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

Where:

M = the mean score of each topic
 $\sum fx$ = the sum of the respondents' scores
 N = the number of the respondents

(Heaton, 1975)

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

Table 3.3 Classification of Students' ability

No	Score	Level of Ability
1	81-100	Excellent
2	61-80	Good
3	41-60	Mediocre
4	21-40	Poor
5	0-20	Very poor

(Harris, 1974)

INTERPRETATION OF THE RESULT

This study answers the question related to the students' ability in comprehending news item text of the third year students of MAN 2 Pekanbaru. After analyzed the data, the writer found out that the students' ability in comprehending news item texts is in

good level. It can be seen from the mean score of the students which is 70.88. Furthermore, based on the research finding in reading comprehension there is 1 student in excellent level and there are 24 students who are categorized in good level. It means that they have well in reading comprehension. There are no students categorized into average level and poor level. In addition, the writer analyzes that the third year students of MAN 2 Pekanbaru can be classified at good level in comprehending news item texts.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusions

After conducting research entitled *A Study on the Ability of the Third Year Students of MAN Pekanbaru in Comprehending News Item Texts*. It has been stated in chapter I that the objective of this study is to find out the ability level of the third year students of MAN 2 Pekanbaru in comprehending news item texts. The result shows 1 student is in *excellent* level, 24 students are in *good* level and no student in average or poor level, with mean score 70.88 (*good* level).

Based on the result of the data analysis of chapter IV for each aspect, it can be seen that the highest students' average score is in finding inferences 80.00, while the lowest score in finding the meaning of vocabulary in context 52.00. Then, the other aspects such as finding main ideas 76.80, finding factual information in background events 59,20, finding references 64.80, finding social function of news item texts 78.40, finding generic structure of news item texts 72.00, and finding language features of news item texts 75.20.

Recommendations

Based on the result of the research, the writer would like to give recommendations, first the students should learn more seriously and improve their ability in reading text especially news item texts in terms of finding references. In finding factual information in background events, and finding the meaning of vocabulary in contexts, the students should understand the implicit meanings of information in the text and how restate them.

Second, the teachers are recommended that they give extra time to the students giving explanation and exercises about comprehending texts, especially news item text. The teacher also needs to apply some reading strategies that which are appropriate for the students in comprehending news item texts.

In additions, the writer assumes that the findings, conclusions, and recommendations in this research will be useful for teachers and students of MAN 2 Pekanbaru and other readers.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Chiesi, H., Spilich, G., & Voss, J. (1979). Acquisition of domain related information in relation to high and low domain information. *Journal of Verbal Learning and Verbal Behavior*, 18, 257- 273.
- Chall, J. S. (1983). *Stages of reading development*. New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Daly, Brenden. (2004). *Facilitating Discussion of Newspaper Articles in the ESL/EFL Classroom*. The internet TESL Journal.
- Djuharie, OtongSetiawan. (2007). *Genre*. Bandung: YramaWidya.
- Garot, L and P. Wignell. (1995). *Making Sense of Functional Grammar*. Sydney: Antipode an Educational Enterprise.
- Gay, L.R. (2000): *Education Research. Sixth Edition*. New Jersey: Prentice Hall, Inc.
- Grellet, F. (2004). *Developing Reading Skills*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Harris, David. (1974). *Testing English as a Second Language*. New York: Mc. Graw. Hill Book Company.
- Harmer, J. (2007). *How to Teach English*. Harlow: Pearson Longman.
- Hatch, Evelyn and Farhady, Horsein. (1982) *Research Design and Statistics for Applied Linguistic*. Los Angeles: New Burry House Publisher.
- Heaton, JB. (1975). *A Practical Guide for Teachers of English as a Second or Foreign Language*. London: Longman Group UK. Ltd.
- Hughes, A. (2003). *Teaching for Language Teachers*, 2nd edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Hornby.(2000). *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English*.Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Kenneth, Beare. (2009). *Improve Reading Skill*. Retrieved from <http://esl.about.com/od/englishreadingskills/a/readingskills.htm>.

More, C., & Lo, Lusa. (2008). *Reading Comprehension Strategy: Rainbow Dots*. The Journal of the International Association of Special Education, 9(1), 124-127.

Ness, M. (2010). Explicit reading comprehension instruction in elementary classrooms: Teacher use of reading comprehension strategies. *Journal of Research in Childhood Education*, 25(1), 98-117.

Tinambunan, Wilmar. (1998). *Evaluation of Student Achievement*. Departemen Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan Jakarta.

Wayan and Sumantra.(1986). *Evaluation Pendidikan*. Bandung: Usaha Nasional.