A STUDY OF THE GRADE 8 STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENT AND THEIR DIFFICULTIES IN READING RECOUNT TEXTS AT SMP NEGERI 1 BANYUPUTIH SITUBONDO

THESIS

By:
Eli Indrayanti
NIM 060210401095

ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
LANGUAGE AND ARTS DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
JEMBER UNIVERSITY
2011

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Presented as One of the Requirements to Obtain the S-1 Degree at the English of Education Program, Language and Arts Education Department, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Jember University

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DEDICATION

This thesis is honorably dedicated to:

1. My beloved father, **Muhammad Salam** and my beloved mother, **Siti Sahrami.**
2. My beloved sisters (Yasmirul Indrawati and Indra Herlina).
3. My funniest nephew (Muhammad Azka Maulana Azidan).

MOTTO

A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.[*)]

1

[*)] Lane, Cherry. 2011. *Attitude Quotes*. Available at http://www.1-famous-quotes.com/quotes/category/Attitude. [August, 8 th 2011]

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By

Eli Indrayanti

NIM 060210401095

Consultants

Consultant 1 : Dra. Wiwiek Istianah, M. Kes, M. Ed.

Consultant 2 : Dra. Siti Sundari, M.A.

APPROVAL OF THE EXAMINATION TEAM

This thesis entitled "A Study of the Grade 8 Students' Achievement and Their Difficulties in Reading Recount Texts at SMPN 1 Banyuputih Situbondo" is approved and received on:

day, date : Tuesday, October 25th , 2011

place : The Faculty of Teacher Training and Education.

Examiner's Team:

The Chairperson,	The Secretary,
Drs. Annur Rofiq, M. A., M. Sc.	**Dra. Siti Sundari, M.A.**
NIP. 19681025 199903 1 001	**NIP. 19581216 198802 2 001**
The Member I,	The Member II,
Drs. Sugeng Ariyanto, M.A.	**Dra. Wiwiek Istianah, M. Kes, M. Ed.**
NIP 19590412 198702 1 001	**NIP. 19501017 198503 2 001**

The Faculty of Teacher Training and Education

The Dean,

Drs. H. Imam Muchtar, S.H. M. Hum.

NIP. 19540712 198003 1 005

SUMMARY

A Study of the Grade 8 Students' Achievement and Their Difficulties in Reading Recount texts at SMPN 1 Banyuputih Situbondo; Eli Indrayanti, 060210401095; 2010/2011: 64 pages; English Education Program, Language and Arts Department, Faculty and Teacher Training and Education, Jember University.

Among the four skills, reading is considered to be the important skill because it becomes the central of the teaching and learning process. Most of the teaching learning process is associated with reading. In reading a recount text, it is not always easy for the students to comprehend the text. Sometimes they experience difficulties in reading the recount text. This research is intended to describe the grade 8 students' achievement and their difficulties in reading recount texts at SMP Negeri 1 Banyuputih Situbondo. It is related to their achievement to cope with the problems in comprehending word meanings, sentences, paragraphs, and the whole text.

The respondents of the research were the grade 8 students of SMP Negeri 1 Banyuputih Situbondo. The respondents in this research were taken by using proportional random sampling by lottery from the 4 existing regular classes because they were parallel classes as informed by the English teacher. The number of the respondents were 28 students taken proportionally from those 4 classes.

The primary data were collected from the reading test and questionnaire. The supporting data were collected from interview, and documentation.

Based on the research result, it was known that the students' paragraph comprehension achievement was the lowest or it can be said that paragraph comprehension was the most difficult among the other indicators. The percentage was 16.67%.

Meanwhile, as stated in the result of data analysis and the classification presented in Table 4.1 (see page 36) and Table 4.4 (see page 40), in general the 8

grade students' achievement in reading recount texts was classified as 'failed' (M= 32.97%). This result was supported by the results of each indicator, namely the percentage of the students' word comprehension achievement was categorized as failed (M= 34.92%). Then, the percentage of the students' sentence comprehension achievement was categorized as poor (M= 44.84%). In addition, the percentage of the students' paragraph comprehension achievement was categorized as failed (M= 16.67%). The last, the percentage of the students' text comprehension achievement was categorized as failed (M= 28.57%).

Based on the result of this research, it is recommended to the English teacher to train and give more drill, especially how to find the word meaning and how to get the meaning of the sentence in the contexts. The students' difficulties in reading recount texts, especially paragraph comprehension can be overcome when the students have enough vocabulary and know the meaning of the word in the sentence. Thus, the teacher is suggested to give more explanation about how to get the meaning of word as the key point to understand a recount text. Then, it is also recommended to the students to do as many exercises as possible dealing with the word comprehension, sentence comprehension, paragraph comprehension, and text comprehension in reading recount texts to increase their reading comprehension achievement.

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Praise be to Allah SWT, the most Gracious and the most Merciful, who has given me the ability to finish this thesis Entitled "*A Study of the Grade 8 Students' Achievement and Their Difficulties in Reading Recount Texts at SMPN 1 Banyuputih Situbondo*".

In relation to the writing and accomplishing of this thesis, I would like to express my deepest appreciation and sincere thanks to the following people:

1. The Dean of Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Jember university;
2. The Chairperson of Language and Arts Education Department, Jember University;
3. The Chairperson of English Language Education Study Program, Jember University;
4. My first consultant, Dra. Wiwiek Istianah, M. Kes, M. Ed. and my second consultant Dra. Siti Sundari, M.A. who have given me guidance and advice in finishing this thesis;
5. The examination committee;
6. The Headmaster of SMP Negeri 1 Banyuputih, the English teacher and the grade 8 students of SMP Negeri 1 Banyuputih Situbondo;
7. My beloved Almamater, Jember University.

Finally, I expect that this thesis is also useful for its readers. This thesis is full of mistakes, any comment and criticism are appreciated.

Jember, October 2011 The Writer

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