

# IMPROVING THE SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS' VOCABULARY ACHIEVEMENT BY USING CROSSWORD PUZZLES AT SMP NEGERI 3 LUMAJANG

#### **THESIS**

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JEMBER UNIVERSITY

2013



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Presented as one of the Requirements to Obtain S1 Degree of the English Education
Program of the Language and Arts Education Department
Faculty of Teacher Training and Education
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2013

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#### **CONSULTANT APPROVAL**

## IMPROVING THE SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS' VOCABULARY ACHIEVEMENT BY USING CROSSWORD PUZZLES AT SMP NEGERI 3 LUMAJANG

#### **THESIS**

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#### **DEDICATION**

This thesis is honorably dedicated to:

- 1. My beloved parents, H. Muhammad Nasich and Hj. Khoirul Ulumi
- 2. My beloved brother, Muhammad Ainul Yaqin,
- 3. My beloved sisters, Nur Fidyati and .Syu'batullaili (the late)

### **MOTTO**

The nice thing about doing a crossword puzzle is, you know there is a solution.

Stephen Sondheim -

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- 9. The seventh grade students of SMP Negeri 3 Lumajang in 2013/2014 academic year especially class VII A.

I believe that this thesis might have some weaknesses. Therefore, any criticism from those who really want to improve the thesis will be wisely appreciated.

Jember, October 2013

Writer

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#### **SUMMARY**

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Key words: Vocabulary Achievement, Crossword Puzzles

Based on the preliminary study that was held on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2013, most of class VII students of SMP Negeri 3 Lumajang, especially VII A faced difficulties in learning vocabulary. Besides, they also had a problem dealing with their participation in joining the vocabulary class. That things happened because they do not have enough knowledge of English, lacked of background knowledge, and lacked of vocabulary. They also had low motivation in learning English and only few students were enthusiastic in the teaching learning process of vocabulary.

The classroom action research with cycle model was applied in this research because this research was intended to improve class VII A students' vocabulary achievement and their active participation in the teaching learning process of vocabulary. This research was done collaboratively with the English teacher of class VII of SMP Negeri 3 Lumajang. It was conducted in Class VII A of SMP Negeri 3 Lumajang that consisted of 32 students. The observation and the vocabulary test were the methods that were used in collecting the data. The data were analyzed quantitatively.

The action was implemented in two cycles in order to achieve the goal of this classroom action research. The first cycle was done in three meetings. The results of the classroom observation showed that 65.625% of the students were active in the vocabulary teaching learning process in meeting I and 68.75% in meeting II for the

students active involvement in the vocabulary teaching learning process. It showed that there was improvement of the students' active participation from meeting I to meeting II, but it did not achieve the objective of the research that was 75% of the students were active in the vocabulary teaching learning process by using crossword puzzles. Besides, the result of vocabulary test in Cycle 1 also did not achieve the target of the research that was 75% of the students got 73 or more in the vocabulary test. The percentage of the students who got ≥73 was only 71.875%.

There were some factors that influenced the results of the observation and the vocabulary test in Cycle 1. They were (1) most of the students didn't know how to complete the crossword puzzles correctly, (2) The teacher and the researcher often used English in explaining the materials and giving the instruction to the students, (3) some students did not bring the dictionary, and (4) Some students did not pay attention to the lesson, so they couldn't answer the teacher's oral questions.

For those reasons, Cycle 2 was necessary to be continued to solve the problems found in Cycle 1 by revising some problems found in Cycle 1. The process and product evaluation in Cycle 2 showed an improvement. The observation of the students' participation revealed there was 78.125% of the students categorized as active students in meeting I and 81.25% of the students in meeting II who actively participated in the vocabulary teaching learning process. So, the results of the observation both in meeting I and meeting II had achieved the goal of this research. In product evaluation, the percentage of the students who got score  $\geq 73$  in the vocabulary test was 81.25% of the students. Based on those results, it could be concluded that the action in Cycle 2 was successful because the results of process and product evaluation achieved the objectives of the research.

Finally, it could be concluded that the use of crossword puzzles could improve the students' vocabulary achievement and their active participation in the teaching learning process of vocabulary by using crossword puzzles at SMP Negeri 3 Lumajang in the 2013/2014 academic year.