



**IMPROVING THE 8th YEAR STUDENTS' READING COMPREHENSION
ACHIEVEMENT BY USING INDONESIAN FOLKTALES
AT SMP NEGERI 2 CANDIPURO LUMAJANG**

THESIS

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SUMMARY

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This Classroom Action Research is intended to improve the VIII A year students' reading comprehension achievement at SMP Negeri 2 Candipuro by using Indonesian folktales. The subjects of this research were the students of class VIII A in the 2009/2010 Academic Year that were determined purposively. That class was chosen because its reading comprehension achievement score was the lowest among the four existing classes (the mean score was 53,8). This research was done in two cycles, in which each cycle covered four activities namely the preparation of the action, the implementation of the action, evaluation and reflection of the action. Each cycle was conducted in two meetings.

The main data about the students' reading comprehension achievement were collected by using reading test through Indonesian folktale. The supporting data were collected by interview and documentation. The results of the reading comprehension test of the first cycle were 51,61% of the students gained the score at least 65. This mean score had not achieved the standard mean score requirement in this research that was at least 75% of the students gained 65. Further, there were only 21 students or 67,74% of the students fulfilled less than three indicators being observed or passive. Therefore the actions were continued in cycle two by revising the teaching techniques, (the students did the exercises individually was changed into the students did the exercises in pairs, which consist of two person. The result of the students' reading comprehension test by using folktale in cycle two was better, because there were 90,32% or 28 students who gained the score at least 65 that was

categorized as good. Further, the result of classroom observation in cycle two was 77,42 % of 31 of the students were active because they fulfilled at least three indicators being observed. It means that the students' reading comprehension achievement by using Indonesian folktale improved in two cycles. Based on the results, it could be concluded that teaching reading by using folktale could improve the students' reading comprehension achievement in two cycles. Then, it is suggested to the English teachers to use Indonesian folktale as an alternative materials since they could motivate the students to enjoy reading and improved their reading comprehension achievement. Besides, it is also suggested to the students that should be more active in joining the reading comprehension class. Further, for the future researchers who have the similar problem in teaching reading are encourage to use this research result as an input to conduct further research dealing with the use of folktales to develop the students reading comprehension by using a difference research design.

Keywords: Reading comprehension achievement, folktales.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
COVER	i
CONSULTANTS' APPROVAL	iii
APPROVAL OF EXAMINER TEAM	iv
DEDICATION	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vi
TABLE OF CONTENT	vii
LIST OF APPENDICES	ix
LIST OF TABLES	x
SUMMARY	xi
I. INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Background of the Research.....	1
1.2 The Problem of the Research.....	4
1.3 The objectives of the Research.....	4
1.4 Operational Definition of the Term.....	5
1.5 Significance of the Research.....	6
II. RELATED LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1 Reading Comprehension.....	8
2.2 Some Factors Influencing Reading Comprehension Achievement....	9
2.2.1 Linguistic Factors.....	10
2.2.2 Non Linguistics Factors.....	13
2.3 Reading Comprehension Achievement.....	15
2.4 Narrative Text.....	15
2.5 Folktale.....	16
2.6 The Procedures of Teaching Reading by Using Folktales.....	17
2.7 Action Hypothesis.....	18

III. RESEACRH METHODS

3.1 Research Design.....	19
3.2 Area Determination Method.....	21
3.3 Respondent Determination Method.....	22
3.4 Data Collection Method.....	22
3.4.1 Test.....	22
3.4.2 Observation.....	23
3.4.3 Interview.....	23
3.4.4 Documentation.....	24
3.5 Research Procedures.....	24
3.5.1 The Planning of the Action.....	24
3.5.2 Implementation of the Action.....	24
3.5.3 Observation and Evaluation.....	25
3.5.4 Reflection.....	25

IV. RESULTS, DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 The Results of the Action Cycle 1.....	28
4.1.1 The Results of Reading Comprehension Test in Cycle 1.....	29
4.1.2 The Results of Observation in Cycle 1.....	32
4.1.3 The Results of the Reflection in Cycle 1.....	33
4.2 The Results of the Action in Cycle II	34
4.2.1 The Results of Reading Comprehension Test in Cycle II	35
4.2.2 The Results of Observation in Cycle II.....	38
4.2.3 The Results of Reflection in Cycle II.....	39
4.3 Discussion	41

V. CONCLUSSION AND SUGGESTIONS

5.1 Conclusion.....	47
5.2 Suggestions.....	48

REFERENCES

APPENDICES