

**Penerapan Model Pembelajaran Siklus (*Learning Cycle*)
Untuk Meningkatkan Kemampuan Berpikir Kritis Siswa**
(Studi Kasus pada Kelas VIII-A Mata Pelajaran IPS Kompetensi Dasar
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Abstract : This research was conducted to improve students' critical thinking skills by applying a cyclic learning mode (learning cycle). This research included Classroom Action Research (CAR) conducted by 2 cycles that include planning, action, observation, and reflection. The method to determine the study location was using purposive method. Determination of the subjects in this study was using the population of the entire students of class VII 1-A of SMP Negeri Muncar year 2011/2012. Data collection methods used consisted of methods: observation, interviews, and documentation. Analysis of the data used was qualitative descriptive analysis. The results showed that the application of the cyclic learning mode (learning cycle) can improve the students' ability to think critically. Critical thinking skills are sub-indicators in the first cycle are: analyzing skills by 49.22%, 49.61% for synthesizing skills, skills to recognize and solve problems by 59.76%, the evaluating skill by 65.23%, and 66.80% for concluding skills. Was in increased Cycle II as follows: 68.75% by analyzing skills, synthesizing skills at 74.22%, the skills to recognize and solve problems by 75.45%, 77.11% by evaluating skills, and concluding skills in 79.64%. The achievement critical thinking skills in Cycle I was improved from an average scored of 58.20%

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