

INCREASING STUDENTS' READING COMPREHENSION THROUGH PICTURE

*(A Classroom Action Research of The Eighth Grade Students of SMPN SATU
ATAP EKOREKO)*

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Abstract: This research aimed to increase students' reading comprehension through picture. This research answers there main questions (1) How is the improvement of the students' reading comprehension in descriptive text using pictures? Twenty two students of the eighth grade students of SMPN SATU ATAP EKOREKO were instructed through Picture media to increase their reading comprehension. The methodology of this research used Classroom Action Research (CAR). The research instrument is reading test. This study was conducted in two cycles. Each cycle consists of planning, action, observation and reflection. The researcher found an improvement of students' reading comprehension by using picture media. It can be seen in the score of preliminary test in first cycle nine % students got score above 75 with the average score 67.63. The students did not achieve the criteria of success. Then, the researcher continued to the second cycle, this action that shows improvement. It can be seen in final-test, nineteen % students got score above 75 with the average score 85.45. It can be concluded that picture can increase students' reading comprehension.

Key Words: Reading Comprehension, Picture, Descriptive text.

INTRODUCTION

Reading is a process that connected thinking and communication abilities such as listening, speaking, and writing. On the other hand, reading is the process of understand in patterns on the ideas, information, and communication. Reading is the subject of skill to decode in comprehension which means that reading is a result from an ability to solve the print words and to comprehend the language. (Flynn and Stainthorp, 2006: 34). Reading is a fundamental of learning that helping individual for getting knowledge because reading activity will shape the ability to think through the process of capturing ideas, information, comprehend, imagine, implement and expression (Aksan & Kisac 2009).

Reading is very important for students because by reading they will get much information and improve their knowledge to increase their ability in having information about the lesson in classroom or outside classroom. According to Aksan & Kisac (2009), reading is a fundamental of learning that helping individual for getting knowledge because reading activity will shape the ability to , think through the process of capturing ideas, information, comprehend, imagine, implement and expression. Reading is an activity to grasp the passage of written texts. By reading, students can learn through catching the information, getting new knowledge and increasing their background knowledge from the passage they will read. Lindsay and Knight (2006) mention that reading is becomes an important skill in students' daily life because it can give plenty of opportunities for students to obtain which can be used to expend their knowledge. It can be concluded, reading shares many advantages for every student such as having ability to think through some processes.

When the researcher observed at SMPN SATU ATAP EKOREKO there, students' reading comprehension is low because some of students are lack of vocabulary. Thus they are bored to read it. The researcher found that average scores were 65.5. It is under the criteria of minimum score (75). Thus, the

researcher needed to increase students' reading comprehension. The researcher used picture as media to increase to improve their reading comprehension well.

The first, a study by Naela entitled 'The Use of Picture in Narrative Text to Improve Students' Attention in Learning English has positive effect on increasing students' interested in learning English. The students can easier understand the material of English. The researcher used picture from the story and combination of played her face expression also changed voice based on the story. In this case, the students were able to achieve goal of interested in learning English.

The second, a study by Nurjamaliah entitled 'The Implementation of Start Simple Stories (SSS) Method to Improve Students' Reading Comprehension ha positive effect to improve reading comprehension students. The researcher found that was improved after implementing the method. It can be seen from the score of pre-test (28.6) and post-test (61.15). The students were able to achieve goal of reading comprehension well. Based on the finding of previous studies above, it can be concluded that the research has different method that gave positive affect on students' reading comprehension. Therefore, the research gets an idea to do further research about teaching reading, but the researcher will used the same picture as media to increase students' reading comprehension. The researcher will enter the hint number into the picture that if it explains the difficult words.

This research focused on the use of picture in teaching reading comprehension in order to make students' reading comprehension skill increased. This research aimed to find out the improvement of students' reading comprehension of descriptive text after being taught using pictures in the second grade students of SMPN Satu Atap Ekoreko.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Reading Comprehension is a process of making meaning that collected number of complex process that related to generally language, word knowledge, word reading and flounce(Cain, Oakhill, & Bryant, 2004; Paris, 2005). Reading comprehension is a measurement of new information and an addition of idea for

students reading comprehension. Reading comprehension is the combination of word recognition and vocabulary development to understand the text. Furthermore this strategic is help students to understand the text. The students can easily read the every text (Grabe, 2009) Reading comprehension is essential for preparing students with the basic reading skills in order to be able to gain information and knowledge from reading more effectively (Pardo, 2004).With good proficiency in reading comprehension.

Descriptive text is a text about describing a person. The text describes about the person to make students easier in comprehending the text. But this descriptive also give with other perception Based to Kathleen (2010: 234), descriptive gives information in a way that interested to one or more than five. It can be seen from sound, smell, taste and touch, in this feeling can create all the impression. If every day used the descriptive, we can understand it. Descriptive text is a text about describing a person. The text describes about the person to make students easier in comprehending the text.

Picture is one of subject that has a lot of advantages. The researcher has used of hint number into the picture that if it explains the difficult words. Beside that the hint number are applied in text to increase students' reading comprehension. Picture is one of the learning media that can be used to provide many opportunities. Picture used almost in all levels in learning. The researcher used picture media to attract attention of the students in learning reading comprehension, not only attention but also can gather idea or information. (Asnawir, 2002:54).

The Use of Picture in Teaching Reading

The application of pictures is activities of stimulating many ideas that students have into good outlines and teacher choose an interest picture to increase students reading comprehension. Picture is one of subject that has a lot of advantages. The researcher has used of hint number into the picture that if it explains the difficult words. Beside that the hint number are applied in text to

increase students reading motivation and reading comprehension well. Hibbing & Erickson (2003) stated that pictures provided readers with a new source of information in addition to what they could get from reading the text itself, and that the two sources of information facilitated reading comprehension.

METHOD

The researcher conducted the research in SMPN SATU ATAP EKOREKO by adopting a qualitative approach to reach the pretest and posttest score. By utilizing Classroom Action Research design, the researcher provides 22 8th grade students. The researcher doing the action research on implementation of picture to increase students' reading comprehension in the classroom activity. The analysis data that need to increase students reading comprehension through picture by reading test. It is also one of way to analysis of the reading test, and is obtained data that seen from the improve student score pre-test and final- test. Those are one of the ways to measure so far the students understand the descriptive text.

PARTICIPANT

The participants of the study were 22 students of the eight class of academic year 2020/2021. The preliminary study showed that students' average score of reading comprehension were 65.5 which means that is under the minimum score.

DATA ANALYSIS

The researcher administered the research on implementation of picture to increase students' reading comprehension. After the researcher gained the data from reading test, the researcher analyzed it. The researcher gave score 4 if the students' answer are right and score 0 if the students' answer are wrong.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

In this chapter, the researcher found the data in each cycle. The data were collected from preliminary-test and final-test of students' reading comprehension. This study consisted of 2 cycles, each cycle consisted of three meetings. The first cycle was failed because the students did not achieve the criteria of success. The researcher conducted the second cycle to get the successful result of reading comprehension test.

Cycle 1

This implementation consisted of three meetings. In the first meeting, the researcher gave the brainstorm before the study or learnt the lesson. Then, the researcher explained the descriptive text with picture. In the second meeting, the researcher taught descriptive text through picture, and the last meeting was applied for review, and did the preliminary-test.

Student's Scores

The third meeting in cycle 1 was held on Tuesday, 15 December 2020. The researcher started analyzed how to increase students' reading comprehension through picture. The score of preliminary test showed that there were 9 students who got the score above 75 and 13 students got less than 75. The average was (67.63) because the result of cycle 1 did not achieve the criteria of success of this study. The researcher will continue again in the cycle 2.

Cycle 2

This implementation was consisted of three meetings. The first meeting, the researcher focused explanation the whole of the descriptive text. In the second meeting, the students were able to explain and to read loudly about the material

they have gained. In the last meeting, the researcher reviewed the material and did the final test.

Students' Scores

The last meeting of cycle 2 was held on Tuesday, 24 December 2020. The researcher started analyzed how to increase students' reading comprehension through picture. The score of the test showed that there were 19 students who got the score above 75 and 3 students got less than 75. The average was (85.45). It can be proved that the score was increasing and it was increased student's reading comprehension through picture.

Discussion

The use of picture can develop students' reading comprehension in the class. Besides, it was not only about their reading and also their vocabulary mastery. Picture is one of the learning media that can be used to provide many opportunities. Picture is used almost in all levels of learning English. The use of picture media has attracted attention of the students in learning reading comprehension, not only attention but also can gather idea or information. (Asnawir, 2002:54). Therefore, picture is the important media that can increase students reading comprehension.

The result of reading comprehension can be seen on the result of classroom activities in cycle 1 and cycle 2. There was improved in the increasing students reading comprehension through picture. The enhancement students reading comprehension could be seen from the result of 1 cycle in preliminary - test are 9 students get score more 75 The mean of the data was 67.63 and also the cycle 2 of the final test 18 students get score more 75. The mean of the data was 85.45.

Based on the result of study above, it was proved that picture gave a positive impact for students. As stated by Hibbing & Erickson (2003) that

pictures provided readers with a new source of information in addition to what they could get from reading the text itself, and that the two sources of information facilitated reading comprehension. Moreover that picture also could adding the vocabularies of students, the situation in learning process are comfortable, the students also active and motivated. Beside it, picture also reflected the structure and complexity of the text had a more facilitative effect (Pan, 2009).

In the previous research of Naela (2012) the researcher argued that picture was helpful to increase students' interested in learning English. The students can easier understand the material of English. The researcher used picture from the story and combination of played her face expression also changed voice based on the story. This action used by classroom action research design. She found that there are positive effects of applying the picture in learning English. In this case, the students were able to achieve goal of interested in learning English.

Based on the finding of the previous studies done by (Asnawir, 2002), Hibbing & Erickson (2003), (Pan, 2009), and Naela (2012). It can be concluded that the use of picture as media has positive effects on students' reading comprehension. It can be seen that there were similarities with the current research because the previous studies and the current research used the same media and most of the previous studies tend to use media picture to enrich students' reading comprehension. While, the difference were the previous study of Naela (2012) used picture as media in order to make students interested in learning English whereas the current researcher used the same media in order to increase students' reading comprehension.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Conclusion

In this chapter, the researcher has been conducted at the second students of SMPN SATU ATAP EKOREKO. The result of implementation in cycle 1 and cycle 2, it can be proved that picture can increase students' reading comprehension. It proved by the result of implementation after applying the

method. Increasing students' reading comprehension through picture was stagnant in the cycle 1 because some students did not achieve the criteria of success. Then, the researcher continued to the cycle 2 and the students' reading comprehension was improved. This research successfully implemented in SMPN SATAP EKOREKO since most of students were already able to achieve the criteria of success.

The procedures of implementing students' reading comprehension through picture were described below. The researcher gave an example of descriptive text about picture of Taylor Swift, Maudy Ayunda, Betrand Peto and Irfan Bachdim to the students. By applying the picture, the students could be easier to understand the text and the students became easier to respond the text quickly than just read the text. In addition, the students were asked to read and to share with their friends. To make sure, the researcher asked one of the students in group to explain in front of class what they got without saw the text. Meanwhile, the other group responded and also the researcher completed the explanation of students.

Suggestion

Based on the finding of this research, the researcher gave some suggestions for English teachers that they can increase students' reading comprehension through picture as it makes the learning process more enjoyable and interesting. It is important for teacher to encourage the students with the fun learning process and encourage the students to read a lot. The instructor also ought to turn on the class in an interesting way, and then the students will enjoy the class.

For the future researchers, the researcher hoped that they add the duration on teaching activities, to ease the students to learn reading skill, add number of test items than the previous study and develop the other research such as, experimental research design.

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