

## Analysis of Students' Reading Comprehension of Descriptive Text at SMK Negeri 2 Pematangsiantar

Cici Simamora<sup>1</sup>, Megawati H. Sumbayak<sup>2</sup>, Astrid Sri Rasta Sinaga<sup>3</sup>, Lidia Siska Sirait<sup>4</sup>,  
Friska Yanti Siagian<sup>5</sup>

FKIP Universitas Nommensen Pematang Siantar, Indonesia

### ABSTRACT

This research aims to find out how is the students' Reading Comprehension of Descriptive Text. And what are their difficulties in Reading Comprehension. The method used in this research is a qualitative method, the research was conducted at SMK N2 PEMATANGSIANTAR with the samples were 35 students. The researcher used five stories of descriptive text and fifty questions about the text, and their searcher used interview test too. The data collection was taken from the students' score. The result of the research showed that there is 0 student or 0% who was categorized excellent, there were 2 students or 5,7% who were categorized as very good, there were 7 students or 20% who were categorized as good, there were 14 students or 40% who were categorized as fair, there were 8 students or 22,8% who were categorized as poor, there were 4 students or 11,4% who were categorized as very poor. And the researcher found the average by the score was 61,8%. So, from the result the researcher can conclude that the students were still in the fair category.

**Keyword:** *Reading comprehension, Descriptive Text, Fair*

#### **Corresponding Author:**

**Astrid Sri Rasta Sinaga,**  
FKIP Universitas Nommensen  
Pematang Siantar, Indonesia  
Email: [astridsinaga908@gmail.com](mailto:astridsinaga908@gmail.com)



### 1. INTRODUCTION

Reading comprehension is an activity in producing a meaning from a text. (G. Woolley, 2011) in Australian Journal of Language and Literacy, 33 (2), 108-125. Reading comprehension is a process than involves memory, thinking abstractly, visualization, and understanding vocabulary as well as knowing how to properly decode (Ness, 2010) in Journal of Research in Childhood Education, 25 (1), 98-117. Reading comprehension is the process of simultaneously extracting and constructing meaning through interaction and involvement with written language (Snow, 2002:9). Reading English text is not easy for second language learners. Since English is an important language to be comprehended, learning English becomes a must for a second language learners. Reading comprehension is the interaction between the reader and the text. In the process of reading, the reader takes meaning from the text by utilizing his/her previous knowledge through employing effective reading comprehension strategies (Orasanu & Penny, 1986). Harvey (2000) in S.R. Purba (2017) said that reading comprehension requires many skills. In the process of teaching, students might find some difficulties. Teachers found some problem in which how they have to teach the students. Basically, in the process of it, reading deals of word recognition and decoding. The first skill that have to be mastered is to read words than move to extracting the meaning. When students get better at the required skills and are able to words, they have to move into learning the actual meanings of the words they are reading. Knowing and understanding what is being read is the key to comprehension. Reading is one of the ways to get new knowledge and to read the students' more see understand the contents of the reading can even find problems and the idea of thereading. The writer focusses on Reading Comprehension of Descriptive Text. The writer wants to find the difficulties in Reading Comprehension of

DescriptiveText of the students. It is done because there were so many problems that students faced in reading, especially descriptive text. By conducting this research, it is hoped that it will give contribution to the students

**2. RESEARCH METHOD**

The form of this research was a descriptive research. The aim was to analyze the students' ability in comprehending descriptive text. Gay (1987: 189) states that descriptive research involves collecting data in order to test hypotheses or to answer questions concerning the current status of the subject of the study. This study was done in order to get description about students' ability in comprehending descriptive text. Gay (1987: 188) also states that descriptive research is useful in investigating many kinds of educational problem. Sellinger and Shohami in Octavia (1999: 23) affirm that descriptive research

**3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**1. The students' Reading Comprehension of Descriptive Text.**

The researcher carried out the research to the second-year students of SMK NEGERI 2, the result was analyzed to make sure how the students' reading comprehension of descriptive text. In this research, the researcher took 26 students as the sample in order to find out the students' reading comprehension of descriptive text. In analyzing the students' reading comprehension of descriptive text, the researcher used the test. The test is test 1 and test 2. In this test, the students were asked to answer the questions related to the indicators are finding main idea and Finding the Meaning of the Vocabulary in Context.

In calculating the mean score of the students' reading comprehension of descriptive text of test 1 and test 2, the researcher calculated the mean score in each the indicators, the data as follows:

Table 1 The Percentage of the Students' Reading Comprehension of Descriptive Text in Finding Main Idea of Test 1

NO.	Score / Range	Ability Level	Frequency	Percentage
1	80-100	Excellent	8	30,77%
2	70-79	Good	0	0%
3	60-69	Fairly Good	8	30,77%
4	50-59	Weak	0	0%
5	0-49	Poor	10	38,46%
			26	100%

Based on the table above, seen that are 8 students (30,77%) obtained excellent level, 8 students (30,77%) obtained fairly good level, and 10 students (38,46%) obtained poor level. The mean score result of the students' reading comprehension of descriptive text in finding main idea of test 1 is 58. It means that the students' reading comprehension of recount text in finding main idea of test 1 is categorized in weak level.

Table 2 The Percentage of The Students' Reading Comprehension of Descriptive text in Finding Meaning of Vocabulary in Context of Test 1

NO.	Score / Range	Ability Level	Frequency	Percentage
1	80-100	Excellent	2	7,69%
2	70-79	Good	2	7,69%

3	60-69	Fairly Good	5	19,23%
4	50-59	Weak	9	34,62%
5	0-49	Poor	8	30,77%
			26	100%

Based on the table above, it could be seen that there were 2 or 7,69% students obtained excellent level, 2 or 7,69% students obtained good level, 5 or 19,23% students obtained fairly good level, 9 or 34,62% students obtained weak level, and 8 or 30,77% students obtained poor level. In calculating of the data, the mean score of the students' Reading Comprehension of Descriptive text in finding meaning of vocabulary in Context of test 1 is 49. It proves that the students' Reading Comprehension of Descriptive text in finding meaning of vocabulary in Context of test 1 is categorized in poor level.

## 2. The Result of Questionnaire

The result of questionnaire was analyzed to get specific information dealing with students' reading comprehension at the second grade of SMK N 2 PEMATANGSIANTAR. This questionnaire was revealed in two categorized. They were the students' opinion in learning English and the students' opinion in their reading comprehension of descriptive text.

This part covers the discussion of the students' Reading Comprehension in Descriptive Text. The discussion based on how students' reading comprehension at the second grade of SMK N 2. The researcher found that the students' reading comprehension in descriptive text is weak level. Based on the research, the researcher saw that the students had difficult in learning english especially in reading, low understanding the vocabulary especially in get meaning of new vocabulary and also in using appropriate words based on context. It caused that the students had low vocabulary that made the students difficult to translated the descriptive text. And some students really didn't like to learn English because they feel it is so difficult to understand it and it is not their daily language. From the problems above, it makes the students difficult to get main idea and using appropriate word based on context. And also make the students are lazy to learn English. Therefore, the students need motivate from the teacher to be creative in teaching English. Especially in reading Comprehension of Descriptive text.

## 4. CONCLUSION

Based on the data analysis on previous chapter, from the calculation the mean score of the students' reading comprehension of test 1 and test 2, it can be concluded that the students' reading comprehension was categorized in weak level. The result of questionnaire proved that 21 or 81% the students like reading. They say that reading is important and easy to understood. Meanwhile, 5 or 19% the students didn't like reading English text. They felt difficult to understand, to pronounce, to remember, and made them feel confused and bored. 21 or 81% the students want to understood, tried to guess, and learned about new vocabulary before used dictionary. Meanwhile, 5 or 19% the students felt difficult and didn't understand about the vocabulary without used dictionary and felt wasted the time if they didn't use dictionary to get the meaning of the word. 16 or 62% the students can find specific information. Meanwhile, 10 or 38% the students felt difficult in understand english well, especially in reading text. 13 or 50% the students felt understand and easy to find the main idea and the supporting detail, because descriptive text easy to understand and they like descriptive text. Meanwhile, 13 or 50% the students didn't understand and feel difficult and confused to find the main idea. 16 or 62% the students felt didn't difficult in guessing the title of the text. Meanwhile, 10 or 38% the students felt the title was difficult to guess because they didn't know the meaning of the text and sometimes the students lazy to guess because they didn't understand and also made them confuse. 12 or 46% the students felt didn't difficult and like to answer the questions about vocabulary and easy to understood. Meanwhile, 14 or 54% the students felt the text and questions was difficult because they didn't know the meaning of vocabulary and sometimes the students forgot about its meaning.

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