

## STUDENT'S ABILITY IN COMPREHENDING READING TEXT AT SMP NEGERI 1 SANGALLA'

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### ABSTRACT

*The objective of this study was to find out about the ability to read comprehension through reading texts such as descriptive texts, narrative texts, and procedures. How far is the ability of grade IX students of SMP NEGERI 1 Sangalla in understanding reading texts? And in what areas do they face difficulties in understanding the reading text In this study, researchers used quantitative research methods. The subjects of this study were grade IX students of SMP Negeri 1 Sangalla'. For data collection, the researcher used a written test instrument in the form of multiple choice consisting of descriptive, narrative, and procedure reading texts. The researcher used a random sampling technique because the number of class IX students was quite large, the researcher took 20 students as a sample. Based on the results of the study, the researchers found that the ability of the IX grade students of SMP Negeri 1 Sangalla' in understanding descriptive reading texts was 71.25 and included in the good category. However, they have difficulty determining the topic in understanding the descriptive reading text. For students' ability to understand narrative reading texts is 64.6 and is included in the sufficient category. Their difficulty is determining the reference word in a reading text. The student's ability to understand the procedural reading text is 77.15 and is included in the good category. However, their difficulty is determining the topic in the reading.*

**Keywords:** *ability, Reading, comprehending reading, text.*

### INTRODUCTION

Reading is an activity that involves looking at what is written and then discussing or silently understanding the contents of the text. Reading tasks necessitate comprehension and application responses to reading and also another skills, hence a thinking process occurs (Sampelolo et al., 2021). A person can obtain information from written texts by reading. Many pieces of information such as those found in newspapers, journals, websites, books, etc. can be read as text.

According to (Pustika, 2010) reading is typically thought of as a solitary activity where the reader engages the material alone. He asserts that reading is a solitary activity that involves numerous reader interactions and what each reader brings to the book. Students develop a variety of receptive skills when they read stories or newspapers. Reading is one of the receptive skills as a result. They use

their eyes to take in information while they read. Everyone who wants to learn a language should be able to read. It is a fundamental skill. He won't be able to learn the language without reading.

Based on the above findings reading is an activity that involves auditive (hearing) and visual (observation) elements. Children learn to read when they love exploring books by holding or turning language books, which are their primary means of expressing their wants and needs. Based on the aforementioned definitions of reading, it can be inferred that reading is the process of converting symbols/signs/writing into a meaningful form of sound. When learning a language, whatever language it is, it is not required to communicate orally, but also in writing. It will be useless if you can only read the text in English fluently but do not know the meaning clearly. As is well known, there are many science books and references available in English that have not been translated. Good reading comprehension skills will support the ability to read and understand these books and knowledge and insight will be broader.

In high school, reading is one of the most important aspects of language especially learned and taught to students. Through reading, students are expected to get a lot of information about many things that they did not know before. However, due to their limited vocabulary, structure, and knowledge of reading skills, they spend too much time understanding sentences. On the other hand, to understand the passage students must understand the sentence well. In this research, the writer intends to know about the ability of reading comprehension through reading texts such as descriptive texts, narrative texts, and procedural texts. What extent is the ability of class IX SMP NEGERI 1 Sangalla students in understanding reading text? And in what areas do they face difficulties in understanding the reading text?

## METHOD

This study used quantitative research specifically, namely the written test method as an instrument in data collection. The population in this study is class IX as many as 100 students divided into four class at SMP Negeri 1 Sangalla'. The researcher in determining the sample used simple random sampling there for the sample of this research is 20 student. It means that the researcher would take 10 students from each class. In this study, the researcher used a written test and the researcher gave instructions to answer multiple choice questions through descriptive text, procedure text, and narrative text to find out how grade IX students were able to understand a reading text and in what field they had difficulty understanding the reading text.

## FINDING DAN DISCUSSION

### Finding

In this section, the researcher describes the results of research on students' reading ability in understanding reading texts. Data were collected from 20 students using a questionnaire consisting of several questions so that the data results were tabulated in the following table :

**Table 1 Students' Difficulty Percentage In Reading**

No.	Text type	Item	Correct		Incorrect	
			F	%	F	%
Descriptive		Finding Topic	5	25%	15	75%
		Finding Main Idea	15	75%	5	25%
		Finding Reference word	18	90%	2	10%
		Finding Antonym	19	95%	1	5%
Narrative		Finding Synonym	17	85%	3	15%
		Finding the background of a place in text	13	65%	7	35%
		Finding Reference word	10	50%	10	50%
Procedure		Finding the correct order of sentences	18	90%	2	10%
		Finding Synonym	19	95%	1	5%
		Finding the correct type of text	16	80%	4	20%
		Finding Topic	5	25%	15	75%
		Finding Synonym	17	85%	3	15%
		Finding the correct type	18	90%	2	10%

## Discussion

The researcher have conduct research on the ability of nine graders of SMP Negeri 1 Sangalla' in understanding reading texts such as narrative texts, procedures, and narrative texts. The researcher used written test to collect the data from 20 student's as respondents.

In this part, the researcher discusses the results of data analysis related to the formulation of the problem. The purpose of the discussion is to link the results of data analysis with the research objectives which are intended to determine the extent to which students' reading abilities are in understanding reading texts and in what areas they have difficulty.

Based on table 4.7 the difficulties experienced by students in understanding reading texts in text descriptions are the most difficult in determining a topic in reading, 25% of students answered correctly and 75% of students answered questions incorrectly. In determining the main idea, 75% of students answered correctly and 25% of students answered incorrectly. In determining the reference words 90% of students answered correctly and 10% answered incorrectly. While the lowest difficulty of students in understanding the reading text is in determining the antonym in the reading, 95% of students answered correctly and 5% answered incorrectly.

In narrative text, the most difficulties experienced by students in understanding the reading text is the difficulty in determining the reference word, 50% of students answered the question incorrectly, 50% answered correctly. The lowest difficulty experienced by students was in determining synonyms in a

reading text, 85% of students answered correctly and 15% of students answered incorrectly. Meanwhile, in determining the setting of a place in a reading text, 65% of students answered correctly and 35% of students answered incorrectly.

And finally in the procedure text, the lowest difficulty experienced by students is in determining synonyms in reading, 95% of students answered correctly and 5% of students answered incorrectly. In determining the correct sentence structure 90% of students answered correctly and 10% of students answered incorrectly. In determining the type of text in the text, 80% of students answered correctly and 20% of students answered incorrectly. In determining synonyms in sentences, 85% of students answered correctly and 15% of students answered incorrectly. In determining the type of text, 90% of students answered correctly and 10% of students answered incorrectly. While the highest difficulty experienced by students was in determining the topic, only 25% of students answered correctly and 75% of students answered incorrectly.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the findings and discussion in the last chapter, it is concluded that the ability of grade IX students of SMP Negeri 1 Sangalla in understanding descriptive text in the good category. However, they have difficulty determining the topic in understanding the description of the reading text

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