

**IMPROVING STUDENTS' READING COMPREHENSION THROUGH GROUP  
WORK STRATEGY AT NINTH GRADE OF SMP NEGERI 21  
BANDAR LAMPUNG IN 2021/2022**

Nurul Fitriana<sup>1</sup>, Adenan Damiri<sup>2</sup>, Purna Wiratno<sup>3</sup>

STKIP PGRI Bandar Lampung

[Nurulfitriana20@gmail.com](mailto:Nurulfitriana20@gmail.com)<sup>1</sup>, [Adenandamiri@gmail.com](mailto:Adenandamiri@gmail.com)<sup>2</sup>, [Purnawiratno@gmail.com](mailto:Purnawiratno@gmail.com)<sup>3</sup>

**Abstract:** This research aims to improve students' reading comprehension by using Group Work strategy, Objectives in this research was to identify whether Group Work strategy can improve the students' in reading comprehension in the learning activities by using narrative texts. In this research, the writer used Classroom Action Research as a design in collecting data sample of the research used only one class of 31 students. In this research the writer used test and observation in data collecting techniques, the test used in multiple choice test consisted of 20 questions, which aim to obtain students' reading comprehension score and the writer used descriptive analysis in analyzing the data. The findings in this research showed that after teaching reading using Group Work strategy the writer was successful to improve students' reading comprehension and reading activity. That can be seen from average score in reading comprehension of the students' that increased from Cycle I to Cycle II. The writer found that the average score of students who passed the Minimum Mastery Criteria in Cycle I was 61.29% while in cycle II was obtained 80.64%. The students' learning activity was also increased from the first Cycle 7.0% and the second Cycle obtained 8.0% which categorized as very active. Therefore, it can be concluded that the implementation of Group Work strategy was successful to improve the students' reading comprehension and the students' learning activity at Ninth grade of SMP Negeri 21 Bandar Lampung in 2021/2022.

**Keywords :** Group Work Strategy, Reading Comprehension

## **INTRODUCTION**

Reading is the one of the skill which must be mastered by the students, they can get much information from reading activity. Reading helps us to understand ourselves and the world around us. People can not communicate with others without language. Reading text also provide good models.

Reading provides many useful information, knowledge, experience and culture to reader. Reading is also important in teaching and learning process, cause every activity in the classroom is always related to reading. The purpose of teaching reading is to help students to comprehend or to get meaning from written text Teaching of English in Indonesia focuses on four language skills, namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing. One of the important skills that must be taught and should be mastered by the students reading. In the case of reading the role is knowledge, vocabulary, grammar and structure as we know English as international language or language of global term that need to be development in the world. Reading process to get information and knowledge through the use of written text.

Brown (2004: 189) adds that reading is a process of negotiation of meaning. In this process, the readerstry to find out the meaning while the readers are reading. The readers try to choose the best one appropriate meaning base on context about the text they have read.

According to Wallace (2003: 4) that reading is an interpreting means reacting to writer text as a piece of communication. In other way, reading is the way that can be used to communication even it written from and the reader much reading usual will be easy to communicate with other because they get many knowledge.

Patel & Jain (2008) argued that reading is most useful and important skill. Reading is an enjoyable activity the students can do in their learning process which provides several advantage on finding some information that is needed.

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Hashemi in Taqi & Al-Nouh (2014: 37-45) stated that Group work also depends on the attitude of the students, attitudes towards something is the extent to which students accept the subject and their opinion towards and attitudes as the way someone thinks and feels about somebody or something.

Hersey (2010: 24-38) group work activities is a process or activity done in a group that can make the students more acted as a leader because they do procedures that are desired by each group to achieve the goals.

Group work Strategy when applied in Junior High School can be used as an alternative strategy that is felt to be more understanding 3 student characteristics. The characteristic referred to here is that students prefer learning while playing, meaning that in the teaching and learning process, the teacher must make students interested and happy with the material presented, so that later learning objectives can be achieved.

Muhaenah in Richard & Schmidt (2010: 134) found that the Group Work is a learning activities which involves a small group of learners working together in order to do particular purpose. The group work may work in single test or different part of large task. The member of the group often selects the task that will be discussed. That group work refers to the learning interaction in which students" from some groups in the classroom to discuss or to do learning that is given by teacher.

Novilain Moedjiono (2013 :62) stated the Group Work is a format of teaching and learning that give priority to the interaction of members with other members in other group to complete learning task together.

Abeysekera & Dawson (2015) That group work activity can provide the students' with use the question skills and discussed the problem. Group Work means that Group Work is the strategy that have provide to the student discussed the problem.

Based on the research at Ninth Grade of SMP Negeri 21 Bandar Lampung, the writer found that the students' reading comprehension need to be improved. They found difficulties in comprehending reading texts because their vocabulary is lack. In addition the students are not interested in reading English text. the writer also found that the teacher had never use Group Work Strategy in teaching reading.

Based on the background of the problem above, the writer wanted to improve student reading by implementing Group Work Strategy. Because the Group Work strategy is the one of strategy that can make the students sharing knowledge and idea to solve the problem in Reading because the students can discussed with they another friends, and Group Work strategy is never used by the teacher.

## **METHODS**

In conducting research the writer used a classroom action research. The classroom action research is research that improve the quality of the teaching learning process in order to obtain better result than before. In this research the researcher used Classroom Action Research ( CAR ) because the researcher wants to encourage the students to be active in learning process and improving students' reading comprehension by using Group Work Strategy. Define CAR by White Rust and Clerk (2012: 3) CAR is simple set of ideas and techniques that make introduce the power of systematic.

## RESULTH

### 1. Resulth of the data in Cycle I

The teaching reading comprehension through Group Work Strategy was solution to solve the problems that exist in SMP Negeri 21 Bandar Lampung. The Group Work Strategy made the students' knowlege better because they knew some stages of reading comprehension. Data from the cycle I of the students learning reading outcomes can be seem in the table :

**Table 2**

**The Result of Cycle I**

NO	KKM	Cycle I	Information
	The number of the students	Completness	
1	19	61,29%	Complete
2	12	38,71%	Incomplete

The succesful criteria of Classroom Action Research are as follow :

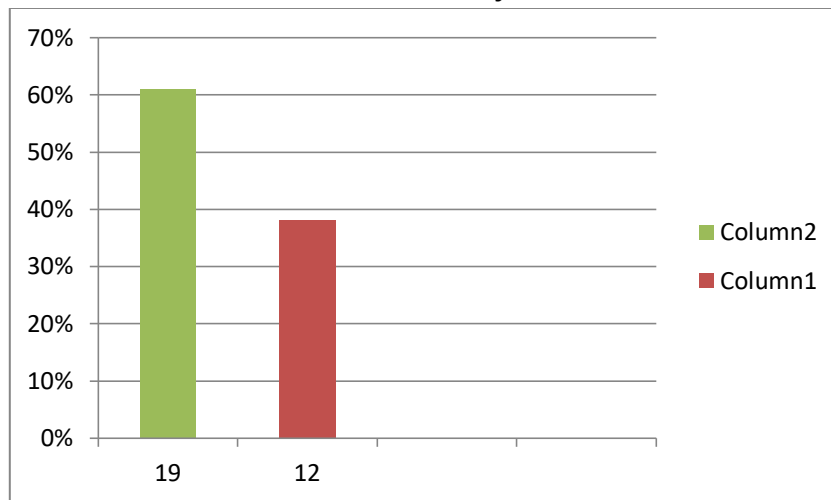
Achievement	Qualification	Meaning
85 – 100%	Very good	Successful
65 – 84%	Good	Successful
55 – 64%	Enough	Unsuccessful
0 – 54%	Less	Unsuccessful

Adopted from Aqib, et al (2011: 269)

The result of Cycle I and the criteria of students' learning achievment that was 60%. It can be conclude that the complete result, the writer presents the result in from diagram as follows :

**Diagram 1**

**The result of Cycle I**



Based on the diagram above that clear the use of Group Work Strategy was successful but the criteria of successful in the KKM is at least 75% students who passed the Minimum Mastery Criteria (KKM).

**2. Result of data in Cycle II**

The Group Work Strategy in Cycle II was successful because it gained the successful criteria of learning outcomes. Data from cycle II of the students reading can seen in the table

**Table 2**

**The result of Cycle II**

NO	KKM	Cycle I	Information
	The number of the students	Completeness	
1	25	80,64%	Complete
2	6	19,36%	Incomplete

The successful criteria of Classroom Action Research are as follow :

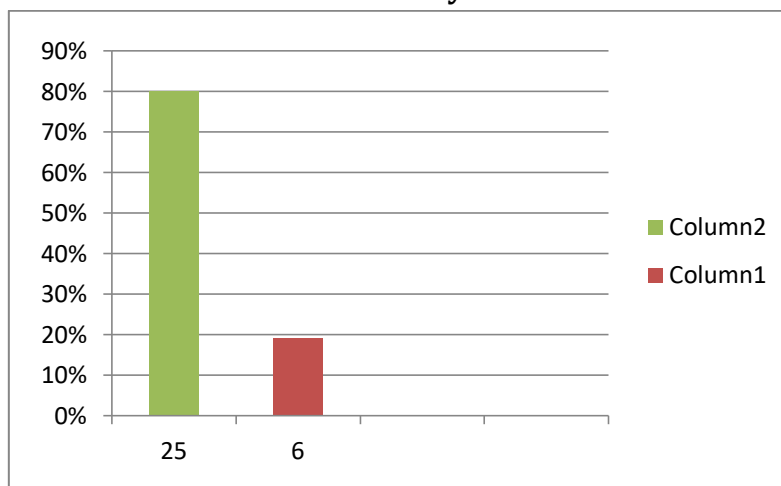
Achievement	Qualification	Meaning
85 – 100%	Very good	Successful
65 – 84%	Good	Successful
55 – 64%	Enough	Unsuccessful
0 – 54%	Less	Unsuccessful

Adopted From Aqib, et al (2011: 269)

The result of Cycle II and the criteria of students’ learning achievement that was 80%. It can be conclude that the complete result, the writer presents the result in from diagram as follow :

**Diagram 2**

**The Result Cycle II**



Based on the diagram above, it is clear that the use of Group Work strategy was successful because it was obtained 80% and it gained the successful criteria that at least 75% students who passed the Minimum Mastery Criteria (KKM).

## DISSCUSION

The discussion that reading is the exercise have dominated by the eyes and the brain, that can be understood that the eyes and the brain to work out the massage and it is about the understanding. The reading is the processof among the interaction from the text, based on the analaysis it can seen there were improvements from the Cycle I-II, both of teh students' reading comprehension and the students' learning activity were improved in each Cycle.

The writer research at 2 Cycle with the material of Narrative text, that the process of teaching learning at the first Cycle the students has stasified because the student has active in the teaching learning activy, in the end of discussion the writer would say one again that Group Work Strategy can be used for the teacher who wants to conduct the research, the result of research is showed that applying the Group Work Strategy they became more active and creative it was easy to be taught and make the students activate their prior knowledge to the text given.

## CONCLUSION

The writer conducted the research of teaching reading comprehension at the ninth grade of SMP Negeri 21 Bandar Lampung by using Group Work Strategy and it was obtained the conclusions as follows:

1. The use of Group Work Strategy can increase students' reading comprehension.
2. The use of Group Work Strategy can increase students' learning activity.

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