THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEACHING READING DESCRIPTIVE TEXT THROUGH ZOOM APPLICATION

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Abstract

There are four very important skills in English, one of which is reading skills. The purpose of this study was to determine whether descriptive text can improve students' reading skills. Besides being able to improve students' reading skills, descriptive texts can also help students describe things using English. This research was conducted online at Yaspita Junior High School, South Tangerang City. There are 17 students in one class. Researchers use quantitative methods, the type of research is pre-experimental design. The instruments used are pre-test and post-test. The results obtained by the researchers, by using descriptive texts, students' reading skills increased.

Keyword: *Keterampilan Membaca, Teks Deskriptif, Aplikasi Zoom*

Abstrak

Ada empat keterampilan yang sangat penting dalam bahasa Inggris, salah satunya adalah keterampilan membaca. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui apakah teks deskriptif dapat meningkatkan kemampuan membaca siswa. Selain dapat meningkatkan kemampuan membaca siswa, teks deskriptif juga dapat membantu siswa mendeskripsikan sesuatu dengan menggunakan bahasa Inggris. Penelitian ini dilakukan secara online di SMP Yaspita Kota Tangerang Selatan. Ada 17 siswa dalam satu kelas. Peneliti menggunakan metode kuantitatif, jenis penelitiannya adalah pre-experimental design. Instrumen yang digunakan adalah pre-test dan post-test. Hasil yang diperoleh peneliti, dengan menggunakan teks deskriptif keterampilan membaca siswa meningkat.

Keywords: *Reading Skill, Descriptive Text, Zoom Application*

A. Introduction

Reading is an interactive process between the text and the reader. When students read a text, students must understand what the author is saying word to word, word groups, and sentence groups. In learning English there are four skills that must be learned, one of them is reading. (Bamford & Day, 1998) Reading is about understanding written text. In reading we must understand the content contained in the writing, so that the message conveyed in the writing can be conveyed. (Philippakos & Graham, 2020)

Reading is seen by many as an essential ingredient for learning to write. Reading also makes it easier for us to write something, because many references are obtained. That is why reading is one of the important skills that must be learned.

Generally, not everyone can understand the contents of the reading. Especially if there is a language that is difficult to understand. (Afflerbach et al., 2008) Reading is a complex undertaking and impressive achievement, as demonstrated by a century of research. So, by reading

we can get something new, new knowledge. The more you read, the more knowledge you will gain. For example researching something, when we research something, we need to read a book so that the research we make is neatly organized.

(Seminar et al., 2017) Descriptive text is a kind of the text that tells how something looks, smell, acts, tastes, sounds etc. Descriptive text also the text that describe something in order the reader or listener are able to get the same sense as what the reader experienced. It means, descriptive text is to explain or describe something such as people, animals, objects, etc. The purpose of descriptive text is to describe something so that the image is formed in the mind of the reader. In descriptive text there are two generic structures that must be known, namely identification and description. In describing something the reader can understand what the author conveys to the reader. These two generic structures are very important things to learn in descriptive text, so we can easily create descriptive text. (Noprianto, 2017) The process of describing is done through ordering their characteristics clearly, starting from naming them, classifying them, and dealing with their attributes, behaviors, functions, and so on so that the readers or hearers can possibly notice what the writer is writing about as if they could directly see it through their own eyes.The purpose of this research is to find out whether students can understand descriptive texts and also how students develop their reading skills.

(Cuaca Dharma et al., 2017)

Zoom is online application which is usually used for video conferences. During a pandemic like today, the zoom application is very useful for us, because with the zoom application teaching and learning activities can still run. (Singh & Soumya, 2020) and (Sudarmaji & Yusuf, 2021) Zoom is plagued with a huge number of security and privacy issues which they are trying to fix with regular update, but it still one of most preffered video conferencing platform due to its ease of use.

Below the author will present the results of the research that the author has obtained in learning methods that support students in developing reading skills. Whether the student can achieve the expected score or there is no progress or it may decline.

B.   The Method

1. Place and Time

This research was conducted at their respective homes online by conducting meetings using the Zoom application. This was done online due to the pandemic (Covid-19) which required everyone to stay at home.

This research consisted of 2 meetings. The first meeting on 27 May 2021 was a pre-test. The second meeting on June 3, 2021 was treatment and post-test.

2. Population and Sample

The population in this study was grade 7.1 students of SMP Yaspita Kota Tangerang Selatan, totaling 17 students consisting of one class. There are some students whose scores are still below the average. This may happen because of the influence

of online schools that are too long, causing students to be lazy to study and get bored.

This research was conducted by all students in one group consisting of one class. So the sample that the author took was taken from one class, namely grade 7.1 of SMP Yaspita Serpong.

3. Type of the Reserch

The author uses quantitative methods. (Yilmaz, 2013) Quantitative research can be define as research that explain phenomena according to numerical data which are analyzed by means of mathematically based method, especially statistics. Pre-experimental is a type of research. This one group pretest and posttest design was carried out in one group without a control or comparison group. In this study, the author only involved one group taken from class 7.1 of SMP Yaspita Kota Tangerang Selatan by looking at the pre-test and post-test scores. Whether by using descriptive text students can improve reading skills or not. In addition to reading students are also told the meaning in the text. So that the meaning contained in the text is conveyed to students.

4. Instruments

The writer used reading test for pre-test and also post-test. At the first meeting, the introduction and pre-test students read the stories given. At the second meeting, namely treatment and also post-test by asking students to read other stories, to see the development of students' reading. The author also asks students to answer the 5 questions given, to see if the students understand the descriptive text that has been explained. In order for humans to understand the content of the descriptive text, the teacher must also convey or explain the content contained in the descriptive test.

5. Techniques of Collecting Data

The data collection technique is taken from the tests that have been carried out. Ask students to read stories and answer questions that have been given, in order to know the development of students' reading skills and descriptive texts that have been studied. The data obtained in each activity will be analyzed quantitatively. Quantitative research methods are adopted because they allow researchers to obtain facts and not abstract about the purpose of the dissertation (Bryman and Bell, 2007). According to Matthews & Ross (2010) quantitative research methods are basically applied to structured data collection and which can be represented numerically.

6. Procedures

First, students do a reading test (pre-test) to determine students' reading ability before being given treatment. Second, doing treatment so that students can understand the reading from word to word and also understand descriptive text material. Third, do a retest, namely a post-test to compare the initial and final scores. To determine each student whether the value obtained increases, decreases or there is no development. If the grades that students get are the same or are usually called consistent, good or

bad it depends on the grades that the students get, whether the student gets a score above the KKM or not. If not, the teacher should ask where the student's difficulty is, so that the student can focus on the part that is difficult for him. Likewise with students whose grades decline.

C. The Result

In this study the authors took all students of grade 7.1 SMP Yaspita Serpong. There are two tests used, theye are pre-test and post-test. The writer gives each descriptive text (pre-test and post-test) and questions for the post-test. The following is the data of students' pre-test scores:

Table 1.2. Pre-test result table

Students	Scores
1	60
2	60
3	80
4	70
5	50
6	60
7	60
8	70
9	50
10	50
11	100
12	50
13	70
14	70
15	100
16	50
17	50

The formula for calculating the class average is:

X = The scores of the students

n = The number of the data (students)

$$\frac{X1 + X2 + X3 + X4 + X5 + ...}{n}$$

$$\frac{1.100}{17} = 64,7$$

The education system in Indonesia has a value criterion to declare students to achieve completeness which is called KKM. The English KKM score is 75. If a student gets a score of <75, then the student must repeat the subject to achieve mastery. The average result of grade 7.1 data at SMP Yaspita Serpong scored 64.7, which indicates that students do not reach the KKM, therefore students need to repeat learning with interesting and not boring methods.

This treatment was carried out at the second meeting. In this treatment, the writer taught using descriptive text material to improve students' reading ability. After the treatment, the writer will get data called post-test. Below is the post-test data:

Table 2.2 Post-test result table

Students	Scores
1	60
2	70
3	80
4	60
5	70

6	60
7	70
8	80
9	60
10	60
11	100
12	60
13	70
14	80
15	100
16	60
17	70

$$\frac{1.210}{17} = 71,1$$

Here are the results of the post-test scores that the author got. From the results of students who have worked on the questions given by the teacher, 6 students get the same or consistent score, 10 students have increased, and 1 student has decreased in value.

D. Discussion

By studying descriptive text material, the teacher can use descriptive text for students' reading practice. In teaching reading skills, there are several things that the teacher must prepare, namely the lesson plans for the lesson plans to be studied. Second, the material, so that the class becomes lively and fun, the teacher must prepare interesting material. Third, media to help students improve reading skills, because this study coincided with Covid-19, the media used was the Zoom application. The Zoom application is currently very helpful because of the pandemic situation that requires everyone to stay at home to maintain a healthy body. During a pandemic like today, the zoom application is very useful for us, because with the zoom application teaching and learning activities can still run.

This study also uses descriptive text material to develop students' reading skills. And lastly, the teacher must pay attention to the time allocation. The purpose of reading is to increase information as well as knowledge, that is why the ability to read is important. But if students only read, they cannot understand the content of the descriptive text, because the function of reading is to understand the content of the reading. Then the writer also tells the meaning of the words in the descriptive text, so that the meaning in the text is conveyed to students, and students understand the contents of the text.

E. Conclution and Suggestion

Reading is one of the important skills that must be learned. Reading is an interactive process between the text and the reader. When students read a text, students must understand what the author is saying verbatim, word groups, and sentence groups. In learning English there are four skills that must be learned, one of which is reading. This research uses descriptive text material to improve students' reading ability. Descriptive text is to explain or describe something like people, animals, things, etc. The purpose of descriptive text is to describe something so that an image is

formed in the mind of the reader. In this era, technology has developed, making it easier for us to add knowledge through technology. During a pandemic like today, everyone is required to stay at home to take care of each other's health, even if it happens that teaching and learning activities continue so that students can continue to study even though they are studying from home. Researchers use the zoom application for student learning media. The Zoom application really helps students to keep learning even during a pandemic like now.

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