**THE CORRELATION BETWEEN STUDENTS ABILITY IN COMPREHENDING DESCRIPTIVE TEXT AND THEIR ENGLISH ACHIEVEMENT AT THE SEVENTH GRADE STUDENT OF SMPN 31 PURWOREJO IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2012/2013**

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**ABSTRACT**

The objective of this research is to identify the students ability in comprehending descriptive text and to discuss the corelation between students ability in comprehending descriptive text and their english achievement .This research is an experimental research which has conducted on the first grade students of SMP N 31 Purworejo in the academic year 2012/2013. In this research, the researcher took 32 students as the sample .Then, the researcher gave a test. The test is doing multiple choice test about descriptive text. Statistically, the researcher analyzed the data by using t-test separated variance. The result of this research shows that the coefficient correlation (r) equals to 0.120, it means that there is significant correlation between the students’ students’ ability in comprehending descriptive text and their english achievement. The correlation between students’ ability in comprehending descriptive text and their english achievement is fair poor.

**INTRODUCTION**

Knowing a foreign language may present so many interesting facets for it is the best medium for introducing the students to the history, civilization and cultural achievement of foreign people. Through foreign language,we learn about other people, their custom, aspiration and problems. People are best understood through the medium of their language in addition to having the ability to communicate with the people of the learned language. English is the one the important international language for communication. English is used in many countries because it plays an important role in the international world communication. Indonesia, as an independent country, need to strengthen relationship with other all the countries in the world and needs a means of communication to foster the cooperation among the different countries. Related to the teaching of foreign language in Indonesia, English is the first foreign language being taught in Elementary School, Secondary School, and Senior High School also Vocational School or the language which has to be learnt after the mother tongue.The National Education Department in Indonesia makes this policy considering that English is an international language which has many important roles in many kinds of field, especially in the field of education or knowledge, technology, business, trade, social, politic, culture,etc. Reading is one of the four language skills that should be taught and learned by senior high school students. Harmer (2002:39) states that reading is taught from elementary school to university by using many kinds of method applied by English teacher. The skill of reading is regarded as the backbone of other language skills such as writing and speaking and improve the language component as well,for instance vocab and grammar.For many students, reading is the most important among the four language skills in English as a second and foreign language. If we consider the study of English as a foreign language around the world, reading is the main reason why students learn the language. Hence, English teachers need to select, provide, and use appropriate materials covering text types. However, besides textbooks available in schools which are used to present reading activities to students, teachers also have to care about students’ ability and moods because students will also deal with many texts beside textbooks outside the class, such as descriptive text as William in Day and Bamford (1998: 54) explains “if the learner is expected eventually to cope with real language outside the classroom, then surely the best way to prepare for this is by looking at real language inside the classroom”. Descriptive text is a text which says what a person or a thing looks like. Its purpose is to describe and reveal a particular person, place, or thing. Descriptive text has the structures : First, identification : identifying the phenomenon to be described. Second, description : describing the phenomenon in parts, qualities, or/and characteristics. Third, the Language Feature of descriptive text are : using attributive and identifying process, using adjective and classifiers in nominal group, using simple present tense .

To focus on the problem above, the researcher intends to limit his research just in the correlation between students ability in comprehending descriptive text and their english achievement in the seventh year students of SMP 31 Purworejo.Furthermore,the researcher limits this study by observing the seventh year students of SMP N 31 Purworejo in the academic year 2012/2013 as the research subject. The objectives of the Study are to find out the answer of the statements above. Those are : to identify and describe the students ability in comprehending descriptive text and to discuss the corelation between students ability in comprehending descriptive text and their english achievement.

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

In this research,the researcher used quantitative research. The independent variable of this research is the students’ ability in comprehending descriptive text, which is symbolized by X, while the dependent variable is the their english achievement, which is symbolized by Y. Systematically, this research can be drawn as the figure below :

Figure 1

Research Design

X Y

The independent variable is students’ ability in comprehending descriptive text, which is symbolized by “ X “. The dependent variable in this research is the students’ their english achievement, which is symbolized by “ Y “. In this research, a group of people taken as the population is the first grade of students SMPN 31 Purworejo. The subject research are class VII F consist of 32 students. There are steps that will be carried out by the researcher: preparing the research instrument,giving test,dealing out the material for each students,documentation/ collect the data,giving score. This research is an experimental research which is quantitative research. In descriptive analysis,the researcher will take some simple formulas throught these following steps: mean, median,mode,range,standar deviation. Inferential statistical analysis in this study has aims to test the research hypothesis.

**RESEARCH FINDING & DISCUSSION**

There are test of normality, test of homogenity and T-test finding. There were 32 students as the writer sample whom I was taken the test score. From the result of test,the writer was gotten the data. The highest score (H) of the students’ descripive test is 90, the lowest (L) is 50, the range is 40 , the mean (Me) is 71.87, the mode(Mo) is 70 , and the total of students’ descriptive test score( T) is 2300.

From the score table, there were 30 students as my sample whom I was taken the score. From the result of test, the writer got tthe data. The higest score (H) of the students’ their english achievement is 75, the lowest (L) is 50, the range is 25,the median (Me) is 65,the mode (Mo) is 75, and the total of students’ test documentation (T) is 1875

|  | N | Range | Min | Max | Sum | Mean | Std. Deviation | Variance |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Statistic | Statistic | Statistic | Statistic | Statistic | Statistic | Std. Error | Statistic | Statistic |
| descriptive | 32 | 40.00 | 50.00 | 90.00 | 2300.00 | 71.875 | 2.02989 | 11.48281 | 131.855 |
| Test doc | 32 | 25.00 | 50.00 | 75.00 | 1875.00 | 58.593 | 2.13263 | 12.06397 | 145.539 |

| **Tests of Normality** |
| --- |
| Kolmogorov-Smirnova | Shapiro-Wilk |
| Statistic | Df | Sig. | Statistic | df | Sig. |
| .198 | 32 | .003 | .913 | 32 | .014 |
| .418 | 32 | .000 | .602 | 32 | .000 |

The summary table of correlation computation done by SPSS

|

| **Correlations** |
| --- |
|  |  | descriptive | achievement |
| descriptive | Pearson Correlation | 1 | -.120 |
| Sig. (2-tailed) |  | .513 |
| N | 32 | 32 |
| Test doc | Pearson Correlation | -.120 | 1 |
| Sig. (2-tailed) | .513 |  |
| N | 32 | 32 |

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The result of the computation that the value of correlation is 0.120. It shows that the correlation between the students’ students’ ability in comprehending descriptive text and students’ their english achievement was fair poor. The researcher has conducted it on the first grade students of SMP N 31 Purworejo in the academic year 2012/2013 to collect data. There were many factors why the students sometimes didn’t understanding or comprehend in descriptive text when they followed English class. In this case, the researcher had seen phenomenon in the English class when she observed the students’ ability in comprehending descriptive text.

The teacher always used English to interact with the students,but there were not all students could understand what the teacher has teach because their knowledge about descriptive text was low. Since,the students had difficulties to understand what the teacher teach,the studying did not run well. There were some students becomes active in the class. And,some students chose to keep silent. When the student was doing test the researrcher found that the student did not serious to do test,and confused. Then the researcher found some of them were too active while others weren’t. The researcher saw that there were factors which made the students were in this condition. It was not only influencd by the personal factors, but also it was caused by environmental factor. It was from personal factor such as they didn’t have motivation to do the best. The other factors was environmental factor such as teacher, and their friends.

From the observation,the writer found that the students ability in comprehending descriptive text is very influental to the students’ their english achievement. The mistake that the students made were too many. The lesson that had learned in descriptive were not applied yet by the students well.

In this observation the researcher found very much mistake in the students comprehending descriptive text ability. The other of grammar,the meaning of the text is very important for understanding the descriptive text.

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