**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF USING SUBSTITUTION DRILL TECHNIQUE TO IMPROVE STUDENTS’ ABILITY IN UNDERSTANDING SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE AT THE SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS OF JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL 1 PETANAHAN IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2012/2013**

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**Abstract**

The objective of this study is to find out whether or not the use of substitution drill technique is able to improve students’ ability in understanding simple present tense at the seventh grade students of Junior High School 1 Petanahan, Kebumen in academic year 2012/2013. The type of this research is experimental research. The number of the sample is 62. The sampling technique which is used is purposive sampling. The instrument that used to collect the data is a test. The form of the test is divided into two parts. Those are pre-test and post-test. And to analysis the data, the researcher used t-test formula. The result of the research finds that the mean score of pre-test in experimental group is 60.68 and the mean score of post-test is 82.06. Then the value of t-test is 8.34 and the t-table is 2.000. The result of computation shows that t-value is higher than t-table, that is 8.34 > 2.000 so it can be stated that the hypothesis “substitution drill technique to improve students’ ability in understanding simple present tense is effective” is accepted.

**Key words : Effectiveness, Substitution Drill Technique, Simple Present Tense**

1. **Introduction**

English is an important subject in our country which is taught since junior high schools up to universities and as a local content in elementary schools. Students of junior and senior high school are hoped to have competence in English because English is one of the subject tested in National Examination. We know that the students graduated from junior high school and senior high school is not good enough in mastering reading, listening, speaking and writing. One of the important factor is understanding grammar. Grammar is used in writing, speaking, listening,and reading. According to Harmer (2003:12) grammar of a language is the description of the way in which words can change their forms and can be combined into sentences in that language. Because grammar is an important in communication and present tense is part of the basic of grammar, the students have to master it. Students have to master present tense, because it will be used in genre of the text. Most of the questions in National Examination are genre of the text, such as procedure text and descriptive text

1

Furthermore, the students also often think that learning Simple Present Tense is difficult. Here, the students feel bored and not interested about the technique and media that teacher used in teaching learning process. One of the creative technique in teaching English grammar is substitution drill. Using Substitution Drill is one of technique to teach grammar easily to interest the students and to make them memorize the rules easily.

 The objective of the study is to describe whether or not the use of substitution drill technique is effective to improve students’ ability in understanding simple present tense at the seventh grade students of Junior High School 1 Petanahan in the academic year 2012 / 2013.

1. **Research Methodology**

This study can be categorized as experimental research because the reseacher is doing experiment by giving treatment to the students. In conducting the research, the researcher has set of time and place of the respondent to do the test. This research took place at Junior High School 1 Petanahan in the academic year 2012/2013 involving in the seventh grade students. To get the data, the researcher conducted research on April 25 – April 28 2013 with cooperation of the principal and the English teacher in state junior high school 1 Petanahan in the academic year 2012/2013. The population of this study is the seventh grade students of Junior High School 1 Petanahan in the academic year 2012/2013. The subject research are class VII F as the control group which consist of 31 students and class VII E as the experimental group which consist of 31 students. The researcher uses purposive sampling in taking the sample. In this research, the researcher uses test, they are pre-test and post test in getting the data. In analyzing the data the researcher uses descriptive and inferential analysis because the research is quantitative research.

1. **Findings and Discussion**

To find out whether is substitution drill technique effective in understanding simple present tense, the researcher analyzed the result of the test conducted in control and experimental group. Based on posttest results obtained from the experimental group and control group, it can be recapitulated in the following table.

**Table 1**

**Test result of experimental group and control group**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Group | Highest | Lowest | Mean | SD | Variance |
| Experimental | 93 | 70 | 82.06 | 5.61 | 31.46 |
| Control | 93 | 43 | 65.55 | 9.49 | 90.05 |

 The highest score of the students of experimental group of the seventh grade students of junior high school 1 Petanahan is 93, and the lowest score is 70. The mean is 82.06, the standard deviation is 5.61 and the variance is 31.46. On the contrary, The highest score of the students in control group is 93, and the lowest score is 43. The mean of control group is 65.55, the standard deviation is 9.49 and the variance is 90.056. Based on the result of data analysis, it can be concluded that using substitution drill technique in understanding simple present tense is more effective than without using substitution drill technique on the English achievement. This has been proved by analyzing the data from the differences. It is obtained that t-value is higher than significance level 5% (t-table 0.05= 2.000) with degree of freedom (df) 60. The position of t-value = (8.34 > 2.000).

1. **Conclusion and Suggestion**

Based on the result of the data analysis, it concludes that the use of substitution drill technique in teaching-learning process is effective to improve students’ ability in understanding simple present tense. Then, the researcher would like to give some suggestions related to this discussion for those who are closely related to the English teaching and learning. For the students, they have to solve their problem in understanding and using simple present tense. They have to study more about the formula of simple present tense in positive, negative and interrogative forms so that they can understand the differentiation of the way to use the forms. Using substitution drill with a friend helps them memorise the rules easily. For the teachers, they have to understand what the students’ need, especially in learning grammar. They must also know the students’ difficulties and the way to solve it. The use of substitution drill technique is recommended to teacher in junior high school to advance students interest and getting the students experience in learning English grammar.

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