**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF COMIC STRIP TO IMPROVE STUDENTS’ ABILITY IN STORY RETELLING AT THE EIGHTH GRADE**

**OF SMP N 36 PURWOREJO IN THE ACADEMIC**

**YEAR OF 2012/2013**

FEBRI WIJI ASTUTI

Muhammadiyah University of Purworejo

e-mail : veaz\_37xsas@ymail.com

**Abstract**

The objectives of this research are (1)to know the score of students’ ability after being taught by the comic, (2) to know the effectiveness of using comic strip in improving students’ ability on story retelling at the eighth grade students of SMP N 36 Purworejo in the academic year 2012/2013. The mean score of post-test of experimental group is 73.25. It increased from 59.50 in the pre-test result. The computation result of t-test is (4.81).It is higher than $t\_{table}$(2.000). It means that the hypothesis that stated the use of comic strip to improve students’ ability in story retelling at the eighth grade of SMP N 36 Purworejo is accepted.

***Keywords:*** *effectiveness, comic strip, story retelling.*

**A. Background**

Speaking is the productive skill in the oral mode. It like the other skills, is more complicated than it seems at first and involves more than just pronouncing words. In fact, the students get difficulties in speaking ability. The difficulties include student inhibition, nothing to say, the low of participation, the theme to be spoken, and the use of mother tongue. Media is important to uses by the teacher in learning process. The use of media can help the teacher to make the learning is more interactive. The use of media is also helps the students easier to understand the subject that they learn. Story retelling is the method that can help the students in speaking. Most of the students like story retelling because they like stories. In junior high school it is also appropiate to apply this method. To make story retelling more interesting, the use of comic strip can be helpful. Combination of pictures can support the text in the comic stories. Pictures make the story easy to absorb. Text makes the story line to create a message or information to be conveyed will be easily understood and remembered.

1. **Research Method**

The type of this research is experimental research. It was conducted on April 15th until April 25th, 2013. Sugiyono (2010: 117), says that population is generalizing region which consist of: object/ subject having the quality of certain and characteristic which specified by researcher to be studied then pulled its conclusion. The population of the study is the Eighth grade students of SMPN 36 Purworejo in the academic year 2012/2013. The total number of the eighth grade students of SMP N 36 Purworejo is 192 students. The researcher took two classes as the sample that consist of 64 students. The researcher uses purposive sampling in taking the sample.That is because of the two classes in this study had same ability in the subject of English, especially in speaking English. The test was conducted by speaking test. The test is intended to find out whether there is a significant difference or not between student that taught using comic and the students that taught without comic.

In this research, the researcher used descriptive analysis and inferential analysis to analyze the data.The descriptive analysis is to describe the students’ reading ability in story retelling. The descriptive analysis consists of the computation of mean, median, mode, standard deviation, and variance. Meanwhile, the inferential analysis consists of test of normality, test of homogeneity, and test of hypothesis.

1. **Finding and Discussion**

The description of the data are aimed to know the effectiveness of using comic stripin improving students’ ability on story retelling. From the computation, the highest score of the control groupis 82 and the lowest score is 58. While the experimental group, the highest score is 86 and the lowest score is 66. The researcher also calculated that the mean score of control group is 66.90 and the experimental group is 73.25. the median of control group is 67 and the experimental group is 74. The standard deviation of control group is 5.33 and the experimental group is 5.24. The mode of control group is 70 and the experimental group is 74.

Furthermore, in the inferential analysis, the researcher computed test of normality, test of homogeneity, and test of hypothesis. The result of normality test that computed by using SPSS formula are 0.898 and 0.365. From the result of normality test, the data is normal because the score was higher than 0.05. Then, the result of homogeneity test that computed by dividing the highest variance with the lowest variance is 1.033. It showed that the data is homogeneous because f-obtained is lower than f-table (1.033<1.815). To make the analysis more reliable, the researcher computed the data by using t-test formula. The result of t-test is 4.81. It showed that t-test value is higher than t-table (4.81>2.000).

Based on the descriptive analysis above the researcher concluded that the students’ ability of story retelling of experimental group belonged to good category. Moreover, to find out whether there is a significant difference or not between the student that taught by comic strip and without comic strip the researcher compared the mean score result. In a fact, the mean score of experimental group higher than mean score of control group. It means that there is a significant difference between experimental and control group. The significant difference is also proven by the result of t-test. The result of t-test is higher than t-table (4.81>2.000). Based on the hypothesis testing, it means that Ho (Null Hypothesis) is rejected and Ha (Alternative Hypothesis) is accepted. Therefore, the hypothesis in this research (Ha) stated that “The Use of Comic Strip is effective in improving students’ ability in story retelling at the eighth grade studentss of SMP N 36 Purworejo in the academic year 2012/2013”.

1. **Conclusion and Recommendation**

Based on the research finding which has been discussed, the researcher makes the conclusions as follow:

1. The mean score of experimental group is 73.25 in story retelling. It is included in the interval 66-79. It’s means that the students of experimental group have good ability in story retelling. The post test result of experimental group is higher than control group. The mean score of post test of experimental group is 73.25. While the control group is 66.90.
2. The computation showed that the t-value was higher than t-table that was 4.81 > 2.000. Since the obtained t-value was higher than the critical value on the t-table, the hypothesis is accepted and the effect was significant. It can be concluded that the use of comic strip to improve students’ ability in story retelling is effective at the eighth grade students of SMPN 36 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012/2013.

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