**The Effectiveness of Using KWL (Know, Want, Learned) Strategy**

**to Improve the Students’ Reading Comprehension Ability in Descriptive Text at the Seventh Grade Students of SMP N 4 Purworejo in the Academic Year of 2012/2013**

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**Abstract**

The objective of this research is to describe whether the KWL *(know, want, learned)* strategy to improve the students’ reading comprehension ability in descriptive text is effective or not at the seventh grade students of SMP N 4 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012/2013. The type of this research is experimental research. The population in this research is SMP N 4 Purworejo. The researcher uses purposive sampling. Here, the researcher takes 2 classes as the sample to be analyzed, and the number of sample is 64 students. The data statistic analyzed by using t-test. The result of computation shows that KWL strategy is effective to improve the students’ reading comprehension ability. The value of t-test was 2.97. For the 5% significance level and 62 degree of freedom the critical value of t-table was 1.999. The value of t-test is higher than t-table (2.97>1.999). Based on the hypothesis testing above, it could be concluded that Ha was accepted. Therefore, the hypothesis of this research which says “teaching using KWL (Know, Want, Learned) strategy is effective to improve the students’ reading comprehension ability in descriptive text at the seventh grade students of SMP N 4 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012/2013.

*Keywords: Effectiveness, KWL(know, want, learned) strategy, Reading, Descriptive Text*.

1. **Background**

English is one of the languages ​​that are in this world. The role of English in Indonesia is as a foreign language. English has begun to be taught in elementary school to university. In English, there are four aspects of ability. The four aspects are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. To get a good English language skill we must master all four aspects. According to Grabe and Stoller (2002:9) reading is the ability to draw meaning from the printed page and interpret this information appropriately. The essential point in reading is to understand the information. The ability to read is one of the most important, by reading we know several informations that contained in the media. Teaching reading needs a good strategy because it is not an easy process. Then, the researcher tries to choose a strategy to develop the students’ reading ability. There is a strategy known as KWL. KWL (know, want, learned) developed by Ogle in 1986. It has been applied in classrooms. This strategy appropriates for teaching reading in all grades and develop the students’ reading comprehension of expository text.

1. **Research Methodology**

This type of research can be categorized as a quantitative research with an experimental method, because the researcher does an experimental method by giving treatment. The research conducted in SMP N 4 Purworejo In academic year 2012/2013. It began in May 6, 2013 and ended in May 13, 2013. The researcher takes the seventh grade students of SMP N 4 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012/2013 as the population of this research. The researcher uses purposive sampling. The sample in this research is 64 students. They are VII E as experimental group and VII G as control group. The experimental group was given treatment by using KWL strategy and the control group using common strategy. In this research, the researcher used test as the instrument to collect the data. The researcher holds the test twice. There are pre-test and post-test. Each test consists of 25 numbers of multiple choices about descriptive text.

To analyze the data, the researcher applies an appropriate technique to find out the influence of both variables of this research. There are descriptive analysis and inferential analysis. The descriptive analysis is used to describe the variable of this research. The statistics used are mean, standard deviation, mode, median, range, lowest score, and highest score. The inferential analysis is used to conclude the hypothesis. The researcher applies homogeneity analysis, normality analysis, and t-test to make the analysis more reliable. This analysis is used to know whether the use of KWL strategy can improve reading ability or not of the seventh grade students of SMP N 4 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012/2013.

1. **Research Finding and Discussion**

The descriptive analysis is used to describe the variable of this research. The following table is a summary of descriptive analysis:

**Table of summary of descriptive analysis**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Descriptive analysis | Experimental group | Control group |
| Pre-test | Post-test | Pre-test | Post-test |
| Mean | 69.25 | 76.50 | 68.50 | 71.13 |
| Median | 68 | 76 | 70 | 72 |
| Mode | 72 | 76 | 72 | 72 |
| Standard deviation | 9.17 | 6.95 | 9.24 | 7.52 |
| Variance | 84.06 | 48.26 | 85.42 | 56.50 |
| Highest score | 88 | 92 | 84 | 88 |
| Lowest score | 48 | 60 | 48 | 56 |
| Range | 40 | 32 | 36 | 32 |

The table above shows that the mean score of the experimental group increased from pre-test to post-test. The mean score before treatment is 69.25, while the mean score after treatment is 76.50.

The inferential analysis was used to conclude the hypothesis. From the homogeneity analysis computation, the value of F was 1.17. Then, F value was lower than F table (1.17<1.83), it means that the variance of two samples was homogeneous. The computation of normality analysis (using chi-square), the calculation of the value of Chi-square (X2) in post-test of experimental group was 5.16 and post-test of control group was 9.77. Then it is compared with Chi-square table on the level 0.05 was 11.07. Because Chi-square obtained of experimental group and control group was lower than the value of Chi-square table,it could be said that the data was normal.

In addition, the researcher computed the data using t-test to make the analysis more reliable. The t-table was 1.999. The obtained t-value was 2.97. So, the t-value was higher than the critical value on the table (2.97>1.999).

From the descriptive analysis and inferential analysis above, the researcher could conclude that KWL strategy gave positive contribution towards the students’ reading comprehension ability in descriptive text at the seventh grade students of SMP N 4 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012/2013. The result of this research was that the students in experimental group had better development in the mean score than the control group in reading test. The group that used KWL as a strategy got better improvement in the mean score 76.50 than the group that did not use KWL who got 71.13. Moreover, the obtained t-value was 2.97. So, the t-value was higher than the critical value on the table (2.97>1.999). Based on the hypothesis testing, it could be concluded that Ho was rejected and Ha was accepted. Then, the hypothesis says that “Teaching using KWL (*know, want, learned*) strategy is effective to improve the students’ reading comprehension ability in descriptive text at the seventh grade students of SMP N 4 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012/2013”.

1. **Conclusion**

After conducting the research and analyzing the data, the researcher tries to make conclusion. Based on the results of analysis, the researcher concluded that the KWL strategy is effective to improve the students’ reading comprehension ability in descriptive text at the seventh grade students of SMP N 4 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012/2013. It can be proven by the result of the Mean score of the experimental group increased from pre-test to post-test. The mean score before treatment is 69.25, while the mean score after treatment is 76.50. In addition, the value of t-test is 2.97. For the 5% significance level and 62 degree of freedom the critical value of t-table is 1.999. The value of t-test was higher than t-table (2.97>1.999). Based on the hypothesis testing above, it can be concluded that Ha is accepted. Therefore, the hypothesis of this research which says “teaching using KWL (Know, Want, Learned) strategy is effective to improve the students’ reading comprehension ability in descriptive text at the seventh grade students of SMP N 4 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012/2013.

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