DIFFICULTIES FACED BY THE SECOND YEAR STUDENTS IN UNDERSTANDING READING COMPREHENSION TEXT IN ENGLISH TEXTBOOK AT SMA NEGERI IGONDANGLEGI

Oleh: JAMILAH (03360086)

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English is a very important language for people throughout the world, especially for students who deal with the books. To understand the content of the book the students should have ability in reading. Reading is one of the English skills that become the central of learning process. By reading the students not only get information or knowledge but also pleasure. In real practice in the classroom, the students often find difficulties in understanding reading comprehension text in English textbook.

The purpose of the study was to find out the answer of the problem stated above. In this case, the scope of the study was second year students of social department SMA NEGERI I Gondanglegi, it is limited on the English textbook used by the social (IPS) students namely “Headlight an Extensive Exposure to English Learning for SMA Students” published by Erlangga. This was a descriptive study; therefore it involved collecting the data in order to answer the question dealing with current status of the subject study. There were three classes consisting 114 students and the writer used cluster sampling randomly techniques. In this case, the writer took the target of the population randomly using lottery in choosing the three classes (IPS1=37, IPS2=38, IPS3=39). The result of the lottery showed that class IPS2 was selected as the sample and it consisted of 38 students. The instruments used were the reading test consisted of four elements or reading comprehension (word or vocabulary, sentence, paragraph, and whole selection).

The result of the data analysis showed that many students faced difficulties in reading comprehension: word or vocabulary, sentence, paragraph, and whole selection. The highest difficulties were comprehending word or vocabulary with 70.2% students and the average value was 48.9. The second highest difficulties were in comprehending whole selection with 62.4% students and the average value was 53.6. The next was comprehending sentence with 36.4% students and the average value was 59.7. The last was difficulties in comprehending paragraph with 33.8% students and the average value was 64.8.