IMPROVING STUDENTS’ READING COMPREHENSION THROUGH GROUP WORK
(A Classroom Action Research at Second Grade of Junior High School in SMP Negeri 2 Ajibarang in Academic year 2011/2012)

A THESIS

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ABSTRACT

IMPROVING STUDENTS’ READING COMPREHENSION THROUGH GROUP WORK
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Key words: reading comprehension, Group Work, and classroom action research.

This study is aimed to improve students’ reading comprehension through Group Work. It used classroom action research (CAR), which was conducted at VIII C grade of SMP Negeri 2 Ajibarang in Academic Year 2011/2012 as the subject of this study. The population of the class was 31 students. It was done in May 2012.

The researcher did collaboration with the English teacher in the class. The CAR was carried out based on Kemmis design. The researcher took two cycles with 2 actions in each cycle. Each cycle consisted of planning, acting, observing, reflecting and evaluating. The researcher applied both qualitative data and quantitative data. The quantitative data were taken from reading test. The qualitative data were taken from, observation result of teacher’s activity, observation result of students’ activity, questionnaire, interview field notes, and documentation.

The results of this study showed that there was a significant improvement in students’ reading comprehension after implementing the CAR using Group Work. The average score of the students in reading was 5.99 in pre-test. The average score of the students improved 6.98 (16.52%) in Cycle 1 and improved to 7.97 (33%) in Cycle 2. The improvement also happened in students’ reading activity. It was 25.79% in Cycle 1 and improved to 79.53% in Cycle 2. The improvement of questionnaire which was gained from the 18 questions showed that the students gave positive response to the implementation of Group Work in their reading activity. The average of the students’ questionnaire that was filled “Really agree” was 96.23%. Then, the data from interview result showed that both teacher and students felt happy and interested with the implementation of Group Work. Those data proved that Group Work could improve the students’ reading comprehension.