

Abstract

N. Agis Mulya Purnama Sari. 2018. "The use of PALS (Peer Assisted Learning Strategies) to teach reading comprehension on descriptive text" (A Pre-Experimental Research at the First Grade Senior High School Students SMK Nurul Islam Cianjur in the Academic year 2017-2018).

Reading comprehension is the process of constructing meaning by coordinating a number of complex process that include word reading, word and world knowledge, and fluency. Comprehending reading material is difficult unless ones realize that every sentence has meaning, understand the structural pattern of sentences and recognize the use of punctuation in establishing thought.

The Purposes of this research are to identify (1) students reading comprehension ability before using PALS (Peer-Assisted Learning Strategies), (2) students reading comprehension ability after using PALS (Peer-Assisted Learning Strategies), (3) the significant improvement of the students reading comprehension by using PALS (Peer-Assisted Learning Strategies).

This research used a quantitative method by analyzing the data using statistics to answer research questions. The study was conducted in several steps by using Pre-Experimental research as the design of study. This research used one group experiment; pre-test and post-test design of study. The research was conducted in SMK Nurul Islam Cianjur with the population of 133 students and that was taken 33 students of them as the sample.

The result of analysis for students reading comprehension can be drawn that the mean score of pre-test is 58.73 and the mean score of post-test is 83.42. It means that the students reading comprehension after being taught by PALS (Peer-Assisted Learning Strategies) is better than students reading comprehension before being taught by PALS (Peer-Assisted Learning Strategies). Moreover, the statistical analysis of t-test shows that the t_{count} is 0.00 and t_{table} is 0.05. It means that t_{count} is higher than t_{table} and the alternative hypothesis (H_a) is accepted and the null hypothesis (H_0) is rejected. Based on the result of the data above, it can be concluded that using PALS (Peer-Assisted Learning Strategies) for teaching reading comprehension is good because there is a significant improvement in students reading comprehension. In other word, teaching reading comprehension by using PALS (Peer-Assisted Learning Strategies) is effective and be used as one of strategy in teaching reading comprehension.

Keywords : PALS (Peer-Assisted Learning Strategies), Reading Comprehension, Descriptive Text.