

THESIS

**A STUDY ON READING COMPREHENSION ABILITY
OF THE EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS
OF SMP NEGERI 10 KUPANG
IN THE SCHOOL YEAR 2019/2020**



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**TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES
FACULTY
WIDYA MANDIRA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
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**Presented in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Education**

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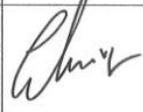
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MOTTO

“You will bloom if you take the time to water yourself”

(Margareta Sevriani Lestin Samir)

DEDICATION

THIS THESIS IS DEDICATED TO:

1. My beloved Father, Drs. Leonardus Samir and Mother, Maria Setini
2. My beloved sisters, Fransiska A.M. Samir and Claudia P. A. Samir
3. My beloved relatives
4. My beloved friends
5. My almamater, Widya Mandira Catholic University, Kupang

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This thesis still has many errors both in content, grammatical aspects, and technical aspects. Its errors become the writer's own responsibility. However, its strength is the merit of many persons so it is worth thanking them. May God bless them.

Kupang, May 2020

The Writer

ABSTRACT

This study entitles “**A Study on Reading Comprehension Ability of the Eighth Grade Students of SMPN 10 Kupang in the School Year 2019/2020**”. The study was conducted to answer the following questions. (1) Are the eighth-grade students of SMPN 10 Kupang able to comprehend the text they read? (2) What is the ability level of the eighth-grade students of SMPN 10 Kupang in the school year 2019/2020 in reading comprehension? (3) What are the difficulties encountered by the eighth students of SMPN 10 Kupang? The objectives of the study are (1) to find out and to know whether or not the eighth grade students of SMPN 10 Kupang able to understand reading descriptive text (2) to find out and to know the ability level of the eighth grade students of SMPN 10 Kupang in the school year 2019/2020 in reading comprehension (3) to find out the difficulties encountered by the eighth grade students of SMPN 10 Kupang in reading descriptive text. To answer the questions mentioned above the writer used the descriptive qualitative method. The aim is to give or to explain the data obtained from this research. The subject of this study was the eighth-grade students of SMPN 10 Kupang. The total number of the eighth-grade students of SMPN 10 Kupang was 317 and divided into 10 classes. In this study, the writer chose the students of the eighth grade randomly as the subject of the study based on the recommendation of the English teacher of SMPN 10 Kupang. The total number of the students is 20 students, In collecting the data the writer used “Test” as the instrument. It consisted of 5 reading texts: Doraemon, My best friend, My classroom, Pink beach, My little sister. The result of the study shows the following facts. (a) The eighth-grade students of SMPN 10 Kupang in the school year 2019/2020 were not able to comprehend the text they read. (b) Their ability level was “below average” with a total score of 46,5% or 4.65. (c) The difficulties faced by the students in comprehending the descriptive text are limited stock of vocabulary, in the vocabulary they misunderstood the meaning of some words and the students have difficulties in comprehending the reading materials text, such as they have difficulties in making inference, determining main idea and student’s passive response toward reading because students did not pay enough attention toward reading text. Based on the result of analysis the writer would like to offer some suggestions: (1) For the English teacher, in order to improve the students’ ability in reading comprehension, the English teacher should give more explanations about English reading text and they also should help them to master on vocabulary that can help them comprehend reading text. (2) For the students, the writer suggests them to comprehend English reading text in particular and learn English in general because the ability level of the whole students is below average i.e 4,65.

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