

A Study on the Students' Understanding in Guessing Synonym Word at the Eighth Grade Students of SMS Negeri 2 Mandau

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ABSTRACT

This paper entitled "A Study on the Students' Understanding in Guessing Synonym Word of the Eighth Grade Students at SMP Negeri 2 Mandau". The research is a descriptive research, intended to know students understanding in guessing synonym word of the eighth grade students at SMP Negeri 2 Mandau. The subject of this research is the eighth grade student of SMP Negeri 2 Mandau. The object of this research is the students understanding in guessing synonym word. The population of this research is the eighth grade student of SMP Negeri 2 Mandau. There is eight class of population. Total numbers of students are 320. The researcher uses the Simple Random Sampling. From eighth classes, the researcher takes two random classes as sample. The sample is class VIII.1 and VIII.2. Total of the sample is 80 students. The result of this research showed that students understanding in guessing synonym word of the eighth grade students at SMP Negeri 2 Mandau falls to good level. This can be seen on the results of the test conducted by the researcher. The researcher got the total score of the whole students is 5600. So, the average score of the students is 70. Based on the score above, students understanding in guessing synonym word of the eighth grade students at SMP Negeri 2 Mandau falls to good level.

INTRODUCTION

Learning English nowadays is more different from before. People communicate in living room, two persons talking over the telephone, in meeting, a conference call, a public speaker a radio or newspaper. As a foreign language, English not only for students' academic aspect to get good mark but also for communication tool in work world after school. Without knowledge about English, every sentence someone hears of reads will sound weird and meaningless.

English is a first foreign language that taught in secondary school. English must be studied by the students at junior high school, senior high school until university. As a foreign language, English not only for students' academic aspect to get good mark but also for communication tool in work world after school.

In learning English, the student should have knowledge of English such as listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In learning English, There are four language skills that must be mastered; they are listening, speaking, reading and writing. Beside that there are some components such as grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, punctuation, etc.

In studying English, the students are not any pursued able to communicate in English, but also the students have to master vocabulary correctly. The aim of teaching English in Indonesia to the students is to master the language skills, listening, speaking, reading and writing. The English curriculum also states that the need of English programs in Indonesia is to provide the students with the skills, which enable to communicate in English. It means that the graduations are expected to have knowledge of English skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. In learning English, the students have to know the parts of vocabulary to understanding the synonym. They are very important. Thus, we must learn how to understanding the synonym correctly.

Based on Based on the preliminary observation by interviewing one of English teacher at SMPN 2 Mandau, the researcher knows that the students have low ability in guessing synonym word. The problem that still faced by the students are indicated in some symptoms as follow:

1. Some of the students have difficulties in understanding the synonym.
2. Some of the students are still confused in understanding the synonym.
3. Some of the students are still make mistake in understanding the synonym.

Based on the symptoms above, it is clear that some students are possibly still confused in learning English, especially about the synonym in writing. Based on the background of the problem stated above, the researcher feels interested in researching this problem entitled: **A Study on the Students' Understanding in Guessing Synonym Word at the Eighth Grade Students of SMP Negeri 2 Mandau.**

METHODS

The research is a descriptive research. Descriptive research is done to describe or explain a phenomenon. Stephen Isaac in Wina Sanjaya (2013:59) explain that: *"Descriptive research is the accumulation of a data base solely descriptive it does not necessarily, seek or explain relationships, test hypotheses, make predictions, or get at meaning and implication, although research aimed at these more powerful purpose may incorporate descriptive methods."*

This means that descriptive research methods are used when the researcher wants to describe specific behavior as it occurs in the environment. This research was conducted in SMP Negeri 2 Mandau. This research was conducted from August - September 2014. The subject of this research is the eighth grade student of SMP Negeri 2 Mandau. The object of this research is the students' understanding in guessing synonym word. The population in this study is the eighth grade student of SMP Negeri 2 Mandau. It consists of eight classes. The total number is 320 students. Population in this case can be defined as any groups of individuals that have one or more characteristics. To similar extend, population is a member or a set of people that have at least some characteristics. Sampling is a way to take an object of research that we are going to investigate and it consists of a certain number of individuals that represent the large number. In relation to the number of the sample, there are two possibilities or

tendencies, which are commonly applied by a researcher. First, it may investigate, only a part, of the population in order to make easy and help the researcher in conducting a research.

The researcher uses Simple Random Sampling. According to Mundir (2013:17), "With simple random sampling, the researcher no more make interval class. The researcher just determines the total population and sample that they want." From eighth classes, the researcher takes two random classes as sample. The sample is class VIII.1 and VIII.2. Total of the sample is 80 students. So the sample of this research can be seen as follow:

Table.1
The Population and Sample

No	Population		Number of Sample
1.	Class VIII.1	40	40 Students
2.	Class VIII.2	40	
3.	Class VIII.3	40	40 Students
4.	Class VIII.4	40	
5.	Class VIII.5	40	
6.	Class VIII.6	40	
7.	Class VIII.7	40	
8.	Class VIII.8	40	
	Total	320	80 Students

Source: SMP N 2 Mandau

In collecting the data, the researcher used a test. According to Arthur Hughes (1989:7), "the purpose of testing is to discover how far students have achieved the objectives of a course of study." Test is used to know the students' understanding in guessing synonym word. The test for this research used is multiple choices, which consists of 20 items for identifying the students' understanding in guessing synonym word. The duration of test is 60 minutes. This research is a descriptive research with percentage. It aims to find out the students' understanding in guessing synonym word. To measure the students' understanding in guessing synonym word, the researcher gives the criteria as follow:

Table. 2
The Standard Assessment Category

Category	The score
Excellent	81-100
Good	69-80
Sufficient	56-68
Less	≤55

Source : M. Idrus

In order to get description of answer given by the students, the data were analysis by using formula as follow:

$$X = \frac{\sum x}{N}$$

Where:

X : Individual scores

$\sum X$: The number of the correct answers

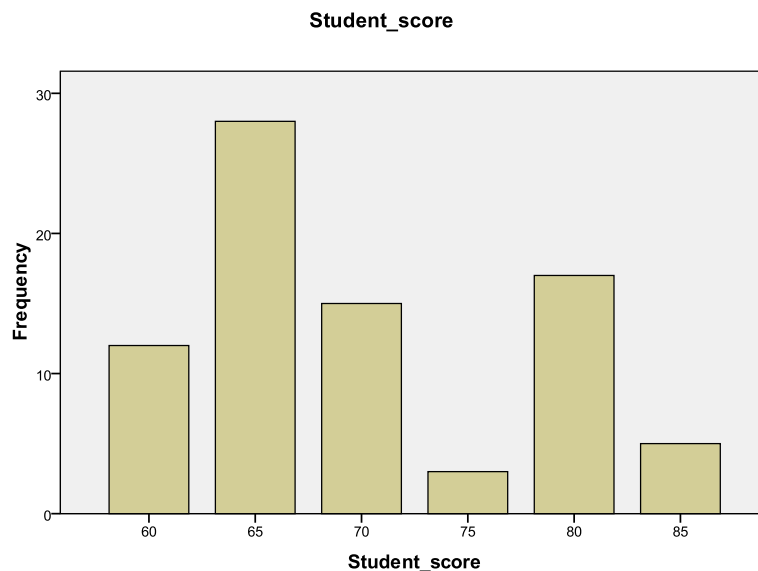
N : The number of items

(Mundir, 2013:51)

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The following table shows the scores and ability of the students' understanding in guessing synonym word of the eighth grade students at SMP Negeri 2 Mandau. The total score of the whole students is 5600. So, the average score of the students is 70. Based on the score above, the students' understanding in guessing synonym word of the eighth grade students at SMP Negeri 2 Mandau falls to **Good** level.

The diagram of data distribution is presented on the diagram below:



Graphic 1
The Frequency of Students' Understanding in Guessing Synonym Word

After the researcher administered the test, the classification of the students' understanding in guessing synonym word of the eighth grade students at SMP Negeri 2 Mandau was analyzed statistically. It can be seen in this table.

Table. 3

The Classification of the Students Understanding in Guessing Synonym Word of the Eighth Grade Students at SMP Negeri 2 Mandau

Classification		Students	%
Rank	Ability Level		
81-100	Excellent	5	6%
69-80	Good	35	44%
56-68	Sufficient	40	50%
≤55	Less	0	0%
Total		80	100%

From the table, it could be seen that 5 (6 %) of student get an *excellent* level in the test. In *good* level there are 35 (44 %) student of the test. In *sufficient* level there are 40 (50 %) students in the test. There are 0 (0 %) students in *less* in the test. From the results, the researcher obtain data analysis the mean value is 70. Therefore, the researcher received an answer from the formulation of the therefore the researcher has gotten an answer from the formulation of problem. After seeing the table category mean values obtained by the researcher including the category of the students' understanding in guessing synonym word of the eighth grade students at SMP Negeri 2 Mandau is "**Good Level**".

CONCLUSION

The title of this research is "**A Study on the Students' Understanding in Guessing Synonym Word of the Eighth Grade Students at SMP Negeri 2 Mandau**". The population in this study is the eighth grade student of SMP Negeri 2 Mandau. It consists of eight classes. The total number is 320 students. The researcher uses Simple Random Sampling. From eighth classes, the researcher takes one random class as sample. The sample is class VIII.1. Total of the sample is 80 students.

From the presentation and analysis data in chapter IV above, the researcher can conclude that the students' understanding in guessing synonym word of the eighth grade students at SMP Negeri 2 Mandau falls to **Good** level. This can be seen on the results of the test conducted by the researcher. The researcher get the mean score of the student is **70** from the result of test. Based on the standard level ability, the mean score **70** is categorized to **Good level**.

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