ABSTRACT

Rambe, Claudia Afriani. 2012. *Skripsi*. "The Application of Inquiry Strategy to Improve Students' Ability in Reading Skill". *(The Experimental Research at Eighth Grade students' of SMPN 1 Gorontalo in Academic years 2010/2011).*

In conducting in this research, I want to find out whether the Inquiry Strategy can improve students' ability in reading skill or not. The population of this research is the eighth grade of SMPN 1 Gorontalo. There are 23 students of $VIII_2$ as experiment class and 23 students of $VIII_3$ as control class which is random sample technique. I was use quantitative method and I applied experiment research. The researcher use posttest-only design. Data was collecting from reading test namely multiple choices which consist of 30 items that refers to 5 indicators in reading: main idea, synonym-antonym of the word, specific information, implied the meaning and inference of the text.

In analyzing the data, I use normality analysis and hypothesis verification. Based on the result of testing the normality of the data, the research found that data is normal distribution. The hypothesis is tested by using t-test formula. The criteria used to verify the hypothesis is H_o is tenable if t_{count} is less that t $_{list}$ ($t_{count} < t_{list}$). In this case, the research found that the t_{count} (4,97), while t_{list} (1,682) with the level significant $\alpha = 0,05$. The degree freedom (df) = 23+23-2= 44 is 1,682. It means that, the hypothesis is tenable. So, the Inquiry Strategy can improve students' ability in reading skill. I suggest fo the next researcher, the applying of Inquiry Strategy to improve speaking on student's ability.

Key words: inquiry strategy, reading skill