

Improving Students' Reading Comprehension through KWL Chart Strategy

(A Study Conducted to the Eighth Grade Students of SMP Triple "J")

A PAPER

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ABSTRACT

Reading is a process of understanding to know the meaning of the words, ideas, and information presented by the author. However there are some common problems the teachers found in teaching reading comprehension such as students faced a long text that make them bored. Moreover, it is difficult for them to understand the context of the text. The present strategy of Know Want Learn (KWL) can be used by teacher in the teaching reading. The purpose of this research is to improve the students' reading comprehension through KWL. The subject of the research is the eight grade students of *SMP Triple 'J'*. There are 35 students taught by using KWL Chart strategy. The instruments for the data collection are reading comprehension test, questionnaire, and observation. The research was conducted in two cycles processes. Based on the research finding, the first cycle students' average score was 63.25% meanwhile the target of research was 70.00%, so it can be decided that action should be continued to the second cycle. The average score of students' reading comprehension in second cycle is 73.85%. It means that the results are better than first posttest. From the observation notes of students' enthusiasm, the percentage of 'on task' students increases from 84.86% in first cycle to 93.92% in second cycle. It means that students' enthusiasm has improved. They are more active, creative and enthusiastic when KWL strategy was applied in classroom. In short, KWL is a good strategy to use in teaching reading comprehension, because KWL helps students to activate background knowledge and provide them an opportunity to write their ideas. So, they become creative students.