

THESIS

**A STUDY ON READING COMPREHENSION ABILITY
OF THE EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS
OF SMP NEGERI 8 KUPANG
IN THE SCHOOL YEAR 2018/2019**



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KUPANG
2019**

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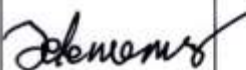

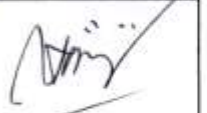
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MOTTO

“DO THE BEST AND PRAY. GOD WILL TAKE
CARE OF THE REST”

(Sandra Oematan)

DEDICATION

THIS THESIS IS DEDICATED TO:

1. My beloved Father Nikolaus Oematan (late) and Mother Joaninha D. D. R.
Araujo
2. My beloved sister Gaudensiana Oematan
3. My beloved brothers Fabio Oematan and Ganisius Oematan
4. My beloved family
5. My beloved friends
6. My almamater, Widya Mandira Catholic University, Kupang

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‘To make mistakes is human being’. As the work of human being this thesis still has many mistakes both in content, grammatical aspects and technical aspects. Its mistakes become the writer’s own responsibility. However, its strength is the merit of many persons so it is worth thanking them. May God bless all of us.

Kupang, June 2019

The Writer

ABSTRACT

This study is entitled **“A STUDY ON READING COMPREHENSION ABILITY OF THE EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS OF SMPN 8 KUPANG IN THE SCHOOL YEAR 2018/2019”**. The study was conducted to answer the following questions. (1) Are the eighth-grade students of SMPN 8 Kupang able to comprehend the text they read? (2) What is the ability level of the eighth-grade students of SMPN 8 Kupang in the school year 2018/2019 in reading narrative text? (3) What are the difficulties encountered by the eighth grade students of SMPN 8 Kupang in the school year 2018/2019 in reading narrative text? The objectives of the study are (1) to find out and to know whether the eighth grade students of SMPN 8 Kupang able to understand reading of narrative text (2) to find out and to know the ability level of the eighth grade students of SMPN 8 Kupang in the school year 2018/2019 in reading comprehension (3) to find out the difficulties that might be encountered by the eighth grade students of SMPN 8 Kupang in reading narrative text. To answer the questions mentioned above the writer used the descriptive qualitative method. The aim of this method is to give or explain the data obtained when this research was conducted. The subject of this study was the eighth-grade students of SMPN 8 Kupang. The total number of the eighth-grade students of SMPN 8 Kupang was 341 and divided into 10 classes. In this study, the writer chose one class of the eighth grade students as the subject of the study namely class VIII-C based on the recommendation from the teacher of English and the students of teacher training faculty who had teaching practice for 5 months in the school that this class is so good to do a research. The total number of the students is 32 students, but the writer only tests 25 students because only 25 students were present in the class. In collecting the data the writer used “Test” as the instrument. It consisted of 3 reading texts (1) Sangkuriang, (2) The story of the smart parot, (3) A fox and a goat. The result of the study shows that (a) the eighth-grade students of SMPN 8 Kupang in the school year 2018/2019 were able to comprehend the text they read. (b) Their ability level are “Average” with a total score of 64.2% or 6.42 as the grade (c) The difficulties faced by the students in comprehending the narrative text is limited stock of vocabulary, in the vocabulary they misunderstood the meaning of some words. Based on the result of analysis the writer would like to offer some suggestion: (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 in comprehending English reading text in particular and learning English in general.

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