

CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

A. Findings

This subchapter presents the data that have been collected in the research. The presentation covers primary data about the student ability in reading personal letters.

1. Data about the ability of eighth grade students at MTsN 2 Gambut academic year 2013/2014 in reading personal letters.

To know about the ability of eighth grade students in reading personal letters, the writer conducted a written test in MTsN 2 Gambut on Monday, May, 26th 2014 at class VIII F with 19 respondents and class VIII A with 24 respondents. After that, on Wednesday, May, 28th 2014 at class VIII D with 23 respondents and class VIII E with 23 respondents. The last, the writer conducted a written test on Saturday, May, 31st 2014 at class VIII C with 23 respondents and class VIII B with 23 respondents. It takes 60 minutes for each class to answer 25 questions.

Based on the result of the test of eighth grade students of MTsN 2 Gambut, it can be seen in this following table:

Table 4.1 The Students' Test Result of Eighth Grade Students of MTsN 2 Gambut in Academic Year 2013/2014 in reading personal letters

Respondents	Types of Letters				Total correct answer	Score
	Letter for Friend	Thank you Letter	Letter for Teacher	Invitation Letter		
1	3	5	4	4	16	64
2	3	5	6	5	19	76
3	3	5	4	4	16	64
4	2	3	5	4	14	56
5	3	6	3	5	17	68
6	4	5	4	5	18	72
7	3	5	3	5	16	64
8	4	5	5	5	19	76
9	3	3	3	4	13	52
10	2	4	5	5	16	64
11	2	5	3	3	13	52
12	4	5	5	5	19	76
13	4	6	4	4	18	72
14	3	4	4	5	16	64
15	5	5	5	3	18	72
16	3	4	4	6	17	68
17	3	4	4	5	16	64
18	3	5	4	5	17	68
19	5	5	5	3	18	72
20	2	2	4	6	14	56
21	3	4	4	5	16	64
22	4	3	3	3	13	52
23	3	3	5	6	17	68
24	3	6	6	4	19	76
25	4	5	4	4	17	68
26	3	4	4	5	16	64
27	3	5	5	5	18	72
28	2	4	5	4	15	60
29	4	5	6	4	19	76
30	4	6	6	5	21	84

(table continues)

Table 4.1(Continued)

Respondents	Types of Letters				Total correct answer	Score
	Letter for friend	Thank you Letter	Letter for teacher	Invitation letter		
31	2	4	3	3	12	48
32	3	6	5	4	18	72
33	2	4	6	4	16	64
34	4	7	5	3	19	76
35	4	5	6	5	20	80
36	2	5	6	4	17	68
37	2	4	1	4	11	44
38	4	5	6	5	20	80
39	4	4	6	4	18	72
40	4	4	5	4	17	68
41	4	6	4	4	18	72
42	2	5	2	4	13	52
43	4	4	5	4	17	68
44	4	4	5	5	18	72
45	3	3	2	4	12	48
46	5	4	6	4	19	76
47	2	5	4	4	15	60
48	5	5	5	3	18	72
49	3	5	4	6	18	72
50	3	4	5	5	17	68
51	3	6	5	6	20	80
52	3	4	5	5	17	68
53	4	4	4	6	18	72
54	3	4	4	5	16	64
55	4	3	5	5	17	68
56	2	5	3	5	15	60
57	4	5	4	6	19	76
58	3	4	6	4	17	68
59	2	4	4	5	15	60
60	3	5	6	5	19	76
61	1	3	6	4	14	56
62	4	4	5	4	17	68

(table continues)

Table 4.1 (Continued)

Respondents	Types of Letters				Total correct answer	Score
	Letter for Friend	Thank you Letter	Letter for Teacher	Invitation Letter		
63	6	4	6	4	20	80
64	3	5	4	3	15	60
65	2	4	4	4	14	56
66	4	5	4	4	17	68
67	1	6	4	4	15	60
68	3	5	6	4	18	72
69	3	5	6	6	20	80
70	2	6	3	4	15	60
71	2	2	4	3	11	44
72	4	5	4	3	16	64
73	2	3	3	5	13	52
74	4	6	4	4	18	72
75	2	4	6	5	17	68
76	4	4	4	4	16	64
77	4	3	4	5	16	64
78	4	6	3	4	17	68
79	4	4	5	4	17	68
80	2	5	6	4	17	68
81	2	3	3	3	11	44
82	2	4	5	4	15	60
83	3	6	4	5	18	72
84	3	3	5	5	16	64
85	4	3	3	4	14	56
86	3	5	3	5	16	64
87	3	5	5	4	17	68
88	2	4	5	4	15	60
89	2	3	5	4	14	56
90	5	5	6	6	22	88
91	2	5	5	4	16	64
92	4	6	6	4	20	80
93	4	5	3	3	15	60
94	3	4	5	4	16	64

(table continues)

Table 4.1 (Continued)

Respondents	Types of Letters				Total correct answer	Score
	Letter for friend	Thank you Letter	Letter for teacher	Invitation letter		
95	4	4	3	4	15	60
96	3	6	4	4	17	68
97	3	3	5	4	15	60
98	4	4	5	5	18	72
99	5	3	5	3	16	64
100	2	5	3	4	14	56
101	3	4	4	4	15	60
102	3	4	4	4	15	60
103	3	4	6	4	17	68
104	3	3	4	5	15	60
105	2	4	4	4	14	56
106	3	5	3	6	17	68
107	3	5	5	2	15	60
108	2	4	5	5	16	64
109	4	5	4	3	16	64
110	3	5	2	4	14	56
111	2	4	6	3	15	60
112	4	6	4	4	18	72
113	3	4	4	4	15	60
114	4	5	3	4	16	64
115	4	4	4	2	14	56
116	3	5	4	5	17	68
117	3	6	5	3	17	68
118	4	4	3	4	15	60
119	3	4	5	4	16	64
120	4	7	4	5	20	80
121	2	3	4	4	13	52
122	4	4	4	4	16	64
123	2	4	5	4	15	60
124	3	5	3	3	14	56
125	4	4	3	4	15	60
126	4	4	4	3	15	60

(table continues)

Table 4.1 (Continued)

Respondents	Types of Letters				Total correct answer	Score
	Letter for friend	Thank you Letter	Letter for teacher	Invitation letter		
127	5	5	4	3	17	68
128	1	4	2	2	9	36
129	4	6	5	4	19	76
130	2	4	4	4	14	56
131	5	5	5	3	18	72
132	3	4	3	5	15	60
133	2	4	4	4	14	56
134	4	6	3	4	17	68
135	5	5	1	4	15	60

To know the ability of eighth grade students at MTsN 2 Gambut in academic year 2013/2014 in reading personal letters, the writer uses the accounting of mean score as follows:

$$M_x = \frac{\sum X}{N} = \frac{8772}{135} = 64,97$$

From the data of reading comprehension personal letters test scores above, it can be found that the average score that students got is 64,97. These average score is categorized fair category because the average score between 55 - < 65.

Table 4.2 The Frequency Distribution of the Students' Test Result of Eighth Grade Students at MTsN 2 Gambut in Academic Year 2013/2014 in Reading Personal Letters

No.	Score	F	P (%)	Category
1.	95 – 100	0	0	Excellent
2.	80 - < 95	9	6,67	Very Good
3.	65 - < 80	54	40	Good
4.	55 - < 65	60	44,44	Fair
5.	40 - < 55	11	8,15	Low
6	0 - < 40	1	0,74	Very Low
Total		135	100	

From the table above, it can be seen that there are no students (0%) whose score are around 95-100 that classified in Excellent Category. There are 9 students (6, 67%) whose score are around 80 - < 95 that classified in Very Good Category. There are 54 Students (40%) whose score are around 65- < 80 that classified in Good Category. There are 60 students (44,44%) whose score are around 55- < 65 that classified in fair Category. There are 11 students (8,15%) whose score are around 40 - < 55 that classified in Low Category. Meanwhile, there is 1 student (0,74%) whose score are around 0 - < 40 that classified in Very Low Category.

2. Students' Difficulties in Reading Personal Letters

a. Description about the students' difficulties in reading letters for friend

To know about difficult test item done by students in reading personal letters especially letters for friend, the writer presented the data based on the test result by writing difficult test of each item of test:

Table 4.3 The Frequency Distribution of the Students' Test Result in Reading Personal Letters of letter for friend type of Eighth Grade Students at MTsN 2 Gambut in Academic Year 2013/2014

Number of Questions	Test Item	Wrong Answer
1.	Who writes the letter?	37
2.	What is Anton's goal of life?	69
3.	What does Budi want to be?	101
4.	Why does Anton want to be a doctor?	37
5.	Who wants to be a pilot?	46
6.	Is it Anton's first letter to Budi?	89
Total Mistakes		379

On the table above, the writer presented data about difficult test item done by the students in reading personal letters of letters for friend type. From the data above, it is known that the question number 3 is the most difficult one of 6 questions with 101 students could not answer correctly.

b. Description about the students' difficulties in reading thank you letters

To know about difficult test item done by students in reading personal letters especially thank you letters, the writer presented the data based on the test result by writing difficult test of each item of test:

Table 4.4 The Frequency Distribution of the Students' Test Result in Reading Personal Letters of thank you letter type of Eighth Grade Students at MTsN 2 Gambut in Academic Year 2013/2014

Number of Questions	Test Item	Wrong Answer
7.	Who wrote the letter?	41
8.	What did Aunt Fitri give to Tiara?	44
9.	Which of the statement is not true about Tiara?	57
10.	Who is Tiara?	53
11.	What will Tiara wear in the bazaar next Sunday?	63
12.	When will bazaar happen?	52
13.	When Tiara send the letter?	28
Total Mistakes		338

On the table above, the writer presented data about difficult test item done by the students in reading personal letters of type thank you letter. From the data above, it is known that the question number 11 is the most difficult one of 7 questions with 63 students could not answer correctly.

c. Description about the students' difficulties in reading letters for teacher

To know about difficult test item done by students in reading personal letters especially letters for teacher, the writer presented the data based on the test result by writing difficult test of each item of test:

Table 4.5 The Frequency Distribution of the Students' Test Result in Reading Personal Letters of letter for teacher type of Eighth Grade Students at MTsN 2 Gambut in Academic Year 2013/2014

Number of Questions	Test Item	Wrong Answer
14.	When did Yuda's father send the letter?	38
15.	Did Yuda live in Banjarmasin?	44
16.	Who was ill last Friday?	29
17.	When did Yuda absent?	45
18.	What was the matter with him?	26
19.	Who is Miss Lisa?	43
Total Mistakes		225

On the table above, the writer presented data about difficult test item done by the students in reading personal letters of type letter for teacher. From the data above, it is known that the question number 17 is the most difficult one of 6 questions with 45 students could not answer correctly.

d. Description about the students' difficulties in reading invitation letters

To know about difficult test item done by students in reading personal letters especially invitation letters, the writer presented the data based on the test result by writing difficult test of each item of test:

Table 4.6 The Frequency Distribution of the Students' Test Result in Reading Personal Letters of invitation letter type of Eighth Grade Students at MTsN 2 Gambut in Academic Year 2103/2014

Number of Questions	Test Item	Wrong Answer
20.	Who are the receivers of this letter?	37
21.	Who will marry?	38
22.	Where will the wedding located?	46
23.	Who is Adam Locke?	56
24.	When the letter send?	28
25.	When will celebration of wedding happen?	35
Total Mistakes		240

On the table above, the writer presented data about difficult test item done by the students in reading personal letters of invitation letter type. From the data above, it is known that the question number 23 is the most difficult one of 6 questions with 56 students could not answer correctly.

B. Discussion

a. The Ability of Eighth Grade Students at MTsN 2 Gambut in Academic Year 2013/2014 in Reading Personal Letter.

Based on students' ability in reading personal letters result, it is found that the average scores the students got are 64,97. These average scores are categorized fair because the average scores are between 55 - <65. So, the

students' ability in reading personal letters of the eighth grade students of MTsN 2 Gambut in academic year 2013/2014 can be said fair category. This score is almost 65 which is categorized as good category based on standard criteria of *Diknas Provinsi Kalimantan selatan*. It happens because the students have learned about letter in the seventh grade and when the writer does the research, the students have in the second semester. Therefore they have got more knowledge from their teacher.

From the test result, it also can be found that the students get different scores, those are, and no one of the students can get excellent score because they cannot understand the question in the test instrument easily. It might cause of their knowledge especially in English still in the lower level, it also considering there are still in the grade of VIII.

The students who get very good score are 6.67 %, it means that from 135 students who get very good score are 9 Students. The students who get good score are 40 %, it means from 135 students who get good score are 54 Students. The students who get enough score are 44,44 % , it means from 135 students who get fair score are 60 Students. The students who get low score are 8,15 % , it means from 135 students who get low score are 11 Students. The students who get very low score are 0,74 %, it means from 135 students who get very low score just one student.

These happens because the students in MTsN 2 Gambut have different ability in reading personal letter. Based on the research, the writer concluded that many of students are lack in vocabulary so they cannot answer some question in

the instrument test. According to Richard and Rodgers, 2001 vocabulary seems to be an important factor in reading comprehension. Without understand the meaning of words the readers may have a hard time developing comprehension.

Laufer (1997) indicated that it is not possible to achieve comprehension, either for native speakers or second language learners, without understanding the vocabulary in the text. It means that for understanding a text we must understand the vocabulary in the text. A recent study (Djamal, Ichsan, Toy, Jamil & Fauziati, 2006, p.4) concludes that ability of the reader to understand part of text can improve her/his reading skill. It is easy to understand the simple text. But, reader need much time if text very long and the sentence is complex. Sometimes, there are some terms that the reader does not know or familiar

Many of students in the eighth grade are in good category and fair categories. In good category are 54 students and in fair category are 60 students; it means they can understand the text in the test instrument. The result for the ability of eighth grade students of MTsN 2 Gambut are fair category because the average score of the students are 64, 97.

b. Students' Difficulties in Reading Personal Letters

Based on some tables' students' test result, the writer concludes students' difficulties in reading personal letters in the table below:

Table 4.7 The Frequency of students' difficulties of the Eighth Grade Students

at MTsN 2 Gambut Based on Types of Letters

No.	Types of letters	F	P
1.	Letters for friend	379	32,06
2.	Thank you letters	338	28,60
3.	Letters for teacher	225	19,04
4.	Invitation letters	240	20,30
Total		1182	100%

Based on table above, it is found that some students' difficulties in reading personal letters for each type are different. There are 32,06% students' difficulties in reading letters for friend with frequency 379 of 6 questions from 135 respondents, 28,60% students' difficulties in reading thank you letters with frequency 338 of 7 questions from 135 respondents, 19,04% students' difficulties in reading letter for teacher with frequency 225 of 6 questions from 135 respondents and 20,30% students' difficulties in reading invitation letters with frequency 240 of 6 questions from 135 respondents. So, letters for friend is the students' most difficult type in reading personal letters by the eighth grade students at MTsN 2 Gambut with the highest total score of wrong answer.

Based on the data above the most difficult letter to understand is letter for friend type. In letter for friend, there are sixth question but many of student cannot answer the question in this letter type because the student cannot understand the content of letter easily. Sometimes, the readers cannot understand what the writers mean in a text. It is because they have different life experiences such as writer intention and reader comprehension (Stott, 2001, p.3).

Understanding level of every student is different, so the result of their answer is different also.

New vocabulary and phrases usually can we find in a text (Bailey, 2011, p.19). Because of that to understand a text we must be able to the vocabulary used in the piece of writing. When try to understand each distinct word in a text, people have to be able to put them together to develop an overall conception of what it is trying to say.

Based on data the most difficult questions in every type of letter in this test are question number 3, 11, 17 and 23. Those questions are:

- What does Budi want to be?
- What will Tiara wear in bazaar next Sunday?
- When did Yuda absent?
- Who is Adam Locke?

The students cannot answer question no 3 are 101 students, question number 11 are 63 students, question number 17 are 45 students and question number 23 are 56 students. It happens because to answer the question the student must to pay attention when read the text, because the answer of question is closest if the student cannot understand the text. Vocabulary is the most identifiable subcomponent of reading ability.

Based on the result of the research, the difficulties in reading personal letter of the eighth grade students at MTsN 2 Gambut are in letter for friend type with students' incorrect answer is 32,06 %, thank you letter type with students'

incorrect answer is 28,60%, letter for teacher type with students' incorrect answer is 19,04%, and invitation letters type with students' incorrect answer is 20,30%. Whereas the most difficult questions to be answered by the students are about specific information questions in letter for friend type.