

## ABSTRACT

**Rabiyatun Ni'mah.** 2017. *The Ninth Grade Students' Ability in Understanding Short Functional Texts at SMPN 1 Batumandi Academic Year 2016/2017.* Thesis, English Education Department, Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teachers Training. Advisor I: Dra. Hj. Wardah Hayati, M.A  
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This research describes the ninth grade students' ability in understanding short functional texts at SMPN 1 Batumandi Academic Year 2016/2017. Short functional text is a short written text contains of useful information that help people to do or to finish their daily routine.

The objectives of this research are: to identify the ninth grade students' ability and problems in understanding short functional texts and also to know the teacher' effort to increase students' ability in understanding short functional texts at SMPN 1 Batumandi academic year 2016/2017.

The population of this research is all of ninth grade students and a ninth grade English teacher at SMPN 1 Batumandi academic year 2016/2017. The sample of this research is 86 students and an English teacher. The data are collected through test, interview and documentary. All the data are analyzed quantitatively and descriptively.

The result of this research shows that the ninth grade students' ability in understanding short functional text at SMPN 1 Batumandi academic year 2016/2017 is in very poor category with the average score of the students is 44,14. Students' problems in understanding short functional texts are short message (72.97%), letter/e-mail (54.46%), announcement (54.2%), notice/warning/caution (52.97%), and advertisement (44.62%).

The teacher's effort to increase the ninth grade students' ability in understanding short functional texts at SMPN 1 Batumandi academic year 2016/2017 are: 1) Adapt teaching and learning with curriculum from KTSP and K13. 2) Increase students' vocabulary. 3) Make students speak English naturally in some simple things. 4) Make students accustomed with short functional texts. 5) Provide exercise that using many kinds of questions to make students accustomed to answer many types of questions. 6) Motivate students to more serious in doing exercise, homework, or exam and remain them that it will influence their rapport score.

The contribution of this research are give information about students' ability and problems in understanding short functional texts and also the teacher effort to increase students' ability in understanding short functional texts. In addition, give reflection about a research in reading ability, especially in understanding short functional texts and enrich researcher's knowledge and experience in the scientific research.