

**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PRIVATE ENGLISH COURSE ON  
STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENT IN READING SKILL**

**A THESIS**

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## ABSTRACT

Elisnawati

In supporting students' necessity in learning English, there are many educational institutions which are made up for this situation. It is made to help students in studying more about English. There are two kinds of educational institution, formal and informal education. Formal education is the education from official institution. It is developed and managed by the government. Usually, the fee of formal education is cheaper because it is on of government's program to make Indonesian people become smart. Nowadays many students take private English course to help them in mastering English outside the school. It is because they think that education from school is not enough and they need more than what they have gotten at school.

Private course is happened between one teacher and one student at the same time and place, the learning process will happen fast at the simple event, where they meet and change experience, perception and information. Those who learn English as foreign language will face some problems. The common problem is they do not know how to produce the word in English well because the pronunciation is different from what is written. Being able to read in English is very important as it is known that success in reading is the most necessary because it is a basic tool of education. One of the purposes of teaching English of a foreign language to Indonesian people is that they can read, grasp the idea and understand the book written in English. Here, the writer will analyze the effectiveness of private English course on students' achievement in reading skill. By doing this research, we will know the contributions of private English course toward students' achievement in reading skill and measure the effectiveness of private English course in increasing students' achievement in reading skill. The research is qualitative approach and the type is case study research (CSR). This option is taken by the writer because she wants to explain or describe the situation of private English course in teaching early reading. The researcher conducted a field activity in order to get the empirical data by using reading aloud test and interview. Finally, the writer found that eventhough the score of students who join English course is not much different than the score of students who do not join English course, but it showed us that by joining English course, gives contribution to the improvement of students' reading skill. Students who join English course are much better in comprehending English text because they are used to read and translate English text when they studied at course. There are four points in assessing reading skills, they are fluency, accuracy, pronunciation and intonation. When the researcher asked them to read the English text aloud, the students who join English course could do that well. They were much better in those four

points in assessing reading. Because of that, the writer suggests the students to join English course because they must get knowledge from wherever. It is not must from school.

Keyword: reading ability, private English course

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the study

English as foreign language gives students duty to study harder. They need to learn English as subject matter in their school. It is one of requirement to get a job and make a global relationship. In supporting students' necessity in learning English, there are many educational institutions which are made up for this situation. It is made to help students in studying more about English. There are two kinds of educational institution, formal and informal education. Formal education is the education from official institution such as school, while informal education is the education from informal institution such as private course.

Nowadays many students take private English course to help them in mastering English outside the school. It is because they think that education from school is not enough and they need more than what they have gotten at school. It is not the problem because education from informal institution is not different from education at school. In addition, by taking private English course the students can be more understand and they can be more focus on the lesson because the students are limited. It will make students easy in getting explanation more clearly about the subject material.

Those who learn English as foreign language will face some problems. The common problem is they do not know how to produce the word in English well because the pronunciation is different from what is written. In addition, understanding the meaning of text is also very important. It helps us in finding some information in the text, that's why we need to know the meaning of words in the text.

Madox said that reading is the most important single in study and the curriculum stated that out of the four skills, listening, speaking, reading, and writing, the main emphasis is on reading skill because it is believed that acquisition of reading in a second or foreign language is priority.<sup>1</sup>

Reading is good thing in life because it is a factor of great importance in the individual development and the most important activity in school. It is needed in every level of field of study, especially when students have to read English materials for their own special subject.

Being able to read in English is very important as it is known that success in reading is the most necessary because it is a basic tool of education. One of the purposes of teaching English of a foreign language to Indonesian people is that they can read, grasp the idea and understand the book written in English.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Harry Madox, *How to Study* (Greenwich: Fawcet Premier, 1963), 42

<sup>2</sup>Norbert Schmitt and Michael Mc Carthey, *Vocabulary in language Teaching* (Canada: Cambridge University press, 1997), 21

Based on those problems, the writer suggests the students to take additional education beside school. In the writer's opinion, private English course can help students to learn many English vocabularies and how to pronounce it. The limitation of students in each classroom at private English course will help them to be more focus in learning English, especially in reading and remembering vocabularies.

It is interested for the writer to do a research about reading ability because some students often underestimate about it. As a consequence, they make many mistakes in reading English text. Based on that opinion, the writer makes this research with title "**The Effectiveness of Private English Course On Students' Achievement In Reading Skill**" in order to make progress on students' reading skill by joining private English course.

## **B. Statement of the Problem**

To identify the problem of the study, the writer has some questions which are:

1. What are the contributions of private English course toward students' achievement in reading skill?
2. How effective is private English course in increasing students' achievement in reading skill?



### **C. Objectives of the Study**

In this case, the writer has some purposes in doing this research, they are:

1. To know the contributions of private English course toward students' achievement in reading skill
2. To measure the effectiveness of private English course in increasing students' achievement in reading skill

### **D. Significance of the Study**

Absolutely this research has certain purpose that can be useful, either from the reader or the teacher.

1. For the writer

By doing this research, the writer does the useful thing in education sector because the writer can give solution for those who want to increase their ability in reading and also for those who gets difficulties in reading English text. Here, the writer can compare the effectiveness between formal and informal education in increasing reading skill in English study. From this research, the writer will find the easy way in increasing students' achievement in reading skill.

2. For the reader

This research will add the knowledge of the reader about reading skill in English and how private English course increase students'

achievement in reading English text. The reader also will be given information about the advantage of private English course which can help students in mastering English. Beside of that, the reader will get information about formal and informal education. They will know that informal education also can give impact for reading skill. Here, there is information that private English course can help those who have difficulties in reading English text

## **E. Terminology**

### 1. Reading Ability

According to Hill, reading is what the reader does to get the meaning he needs from textual sources.<sup>3</sup> Meanwhile Bond and Eva Wagner explained the meaning of reading as the process of acquiring and author's meaning and of interpreting, evaluating, and effecting upon those meanings.<sup>4</sup>

Dubin explained the meaning of reading as reading is primarily a cognitive process, which means that the brain does most of the work.<sup>5</sup>

Those statements above show the various definitions of reading, they mean generally. Reading means a complex process of

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<sup>3</sup>Walter R. Hill, *Secondary School Reading process, program, procedure* (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1969), 72

<sup>4</sup>Guy L. Bond and Eva Bond Wagner, *Teaching the Child to Read* (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1969), 50

<sup>5</sup>F. Dubin et.al, *Teaching Second Language Reading for Academic Purposes* (California: Edison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1986), 71

thinking in assigning meaning from printed materials which involve most of the reader's intellectual act such as pronunciation and comprehension in order to receive ideas or information extended by the text.

## 2. Private English Course

Fordham states: "Private course is happen between one teacher and one student at the same time and place, the learning process will happen fast at the simple event, where they meet and change experience, perception and information".<sup>6</sup>

According to the precious statement, in private course, in learning and teaching process the teacher will give a whole of his/her attention to the student where she/he will concern the interest, talent and idea of the student.

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<sup>6</sup> Fordham, P.E. 1993. *Informal, non-formal and formal education programmes* (London: YMCA George Williams College, 1993), 2