

**IMPROVING STUDENTS' READING COMPREHENSION  
THROUGH GROUP READING ACTIVITIES FOR EIGHT  
GRADE AT SMPN 8 KETUNGAU HILIR**

**THESIS**

Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Attainment of  
Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Education Study Program



**WRITTEN BY:**

**Novia Trifena**

Student ID. 210507162

**STKIP PERSADA KHATULISTIWA  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM  
SINTANG  
2025**

## APPROVAL SHEET

Name : Novia Trifena  
Student ID : 210507162  
Study Program : English Language Education  
Title : Improving Students' Reading Comprehension  
Through Group Reading Activities for Eight Grade  
At SMPN 8 Ketungau Hilir

This thesis has been approved by the supervisors and has met the requirements to be submitted to the thesis examination committee.

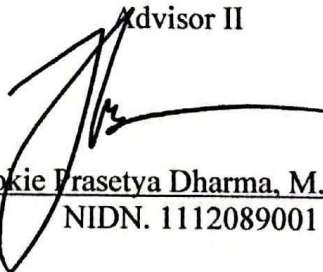
Sintang, July 2025

Advisor I



Ferdinanda Itu Meo, M. Pd  
NIDN. 1131129102

Advisor II



Yokie Prasetya Dharma, M.Pd.B.I  
NIDN. 1112089001

Approved By:

The Dean of STKIP Persada Khatulistiwa



Didin Syafruddin, S. P., M.Si  
NIDN. 1102066603


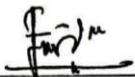


## RATIFICATION

A Thesis entitled "Improving Students' Reading Comprehension Through Group Reading Activities for Eight Grade at SMPN 8 Ketungau Hilir" arranged by:

Name : Novia Trifena  
Student ID : 210507162  
Study Program : English Language Education

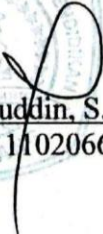
Defended before the board of Examiners on July and declared acceptable

### Board Examiners

No	Name	Occupation	Sign
1	Ilinawati, M. Pd	Chairman	
2	Ferdinanda Itu Meo, M. Pd	Secretary	
3	Sijono, M. Pd	Member 1	
4	Yokie Prasetya Dharma, M. Pd.B.I	Member 2	

Acknowledged by:

The Dean of STKIP Persada Khatulistiwa

  
Didin Syafruddin, S. P., M.Si  
NIDN. 1102066603

## **STATEMENT OF WORKS' ORIGINALITY**

Except where references is made in the text of the thesis, this thesis contains no material publisher elsewhere or extracted in whole or in part from thesis or any other degree diploma.

No other person's work has been used without due acknowledgement in the main text in the thesis.

This thesis has not been submitted for the award of any degree of diploma in any other tertiary institution.

All research procedures reported in this thesis were approved by the researcher's advisors and did not break any faculty or university research ethics.

Sintang, July 2025



Novia Trifena

## ABSTRACT

Novia Trifena. 2025. *Improving Students' Reading Comprehension Through Group Reading Activities For Eight Grade At SMPN 8 Ketungau Hilir*. Thesis. English Language Education Study Program. STKIP Persada Khatulistiwa. Advisor I: Ferdinanda Itu Meo, M. Pd. Advisor II: Yokie Prasetya Dharma, M. Pd. B.I

**Keywords:** group reading activities, reading comprehension, teaching

The background of the study is based on the fact that many students had low interest in reading and faced challenges in understanding English texts, which affected their reading achievement. To address these issues, group reading activities were used as an interactive learning strategy that encourages student collaboration and active participation during reading sessions. This study aims to improve students' reading comprehension through the implementation of group reading activities in the eighth grade at SMPN 8 Ketungau Hilir. The research employed Classroom Action Research (CAR) which was conducted in two cycles, following the procedures of planning, acting, observing, and reflecting. Data were collected through observations, interviews, reading tests, and documentation, and analyzed using both qualitative and quantitative approaches. The results revealed that students' reading comprehension improved after the implementation of group reading activities. Throughout the cycles, there was a gradual increase in students' involvement, confidence, and cooperation in reading tasks. They were better able to understand texts and answer comprehension questions accurately. The improvement across the two cycles showed that students responded positively to the strategy, both in terms of learning outcomes and classroom engagement. In conclusion, group reading activities proved to be an effective method to enhance students' reading comprehension and foster a more active and participatory learning environment. The collaborative nature of the strategy helped students support each other, share ideas, and become more motivated in reading activities. Therefore, it is recommended that English teachers integrate group reading activities into their teaching to improve students' reading skills and engagement. This method can also be further explored or adapted by future researchers.

## **MOTTO**

### ***In the Name of Jesus Christ***

“I begin with the Name of the Lord Jesus and with full confidence end with the word Amen”.

“I was pushed hard and fell, but the Lord helped me”.

**(Psalm 118:13)**

“Don't be afraid, just believe”.

**(Mark 5:6)**

"I know that You can do all things, and that no plan of Yours can be thwarted”.

**(Job 42:2)**

“Don't be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God”.

**(Philippians 4:6)**

He has made everything beautiful in its time.

**(Ecclesiastes 3:11)**

## **DEDICATION**

This thesis is dedicated and grateful by researcher to the beloved parents who always pray for researcher, give support and encouragement. Researcher also thanked to the extended family and friends who always give support in any form for researcher, so that the researcher can complete this thesis.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Praise the presence of Almighty God for all His mercy and grace so that the researcher can complete the research proposal entitled "Improving Students' Reading Comprehension Through Group Reading Activities for Eight Grade at SMP Negeri 8 Ketungau Hilir". This thesis prepared as one of the first steps in conducting Classroom Action Research to overcome the problem of low reading skills of eight grade students at SMP Negeri 8 Ketungau Hilir. It is hope that this research can make a positive contribution in developing more innovative and effective learning methods, especially in improving students' reading comprehension.

In preparing this thesis, the researcher received a lot of support, guidance and valuable input from various parties. Therefore, the researcher would like to express her deepest thanks to:

1. The first and second advisors, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Ms. Ferdinanda Itu Meo, M.Pd and Mr. Yokie Prasetya Dharma, M. Pd. B.I for their invaluable guidance and direction throughout the writing of this thesis. Without their support and advice, I would not have been able to successfully complete this thesis.
2. Chairman of the Karya Bangsa Education Foundation, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Dr. Drs. Y.A.T Lukman Riberu, M.Si., for the support and encouragement he has provided. Furthermore, I greatly

appreciate the facilities and infrastructure provided, which have been a crucial foundation in my educational journey.

3. Dean of STKIP Persada Khatulistiwa Sintang, Didin Syafruddin, S.P., M.Si,  
I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Dean of STKIP Persada Khatulistiwa Sintang for giving me the opportunity to learn and develop in this institution. The conducive academic environment has greatly assisted me in completing this study.
4. Head of the English Language Education Study Program, I would like to thank Mr. Sijono, M. Pd for the very meaningful guidance and support that has been given to me during my studies in this study program.
5. With deep gratitude, I would like to express my gratitude to Ms. Tuti, M.Pd., for her extraordinary attention and guidance throughout my educational journey. Her support has been invaluable in helping me complete this thesis. Every piece of advice and direction she has provided has been invaluable, encouraging me to continue moving forward and achieve my academic goals.
6. All the lecturers in the English Language Education study program, I would like to express my gratitude to all the lecturers in the English Language Education study program who have provided me with knowledge, inspiration, and motivation throughout my education. Every lesson taught has been invaluable to my personal development.



7. The principal, teachers and students of SMP Negeri 8 Ketungau Hilir who have provided support and opportunities to carry out research at the school.
8. Family and friends for their endless prayers, motivation, and moral support, which have become a source of strength during this journey.

The researcher realizes that this thesis still has shortcomings both in terms of content and preparation. Therefore, the researcher really hopes for constructive criticism and suggestions to improve this research in the future. Hopefully this thesis can provide benefits, both for the world of education, especially in English language learning, and for readers who are interested in this research. Finally, the researcher hopes that this study can be a valuable reference for educators and other researchers who want to explore innovative strategies in improving students' reading comprehension. Hopefully, this research contributes to improving teaching methodologies and developing more effective and engaging learning environments for students.

Sintang, July 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Novia Trifena', with a stylized, flowing script.

Novia Trifena

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