

STUDENTS' PERCEPTION TOWARDS THE USE OF GROUP WORK IN COMPREHENDING TEXT

Judith Ratu Tandiarrang¹, Meldawati Patabang²

^{1,2,3}Universitas Kristen Indonesia Toraja , Makale, Tana Toraja ,Indonesia
judith_ratu@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

Lecturing usually is usually used by some teacher but group work and individual work is used more often in teaching. The researcher interested to do this research and investigate English students' perception of the use of group or individual work. The objective of this research was to know about the students' perception towards the use of group work in comprehending text a study at the fourth semester students of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja. In this research the writer used qualitative method. The instrument of this was semi-structure interview. The subject of this research was the fourth semester students of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja. The total subject was 8 students and used accidental sampling technique. The result showed that group work is very good and effective because by learning groups students can express their opinions and exchange opinions with one another. Some of them say that by group work they understand more because they can ask their groupmates what they do not understand.

Keywords: Perception , Group Work , Comprehending Text

ABSTRAK

Ceramah biasanya digunakan oleh beberapa guru tetapi kerja kelompok dan kerja individu lebih sering digunakan dalam mengajar. Peneliti tertarik untuk melakukan penelitian ini dan menyelidiki persepsi siswa bahasa Inggris tentang penggunaan kerja kelompok atau individu. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui persepsi siswa terhadap penggunaan kerja kelompok dalam memahami teks pembelajaran di semester empat. mahasiswa Jurusan Bahasa Inggris FKIP UKI Toraja. Dalam penelitian ini penulis menggunakan metode kualitatif. Instrumen penelitian ini adalah wawancara semi-struktur. Subjek penelitian ini adalah mahasiswa semester IV Jurusan Bahasa Inggris FKIP UKI Toraja. Jumlah subjek sebanyak 8 siswa dan menggunakan teknik accidental sampling. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kerja kelompok sangat baik dan efektif karena dengan pembelajaran kelompok siswa dapat saling mengemukakan pendapat dan saling bertukar pendapat. Beberapa dari mereka mengatakan bahwa dengan kerja kelompok mereka lebih mengerti karena mereka dapat bertanya kepada teman satu kelompoknya apa yang mereka tidak mengerti.

Kata kunci: Persepsi , Kerja Kelompok , Memahami Teks

INTRODUCTION

Language is one a means of communication. Therefore, the mastering English is something which is very essential for everybody who wants to increase his or her knowledge and technology. English is an international language, almost people from all over the world use English for their communication that is why English is very important language. People

use the language to express their emotion, feelings, and ideas. No one be able to communicate internationally without using English since almost of scientific books are the written in English. There are four main skills in English, those are reading, listening, speaking, and writing. Reading and listening are called receptive skill in which people need the ability to receive written or spoken language when they do it. Speaking and writing are called productive skill because when people do it, they need the ability to produce written or spoken. When someone reads, he looks at something written and tries to get the meaning to understand it.

Reading is an activity done by people in order to get information out of a text. Reading is an interactive process that goes on between the reader and the text, resulting in comprehension. It means that reading has an active and interactive. Text is nonfiction writing, written with the intention of informing the reader about a specific topic. It is typically found in magazines, science or history books, autobiographies and instruction manuals. They are written using special text features that allow the reader to easily find key information and understand the main topic.

Furthermore, there are some techniques often used in English teaching learning process is a group work and individual work. Harmer (1987) states that when students work in groups, orally they express themselves, there are three benefits may occur: First, it can help the weak students in understanding the lesson. Second, instead of individual thinking in his opinion but the thoughts and opinions of others are different. Third, with group discussions, it can help students in the learning process and each student participates in issuing his opinion.

According to Robbins (2003:160) defined : “Perception as a process which reached individuals to organize and interpret their sensory impressions to give meaning to environment.” Lecture usually use some teacher but group work and individual work is used more often, in UKI Toraja, in the fourth semester of English Department, in doing task of reading text often in group. In which each group consists of two to five students, even performing individual tasks. In each member of the group, often sharing tasks to ease in completing the task. Having looked the explanation above, the researcher will investigate English students’ perception of the use of group and individual work in English teaching learning process. It makes writer interested to do her research with the title “Students’ Perception Towards the Use of Group Work in Comprehending Text.

RESEARCH METHOD

In this research the researcher used qualitative method. Qualitative method is multi method in focus, involving an interpretive, naturalistic approach to its subject matter. According to Conger and Bryman (1998:67) the advantages of doing qualitative method research are flexibility to follow unexpected ideas during research and explore processes, sensivity to contextual factors, ability to study symbolic dimensions and social meaning and

increased opportunities (to develop empirically supported new ideas and theories; for in-depth and longitudinal exploration of phenomena; and for more relevance and interest for practitioners). The research used qualitative method to find out the perception of the students' academic year 2017/2018 in choosing English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In this section, the researcher displays the data as result of processing collected through interview the students. The interview arranged 14 questions that related the student' perception towards the use of group work in comprehending text. Here the general answer of 8 students from UKI Toraja especially fourth semester of English Department about the students' perception toward the use group work in comprehending text.

Table 1 students' perception toward the use of group work in comprehending text

NO	Students' Perceptions	Source	Statements
1	Extract 1: The students are active in learning group reading text	S1, S3, S4, S6, S7	....agree if there were active in learning group reading text....
2	Extract 2 : The students are less active in learning group reading text	S1, S5, S8	....disagree if there were active in learning group reading text....
3	Extract 3 : The lecturers act as coach and facilitator in night teach you to comprehending text in learning group	S1, S2, S3, S4, S6, S7	....lecturer act as coach and facilitator in night teach you to comprehend text in learning group....
4	Extract 4 : The lecturers are become coach and teach you to comprehend text in learning group.	S5, S8	....lecturer less as coach and facilitator in night teach you to comprehend text in learning group....
5	Extract 5 :The lecturers often give reading text	S2, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7, S8	....lecturer often give reading text assignments in the from of group

	assignments in the from of group		
6	Extract 6 : The lecturers seldom give duty of reading text in the from of group	S1	....lecturer seldom give duty of reading text in the from of group...
7	Extract 7 : The students who are active doing assignments reading text in the from of a group	S4	....students who are active doing assignments reading text in the from of a group
8	Extract 8 : The students who are passive doing assignments reading text in the from of a group	S1, S2, S3, S5, S6, S7, S8	....students who are passive doing assignments reading text in the from of a group....
9	Extract 9 : Interesting technique which used by lecturer to increase student enthusiasm in learning group	S1, S3, S5, S6, S7, S8	...Interesting technique which used by lecturer to increase student enthusiasm in learning group...
10	Extract 10: Lecturers have never used interesting technique to increase student enthusiasm in learning group	S2, S4	....lecturer have never used interesting technique to increase student enthusiasm in learning group...
11	Extract 11: The students use of language when learning reading text in the form of group	S1, S2, S4, S5, S6	....agree if using language and Indonesian of Toraja in learning reading text in the from of group....
12	Extract 11: The students use of language when	S3, S7, S8	...student not use language of Toraja in in

	learning reading text in the from of group		learning group of reading text....
13	Extract 13: Students interest is group learning the classroom understand reading text	S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7, S8	....agree if with existence of learning group in the class to comprehending text...
14	Extract 14: Choosing the opinions of others rather than their own opinions in learning reading text in the form of groups.	S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7, S8	....agree if student more opinion when learning reading text in the form of groups....
15	Extract 15: the students opinion when the class is noisy in the learning of group work	S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7, S8	....disagree if there is noisy in the learning of group work....
16	Extract 16: The students always do the task at campus	S1, S5	....agree if doing duty of reading text in the from of group at campus....
17	Extract 17: The students always do the task out of campus	S2, S3, S4, S6, S7, S8	....disagree if do duty of reading text in the from of group at campus but, they chosen to do group duty outside campus

In this section the research focused in discussing the finding with related theories and previous studies which focused of this about the students' perception towards the use of group work in comprehending text (a study at the fourth semester students of English department of FKIP UKI Toraja). The perception students are the students have perception positive and perception negative. Walker (2001) researched about "British Psychology students' perception of group work and peer assessment". The results regarding group work showed that in general the student were favorably disposed toward participating in group work or the students have positive perception of group work in teaching learning. Based on

the data finding, it can be conclude the students have perception positive and perception negative. The perception was mentioned and described as follows:

Perception Positive

Students are active in learning

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student respons trough interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are active in learning group of reading text. According to Nikana in Debbie (2005:11) the advantages of group work are learning in an active mode. This finding was opposite to Wheeler (2005: 12) said some students is are not interesting in working with another in this case the group work will not function or rull well. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some students agree with the statement if there were active in learning group reading text.

Lecturer as coach and facilitator

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student response trough interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are lecturer as coach and facilitator in teach students to comprehending text in learning group of reading text. According to Nikana in Debbie (2005:11) the advantages of group work are teacher is facilitator and coach. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some students agree with the statement agree lecturer act as coach and facilitator in night teach you to comprehend text in learning group.

Assignments in the from of group

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student response trough interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are lecturer often give reading text assignments in the from of group. Nunan in Tandirerung (2011:13) said through task that require them, with in the classroom, to approximate the kinds of things they will need to be able to do to communicate in the world beyond the class. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some students agree with the statement if lecturer often give reading text assignments in the from of group.

Students who are active doing assignments reading text in the from of a group

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student responds trough interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are students who are active doing assignments reading text in the from of a group. According to Brown in Tandi Rerung:13) said group work is one of

techniques that consist of to more students are assigned a task that involves collaboration and self-initiated language and this statement mean that as a technique, group work gets students to work together in doing their task. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some students agree with the statement if students who are active doing assignments reading text in the from of a group.

Interesting technique which used by lecturer to increase student enthusiasm in learning group

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student responds trough interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are Interesting technique which used by lecturer to increase student enthusiasm in learning group. According to Slameto (1995: 57) said that interest is a constant tendency to pay attention to and remember some activities. Activities that people are constantly interested in that are expanded with pleasure. If there are students who are less interested in learning, then cultivated that he has a greater interest by way of explaining things related to the ideals and learning with learning materials learned. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some students agree with the statement interesting technique which used by lecturer to increase student enthusiasm in learning group.

The students use of language when learning reading text in the from of group

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student responds trough interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are students use of language when learning reading text in the from of group. According to Wheeler (2005:12) said identifies some weakness of group work the students often use their native language and students learn each other's mistakes when the practice language together because the weak students usually follow what clever student say without for thinking for second time. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some students agree with the statement agree if using language and Indonesian of Toraja in learning reading text in the from of group

Students interst is group learning the classroom understand reading text

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student respons trough interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are students interst is group learning the classroom understand reading text. According Slameto (1995: 57) said argues that interest is a constant tendency

to pay attention to and remember some activities. Activities that people are constantly interested in that are expanded with pleasure. If there are students who are less interested in learning, then cultivated that he has a greater interest by way of explaining things related to the ideals and learning with learning materials learned. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some students agree if with existence of learning group in the class to comprehending text.

Choosing the opinions of others rather than their own opinions in learning reading text in the form of groups

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student responds trough interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are students interest is group learning the classroom understand reading text. According Slameto (1995: 57) said argues that interest is a constant tendency to pay attention to and remember some activities. Activities that people are constantly interested in that are expanded with pleasure. If there are students who are less interested in learning, then cultivated that he has a greater interest by way of explaining things related to the ideals and learning with learning materials learned. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some students agree if student more opinion when learning reading text in the form of groups.

The student always do the task at campus

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student responds trough interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are the students always do the task at campus. According to agree if doing duty of reading text in the from of group at campus.

Perception Negative

a. Students are less active in learning group reading text

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student responds trough interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are students are less active in learning group reading text. According to Nikana in Debbie (2005:11) the advantages of group work are learning in an active mode. This finding was opposite to Wheeler (2005: 12) said some students is are not interesting in working with another in this case the group work will not function or rull well. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some students disagree if there were active in learning group reading text.

The lecturer less as coach and facilitator in teach you to comprehend text in learning group.

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student responds trough interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are lecturer less as coach and facilitator in teach students to comprehending text in learning group of reading text. According to Nikana in Debbie (2005:11) the advantages of group work are teacher is facilitator and coach. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some students disagree if lecturer l as coach and facilitator in night teach you to comprehend text in learning group.

Lecturer seldom give assignments of reading text in the from of group

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student responds trough interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are lecturer seldom give reading text assignments in the from of group. Nunan in Tandirerung (2011:13) said through task that require them, with in the classroom, to approximate the kinds of things they will need to be able to do to communicate in the world beyond the class. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some students disagree if lecturer seldom give duty of reading text in the from of group.

Students who are passive doing assignments reading texy in the from of a group

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student responds trough interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are students who are passive doing assignments reading text in the from of a group. According to Brown in Tandi Rerung:13) said group work is one of techniques that consist of to more students are assigned a task that involves collaboration and self-initiated language and this statement mean that as a technique, group work gets students to work together in doing their task. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some disagree if students who are passive doing assignments reading text in the a group.

Lecturers have never used interesting technique to increase student enthusiasm in learning group

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student responds through interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are lecturer have never used interesting technique which used by lecturer to increase student enthusiasm in learning group. According to Slameto (1995: 57) said that interest is a constant tendency to pay attention to and remember some activities. Activities that people are constantly interested in that are expanded with pleasure. If there are students who are less interested in learning, then cultivated that he has a greater interest by way of explaining things related to the ideals and learning with learning materials learned. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some disagree if lecturer have never used interesting technique to increase student enthusiasm in learning group

Students use Indonesian in learning group

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student responds through interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are students use Indonesian in learning group. According to Wheeler (2005: 12) said identifies some weakness of group work the students often use their native language and students learn each other's mistakes when the practice language together because the weak students usually follow what clever student say without for thinking for second time. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some disagree if student not use language of Toraja in in learning group of reading text

Students opinion when the class is noisy in the learning of group work

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student responds through interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are students opinion when the class is noisy in the learning of group work. According to wheeler in Debbie (2005:12) said identifies some weakness of group work usually during the learning using group working, the student make noise especially when the practice certain language component during reproduction stage. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some disagree if there is noisy in the learning of group work.

Students always do the task out of campus

Based on the result of the data obtained through interview, the researcher tried to describe the finding based on the collection of student responds through interview. The researcher found that the students fourth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja even 2017/2018 are student always do the task out of campus. According to Sumarmi (2012: 98) said outdoor learning is one learning technique that focuses on individual experience gained through action / activity in the field. Based on the data obtained through interviews, the researcher also found the data that some disagree if do duty of reading text in the form of group at campus but, they chosen to do group duty outside campus.

CONCLUSION

the researcher gives conclusion that students' perception towards the use of group work and individual work in comprehending text (a study at the fourth semester students of English department of FKIP UKI Toraja) is very good, and effective because by learning groups students can express their opinions and exchange opinions with one another.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The researcher would like say thank to English Education Study Program of UKI Toraja and the students who has been willing to be respondents.

REFERENCE

- Burdett, J. 2003. Making groups work: University students' perceptions. *International Education Journal*.
- Campbell, J. and Li (2005). The Title Of The Study Is Asian Students' Perceptions Of Group Work and Group Assignments, New Zealand Tertiary Institution.
- Dahlan, B. Baharudin Rafidah 2015. The English Teachers' Perception Toward the Implementation of Educational Unit Level Curriculum (KTSP) and Curriculum 2013 at Junior High School in Tana Toraja Regency. Thesis. Unpublished. Toraja: Christian University of Indonesian Toraja (UKI Toraja)
- Cohen, E.G. 1994. *Designing Group Work: Strategies for the heterogeneous classroom*, 2nd ed., New York: Teachers College Press.
- Daniella. A. Perez (2003). *Beginner Students' Perceptions Concerning Comprehending Text*. Harsina, Sitti 2000. *A Study of Students' Achievement in Comprehending Text at the Third Year of SMP Kristen Kandora*. Universitas Kristen Toraja.
- Layuk A. 2017. *Students' Perception Toward The Use of e-dictionary at the fifth semester of English Department of FKIP UKI Toraja*, Unpublished Thesis.
- Mello, J.A. 1993. *Improving Individual Accountability in Small Work Group Settings*. *Journal of Management Education*.

- Mark Freeman (2010) Peer Assessment by Groups of Group Work, Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education, 20:3, 289-300, DOI: 10.1080/0260293950200305
- Pasudi 2017. The Effectiveness of Group Investigation (GI) Method In Reading Comprehension, Unpublished Thesis.
- Rayo, P. 2017. Students' Perception Toward The Use Of Group Presentation In Learning English At The Fourth Semester Of English Department Of FKIP UKI Toraja, Unpublished Thesis.
- Smith, A.D. 2005. The Problem of Perception. London: Cambridge
- Saks & Jhon, 2012. The Components of Perception. Retrieved on November 23. 2016, from <https://www.boundless.com/psychology/textbooks/boundless-psychology-textbook/sentation-and-perception-5/introduction-to-perception-39/introducing-the-perception-process-167-12702/>. In Sangka' Y. 2012. The Students' Perception Towards of Oral Testing in Assessing Speaking Skill For the Semester Students of English Department of UKI Toraja. Unpublished. UKI Toraja. Unpublished Thesis.
- Sari 2017. The Students' Perception In Using Google Translation At The Fifth Semester Of English Department Of UKI Toraja, Unpublished Thesis.
- Tandirerung 2011. Teaching English Under Group and Individual Work At The Second Year Studentsd of SLTP Negeri 5 Kendari.
- Upa 2015. Teaching Reading Comprehension Trough PBI (Problem Based Introduction) Approach To The Eight Grade Students of SMP Negeri 1 Makale. Unpublished Thesis.
- Walker (2001). British Psychology Students' Perception of Group Work and Peer Assessment. Aston University UKA.
- Wallace, Chaterine, 1992. Language Teaching Reading, Oxford, University Press. In Intan 2011. The Difficulties In Comprehending Reading Text by The Eleventh Class Students of SMA Negeri 2 Makale, Unpublished Thesis.
- Wade, Nicholas. 2005. Perception in illusion. Amerika: Business Media.
- Williams, E. (1992) Student Attitudes Towards Approaches to Learning and Assessment. Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education, 17:1, pp. 45-58.
- Yatimah, Durotul. 2014. The Effectiveness of Using Animation Film as The Medium in Writing Narrative Text. Unpublished Thesis. Salatiga: STAIN Salatiga. In Walichi 2017. Teaching Reading Comprehension of Narrative Text Using Small Group Discussion At The Eleventh Grade Students of SMA N 1 Sesean, Unpublished Thesis.