

**USING PARTNER READING STRATEGY TO IMPROVE
STUDENTS' READING COMPREHENSION AT SMPN 1
SUNGAILIAT**



A THESIS

**Submitted to the Undergraduate School Program in Partial
Fulfilment of the Requirements for bachelor Degree of *Sarjana*
Pendidikan (S.Pd) in English Education Study Program**

BY:

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Hereby declare that my thesis, entitled "The Use of Partner Reading Strategy to Improve Students' Reading Comprehension at the Eighth Grade Students of SMP Negeri 1 Sungailiat", is my own original work and has never been submitted by any other person to obtain an academic degree at any higher education institution. To the best of my knowledge, this thesis contains no material previously published or written by another person except where proper acknowledgment has been made through citations and references.

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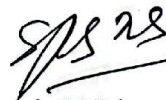
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MOTTO

"Work hard in silence, let success make the noise."

"Success is not about never falling, but about rising every time you fall."

(Writer)

"Allah does not burden a soul beyond that it can bear."

(QS. Al-Baqarah: 286)

"If Allah helps you, none can overcome you."

(Qur'an, Surah Ibrahim 14:7)

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."

(Winston Churchill)

You don't have to be extraordinary to get started, but you have to get started to become extraordinary

(Zig Ziglar)

DEDICATION

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. I offer all praise and thanks to Allah SWT, for through His abundant grace, guidance, and blessings, I have been given the opportunity and strength to conduct this research and complete this thesis. Therefore, with deep respect and gratitude, I dedicate this work to all those who have provided meaningful support—both material and moral—so that this thesis could be completed. I deeply appreciate every contribution that has helped along this academic journey, and with all humility, I welcome constructive criticism and suggestions to improve this work in the future.

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Abstract

This study aims to analyze the implementation of the Partner Reading Strategy in improving students' reading comprehension and to determine whether there is a significant difference in reading comprehension between students taught using the Partner Reading Strategy and those taught using conventional teaching methods in the eighth grade at SMP Negeri 1 Sungailiat. A quantitative approach with a quasi-experimental design was applied in this study. Participants were selected from eighth-grade students, with a total sample of 70 students. They were divided equally into an experimental group and a control group, with 35 students in each class. To measure students' reading comprehension, pre- and post-tests consisting of 23 multiple-choice questions based on descriptive texts were administered. The tests focused on three aspects of reading comprehension: identifying the main idea, understanding vocabulary, and making inferences. After data collection, the data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, normality and homogeneity tests, paired-sample t-tests, and independent-sample t-tests with the help of SPSS. Based on classroom observations, students actively participated throughout the learning process. They collaborated with their partners, exchanged ideas when discussing the reading text, and supported each other when facing difficulties. As the learning activity progressed, students showed improved performance in identifying the main idea, understanding vocabulary in context, and making inferences from the text. Statistical analysis also showed that the experimental group obtained a higher mean post-test score of 74.43 compared to the control group.

Keywords: Partner Reading Strategy, Reading Comprehension, Descriptive Text, Quasi-Experimental Research, Eighth-Grade Student

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Bangka, July 14th 2026

The Researcher



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TABLE OF CONTENT

TITLE PAGE	
LETTER OF DECLARATION	i
OFFICIAL MEMO ADVISORS	ii
OFFICIAL MEMO EXAMINER.....	iii
MOTTO.....	iv
DEDICATION.....	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	ix
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	x
LIST OF TABLES	xii
LIST OF APPENDICES	
ABSTRACT.....	
CHAPTER I	
NTRODUCTION.....	1
A. Background of the Study	1
B. The Limitation of Study	6
C. The Problem of Study.....	7
D. The Objective of Study.....	7
E. The Significances of the study	7
F. Previous Related Study	8
CHAPTER II	
LITERATURE REVIEW	12
A. The Concept of Reading Comprehension.....	12
B. The Concept of Descriptive Text	14

C. The Concept of Partner Reading Strategy	17
CHAPTER III	
RESEARCH METHOD	29
A. Method of the research	29
B. Population and Sample of the Study	31
C. The Techniques for Collecting Data.....	34
D. The Techniques for Analyzing Data.....	36
E. Validity and Reliability	40
CHAPTER IV	
FINDINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS	43
A. Findings of the Research	43
B. Interpretation of the research.....	110
CHAPTER V	
CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION.....	120
A. CONCLUSION	120
B. SUGGESTION.....	121
REFERENCES	124
APPENDICES	

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1	: Reading Comprehension Test Result
Table 2	: Population of study
Table 3	: Sample of Study
Table 4	: Standard Degree of Mastery
Table 5	: The Result of Validity of Analysis
Table 6	: The Result of Observation in Experimental Group
Table 7	: The Result of Observation in Control Group
Table 8	: The Result of Normality Test of Pre-test and Post-Test Score at Control and Experimental Class
Table 9	: The Result of Homogeneity Test of Post-test Scores at Control and Experiment Class
Table 10	: Paired Samples Statistic in Experimental Group
Table 11	: Paired Samples Correlations in Experimental Group
Table 12	: Paired Sample Test in Experimental Group
Table 13	: Paired Samples Statistic in Control Group
Table 14	: Paired samples Correlation in Control Group
Table 15	: Paired Samples Test in Control Group
Table 16	: Group Statistic Independent Sample Test of Students' Post Test
Table 17	: Independent Sample Test of Students' Post Test

LIST OF APPENIDICES

Appendix 1: The Letter of Validity and Reliability Test

Appendix 2: The Letter of the Research

Appendix 3: Try Out Test for Validity and Reliability

Appendix 4: The Question of Pre-Test and Post-Test

Appendix 5: The Score of Pre-Test and Post-Test in Control and Experimental Class

The Score of Pre-Test and Post-Test in Experimental Class

Appendix 6: The Result of Validity Test

Appendix 7: OBSERVATION SHEET EXPERIMENTAL GROUP

Appendix 8: TEACHING MODULE

Appendix 9: PERENCANAAN PEMBELAJARAN MENDALAM (PPM)

Appendix 10: Thesis Consultation Card

Appendix 11: Documentations