THE EFFECTIVENESS OF USING ONLINE NEWSPAPER

IN THE LEARNING OF GRAMMAR:

An Experimental Study at Eighth Grade Students of

SMP Negeri 8 Batang

a final project

submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements

for the degree of Sarjana Pendidikan

in English

by

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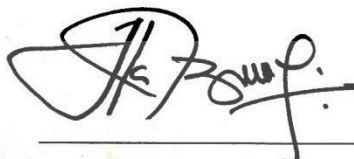**SEMARANG STATE UNIVERSITY**

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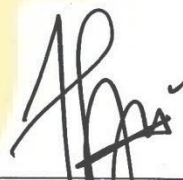   Sri Wahyuni, S.Pd., M.Pd.
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THE EFFECTIVENESS OF USING ENGLISH ONLINE NEWSPAPER IN THE LEARNING OF GRAMMAR

an Experimental Study at Eighth Grade Students of SMP Negeri 8 Batang

yang saya tulis dalam rangka memenuhi salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar sarjana ini benar-benar karya sendiri yang saya hasilkan setelah melalui penelitian, bimbingan, diskusi, dan pemaparan ujian. Semua kutipan baik yang langsung maupun tidak langsung baik yang diperoleh dari sumber kepustakaan, maupun sumber lainnya, telah disertai keterangan mengenai identitas sumbernya dengan cara sebagaimana lazim dalam penulisan karya ilmiah. Dengan demikian, walaupun tim penguji dan pembimbing penulisan skripsi/tugas akhir/final project ini membubuhkan tanda tangan sebagai tanda keabsahannya, seluruh isi skripsi/tugas akhir/final project ini tetap menjadi tanggung jawab saya sendiri. Jika kemudian ditemukan ketidakberesan, saya bersedia menerima akibatnya.

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Semarang,   Januari, 2016.

Penulis

Novita

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MOTTO AND DEDICATION

So verily, with the hardship, there is relief. Verily, with the hardship, there is relief. (Surah Ash-Sharh: 5-6)

To my beloved parents, H. Asmuni and Hj. Nur Hayati, and my beloved sisters, Yulita Yumawati, Amd. Keb., Risqi Amelia, Sinta Kumala.

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First of all, I would like to praise and extend my greatest gratitude to Allah, God Almighty, who has been giving me His guidance and blessing. He made me understand knowledge to finish this final project. Blessing and peace go to the Messenger of Allah, prophet of Muhammad, P.B.U.H.

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From my deepest heart, I extend my gratitude to my family and all of my friends Uli, Ina, Trisna, Tamara, Imah, Nani, Aulan, Wawan, Tyas, Roro, and also my hero the one and only, Moch. Vika Rusdya. They have helped me in the process of making this final project.

Finally, I realize that my work is still far from being perfect. However, I have a great expectation that this study will be beneficial and useful for everyone who is interested in reading it.

<div align="right">Novita</div>

ABSTRACT

Novita. 2015. *The Effectiveness of Using Online Newspaper in the Learning of Grammar an Experimental Study at Eighth Grade Students of SMP Negeri 8 Batang.* Final Project. English Department. Faculty of Languages and Arts. Semarang State University. First Advisor: Drs. Hartoyo, Ph.D., Second Advisor Bambang Purwanto, S.S, M.Hum.

Key words: online newspaper, the learning media, grammar.

This research was conducted because there is a possibility to introduce online newspaper to the students to improve their ability in grammar mastery due to the rapidity of technology development. Online newspaper and grammar were chosen because online newspaper contains grammar which was written straightly correct. The problem of this research is how effective the use of online newspaper in the learning of grammar is, and the purpose of this research is to find out whether it is effective or not. The subject of this research is eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 8 Batang. They were chosen considering that their grammar mastery is still low. The research design used in this research is quasi-experimental design, with post-test pre-test experimental and control group. The result of this research shows that the gain of experimental group score is not as high as control group. So, it can be concluded that using online newspaper in the learning of grammar is not effective because the score gain of experimental group is lower than control group. It was caused by the difference of students' interests in topic of the online newspaper's passage. The other factor is the difficulty level of the text did not match the students' ability. Regarding the choice of the media, The Jakarta Post, unfortunately the students were not familiar yet with it. For-kid newspaper should be chosen in order to make it agree with junior high school students' English ability.
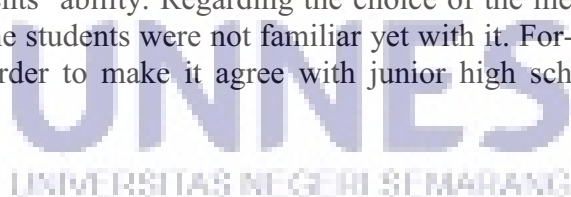
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the parts of introduction of the study. It consists of background of the study, reasons for choosing the topic, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, significances of the study, limitation of the study, and outline of the report.

1.1 Background of the Study

Based on my observation for three months in SMP Negeri 8 Batang, eighth grade students' mastery of grammar is still poor. It was shown when I asked them about little bit part of grammar. They often did mistake in answering questions because they did not understand the grammar. For example when I gave them questions and they have to answer it using right preposition, most of them failed to answer it correctly. Some of them also have not understood the different use of article. In addition, they did not understand what adjective and adverb are. They only knew noun and verb. It may be caused by some factors, one of them is the materials used in the learning. The textbook used in the class does not contain grammar materials explicitly, so that students cannot learn grammar optimally.

Many of them felt that grammar is a difficult thing to understand, because it was not familiar to them. So, when I explain some elements of grammar they were confused and bored. Therefore, I made up my mind to teach grammar to them in a joyful way. Then, I decided to use a media that can interest them and

help them to improve and enhance their grammar knowledge, and hold a study to improve their mastery of grammar. In this case, grammar is selected because it is inserted in the curriculum of KTSP which is used there. The learning of grammar may be more interesting through media, so that online newspaper is selected to teach grammar.

Newspaper is commonly distributed daily, so it is very close to the society. Moreover, people can get it by buying it per day or per month, and it can be bought in a store or even at their house with delivery service. It spreads the information to the world by carrying them in it. Due to the cheapness of newspaper's price, everyone can buy it, even read it on the wrapper of food or something else. Although it is not as interesting as video because there is no animation, according to Danim (2010: 28) "reading passage (books, journals, newspapers, manual instruction, brochure, etc.) have more advantages because they can be read again and again and can be the sources in writing". Moreover, people can still receive news when they are on their way going for work or at outdoor area, whereas they cannot receive any information from electronic media, i.e., television and radio.

However, in Indonesia the reading interest is still poor. The Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS) shows that in 2012 the percentage of people who read newspaper or magazine is only 17.66 that is decrease from year to year. This number is contrast with the percentage of those who watch television which is increase from 2003 to 2012. It is possibly happen because of the development of technology. People commenced to leave reading, especially newspaper, because

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they have their own modern gadgets which provide a lot of entertainments. Therefore, the change is needed to increase reading interest in Indonesia. One of the ways is by introducing the source of reading like newspaper to the people especially to the young generation.

Subasini and Kokilavani (2013: 57) stated that writing is a complex challenging activity for many students, so teachers should focus on the grammatical concepts that are essential for the clear communication of meaning. In addition, they stated that grammar is the most important thing when someone comes to learn English and the importance of it cannot be neglected. A good composition of grammar is needed to construct a good writing because someone cannot create an understandable passage without the proper use of grammar.

It is the same when someone read a passage. He or she will not understand the content if he or she does not understand grammar because a message can be delivered well through the grammar. Haliday (1994: F41) stated that in understanding a text the analysis is based on grammar. He added that the analysis is done to show how and why the text means what it does. People also need to master grammar when they are speaking or no one can understand what they are talking about. Murcia (2007: 4) stated that "people need a good selection, sequencing, and arrangement of words, structures, and utterances to achieve a unified spoken message." People need to understand grammar to catch the message not only written but also spoken. It means they must understand grammar to know what is said by someone else in order to build an effective interaction. Those four skills will be perfect with the role of grammar.

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People are getting familiar with internet nowadays, even children. They use internet in many ways. Adults use it to access news, and children use it to play game on the web or other entertainment, for instance. Based on the data of BPS, in Central Java, people over 5 years old who access the internet are 24.49 (2012). In addition, Hartoyo (2012: 31) stated that "Extensive and profitable use of internet as a medium of language learning is now being made by many language teachers." This study combines the interest of people in using internet by introducing online newspaper to students, so they can use internet not only for entertainment but also for looking for information and news. In addition, students can learn grammar through the passage in the online newspaper. Finally, this study introduces technology to the students through media which are available surround them to help them in the learning of grammar.

1.2 Reasons for Choosing the Topic

The reasons why "using online newspaper in the learning of grammar" was chosen as the topic of the research are:

1) Due to the rapidity of technology development, there is a possibility to introduce online newspaper which is a combination between good reading resource and internet use to the students to improve students' ability in grammar mastery because online newspaper contains various sentence patterns and all of them were written with correct grammar.

2) It may be more effective teaching grammar through thing which is close to students' daily life, in this case is newspaper, because newspaper contains

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many topics that will attract students because the topic is a reality and maybe they have been experienced with similar incident.

1.3 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the study discussed in the previous section, the research statement of the problem is "How effective is the use of online newspaper in the learning of grammar?"

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this study can be stated as follows:

1) To investigate whether the use of online newspaper in the learning of grammar is effective or not.

2) To explain how effective, or not, teaching grammar by online newspaper is.

1.5 Significances of the Study

On basis of the objectives of the study, the significances of the study can be stated as follows:

1) For the students

This study can show the fact to the students that reading online newspaper is very useful and effective to improve their grammar, so they will realize that reading is very important to enhance their knowledge and their skill especially their grammar. It will be a strong argument in order to make students begin the new good habit and love it.

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2) For the teachers

As a teacher, it is important to know good learning materials for his or her students. After knowing the fact that online newspaper is effective to teach grammar to junior high school students, hopefully the teacher can use one of the media, online newspaper, when teaching.

3) For the readers

Hopefully this study can be the source of information about the effectiveness of using online newspaper as a media to teach grammar and it will be useful for the future researches.

4) For me

The study gives knowledge to me, since I get much information collected from other references. It also facilitates me to cover the question whether or not using online newspaper is effective to teach grammar to junior high school students.

1.6 Limitation of the Study

This research focuses on finding out the effectiveness of the use of online newspaper in the learning of grammar of the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 8 Batang in the Academic Year 2015/2016. In this research, I chose some elements of grammar, they are preposition, article, adjective, and adverb. They were chosen because they are suitable with the level of junior high school, and it can be said that they are basic parts of grammar.

1.7 Outline of the Report

The report is devided into five chapters:

Chapter I is introduction, which consists of background of the study, reasons for choosing the topic, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, limitation of the study and outline of the report.

Chapter II is review of related literature. This chapter gives review of the previous studies, review of the theoretical studies, and the theoretical framework.

Chapter III is method of investigation. This chapter deals with data of the research. It consists of subjects of the research, research design, research procedures, methods of collecting data, and also methods of analyzing data.

Chapter IV is data analysis and discussions of research finding. This chapter provides the details of the statistical analysis which consist of the students' grammar achievements, test of significance, and discussion of research findings.

Chapter V presents the conclusion and suggestions based on the result of the investigation.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter consists of reviews of the previous studies, the theoretical studies, and theoretical framework.

2.1 Review of the Previous Studies

There are some researches did their research about newspaper and language learning. However, some of them studied on the different skills: writing and reading.

Mehta (2010) held a study entitled *English Newspapers: Exploring Innovative Methodological Paradigm. A Study into Classroom Dynamics*. It discovers newspapers are good for teaching tools, because they can enrich students' knowledge. Students can open their mind by reading an article about the suffering communities in a country over there, or they can be motivated after read news about a person who was born from a very poor family and now he or she is the big five of the richest man in the country. Additionally, the price of newspapers which are cheap and students can reach it easily also be the right reason why teacher should use newspapers as a tool of teaching English. Definitely, newspaper has a reasonable price for students, even online newspaper can be accessed supported by the wi-fi facilities at the school or other public areas. In addition, newspapers are efficacious as a teaching tool, since they can encourage students' skill of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Online

newspaper also motivates students to sharpen those four skills and those skills can be separated by the grammar to make them meaningful.

Ping (2011) held a study entitled *Exploring Innovative Activities in Using News Stories to Teach Advanced Chinese Learners English in a Multimedia Way*. This study stated:

> by reading news stories, the learners can gather information on varied subjects including social-political-business issues, sports, entertainment, art, culture, music, education etc.

The fact is, every single student has his or her own interest. Newspapers can facilitate them to find their interest by providing a lot of news and articles with different fields, so that student will not find that reading newspaper is not interesting because he or she cannot read what he or she interested in. Moreover, the learners can also be encouraged to improve their vocabulary, grammar and thinking skills as regular reading of newspapers can provide them an opportunity to express and exchange their ideas on a wide variety of issue.

Babalola (2002) held a study entitled *Newspapers as Instruments for Building Literate Communities: the Nigerian Experience*. As a study over communities, this study stated that:

> Newspapers are veritable tools for promoting literacy through reading, writing and dialogues (among readers and critics), which are the hallmarks of effective and efficient use of language.

It has shown that newspapers can be the source of effective and efficient use of language, so the choice using newspaper as a media or tools to teach English is proper use of newspaper. In addition, it can thus promote critical thinking, retention of information, problem solving and questioning of

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information source. It can be stated that newspapers give the readers answers of all of their questions, for instance, they wonder about what happen with the new curriculum, who is the singer held a mega concert last night, and so on.

Al-Mekhlafi and Nagaratnam (2011), in a study entitled *Difficulties in Teaching and Learning Grammar in an EFL Context,* said that:

> A better approach is perhaps to see grammar as one of many resources that we have in language which helps us to communicate. We should see how grammar relates to what we want to say or write, and how we expect others to interpret what our language use and its focus.

That is why grammar is important, since people cannot deliver a message well but using the right grammar.

According to Brinton (1991 in Asgari, 2013: 487), "authentic materials and media can reinforce for students the direct relationship between the language classroom and the outside world". It is also believed that both teachers and students usually attracted by the recent issues on the television, magazines, or newspapers. So, bringing the issue through online newspaper to teach is an effective way because students will be more enthusiastic.

Those previous studies have shown the effectiveness of using newspaper to teach English. Newspaper not only gives knowledge, but also encourages students' skill of speaking, listening, reading, and writing which are connected closely with grammar. Moreover, those studies give evidences how important grammar is. So it will be good using newspaper to teach grammar to junior high school students.

However, a study of Asgari (2013) gives result that teaching grammar through current issue such as news gives no significance improvement. In the study, the subjects were taught for five weeks and finally took an achievement test. After analyzing the results of the test, and by comparing the means of the scores using t-test, it was found that integrating current issues of interest with class materials in teaching grammar lessons did not significantly improve students' achievement in learning grammar. It is caused by some factors, one of them is the different interests of each student and different level of knowledge or updated issue. Some students may be updated of what happens in their surroundings, so they feel it is fun learning what they have known. However, some of them do not be updated and they are not interested in the issue that is discussed in the class.

I will do a research of it, and the research will examine how effective teaching grammar using English online newspaper by determining whether there is a significant difference in the achievement before and after treatments by using English online newspaper in teaching grammar.

2.2 Review of the Theoretical Studies

Sudarniti (2010: 1) stated that "Tape recorders, language laboratories and video have been widely used in practice of English language teaching since the 1960s." Beside, Rohmah (2009) argued that there are some learning materials: textbooks or coursebooks, video and audio tapes, computer software, and visual aids. Moreover, according to Gerlach and Ely (1980: 247-249) in Nufi (2011: 18)

media are classified in still pictures, audio recording, motion pictures, television, real things, simulation and models, and Programmed and Computer-Assisted Instruction. Based on those arguments, it can be concluded that teaching and learning can be supported by many media, and nowadays, based on the observations and experiences in the schools, teaching and learning can also be supported by some other media, such as games, newspapers, and songs.

However, here, online newspaper is selected to use in the learning of grammar because it has some advantages. The first is modernity. In terms of modernity, online newspaper is better than conventional newspaper or textbook. Those three media have the same content: text, but online newspaper gives text in a modern way. Conventional newspaper cannot be accessed when the newspaper seller does not come to consumer's house or the consumer does not have enough time to buy it by his or herself. Textbook is available in the school, but the content is always like that, teacher cannot teach students through the event which is booming at that time to attract them. The second benefit is in term of environment. Online newspaper is better environmentally, because it does not produce paper waste. Third is teacher cost. Teacher has to copy the materials if he or she uses conventional newspaper, because it is difficult if there is only one passage to whole students. While if teacher uses online newspaper, it does not need to be copied, because it can be shown at the screen in front of the class and the whole class can see it although students do not have the passage in their hands. Beside, online newspaper is also more practical.

Fourth is authenticity. Diamond (1981, in Ping, 2011) stated that "teachers can use newspapers to teach comprehension and critical thinking and to help learners develop sensitivity and awareness of the self, the community, the nation, and the world." Authenticity is important because it gives students the real example of how should a sentence be written, so that they can imitate in a right way. In addition, Mekhlafi and Nagaratman (2011: 81) also argued that "Authentic texts are texts that are not produced artificially for the purpose of language teaching, but are used for genuine purposes in the real world, like newspaper articles and recipes." They discover that students' difficulties in learning grammar through authentic texts are lower than teachers' perception of using them in the learning. Teachers sometimes too fear to use authentic texts like newspaper because of their own perception that students will face more difficulties. However, Mekhlafi and Nagaratman (2011) had been revealed that the fact is not like that.

2.2.1 Online Newspaper

Many years ago newspaper distributed in printed form, but in this modern era newspaper developed in a new form which is called online newspaper. "The first online newspaper to present its content electronically was the Chicago Tribune in 1992." Deuze (1999) in Nozato (2002: 2). Online newspaper is the same thing with newspaper, both of them have the same legal boundaries, but it is not printed. It can be read without hanging the papers everywhere, because it can be accessed online. Nozato (2002: 5) stated "The online audience perceives online newspapers

as more useful for getting particular information than scanning a printed paper."
The readers can sort the news to find their interest and what they want to read
without scanning the whole papers. What they only need is typing what topic they
want to read in the search column and the news related to the topic will appear.
Additionally, Nozato (2002: 4) stated that "It allows people to customize news in
terms of their interest. They can read only what they want to know when they
have time." Not only text and picture, online newspaper also gives the reader
videos to support the information. According to Nozato (2002: 2) "The interactive
features of the Internet seemingly imply that online media have more advantages
than traditional media forms."

While the printed newspaper distributed daily, whereas online newspaper
updated more than once in a day. The readers can get the update information and
news in a day without waiting until the next day because online newspaper
updates its content directly in that day. This new style of newspaper provides
several types of news which are suitable to be read by children and adults.

However, online newspaper also has negative side. Nozato (2002)
discussed the disadvantages of online newspaper in term of the content of the
news. He stated "Apparently, there is less control and gatekeeping on the web
than for print publications." Because of the publication is more often than printed
one, online newspaper's editorial cannot maintain one by one of the news
carefully.

2.2.2 The Use of Online Newspaper in Indonesia

According to Asosiasi Penyelenggara Jasa Internet Indonesia (APJII) the users of internet in 2014 is 88.1 million, and 59.7% of them are the reader of online newspaper. APJII's research shows that most of them are 18-35 years old.

Additionally, based on MarkPlus Insight, Indonesian internet users use internet to search news (54.2%), entertainment (16.3%), movie (10.2%), sport (8.7%), music (8.5%), and the rest are politic, celebrity news, gossip, and educational content.

The data show that the use of online newspaper in Indonesia is big enough, but it is rarely use as the learning materials at school.

2.2.3 Textbook

"Textbook is a popular tool of teaching and learning process and it is used more often than other teaching tools", this opinion was stated by Danim (2010: 21). Most of teachers use textbook to teach, because according to Danim (2010: 22), textbook has some advantages and ease teachers in teaching. Beside, according to the Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary textbook is "a book that contains detailed information about a subject for people who are studying that subject." Rohmah (2009) argues that textbook can save teachers' time when he or she has limited access to other resources. Since textbook is mostly available in every school, teachers often lean on it and make it the one and only resource of the learning. This happens because the content of a textbook covers all of the need of the learning such as materials and exercises.

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Textbook not only contains text, but also pictures, some of them are colored and some are not. It is arranged by the expert of each subject, maybe combination of ideas from some people who is master a particular subject. According to Rohmah (2009) learners can review what they have learnt before and know what they will learn next, so it gives feel of security to them. In this way, learners can study by themselves.

However, as one of the media of the learning, textbook has negative sides. It sometimes limit students' exploration because if teacher only use textbook as the resource students have no chance to learn from their surroundings. The content of the textbook can be less in variation from time to time. Based on Rohmah (2009) finding, textbook has eleven negative sides. First, it is confusing because teacher does not pretty sure how to use certain activity in the textbook. Second, some of textbooks have no answer key and guide about the instruction. Third, the curricula used by particular textbooks have not been updated yet. Fourth, some textbooks are not completed by cassettes (listening). Fifth, students in particular area have to share the textbook with their classmates. Sixth, the instruction of some exercises is too difficult to be understood. Seventh, there are no religion contents in the textbook. Eighth, some teachers find difficult in covering everything in the textbook. Ninth, some teachers stated that the materials are dull and not interesting. Tenth, textbook has no balance in providing skills and contain mainly grammar exercises. The last is, textbook is too difficult for the students (not appropriate with the level).

2.2.4 Grammar

"Grammar is one of the most important aspects of language education which is needed in teaching and learning every skill of a language." (Asgari, 2013: 488) It is important because it gives meaning in a sentence. As an instance, a reading passage has many vocabularies, but it has no meaning if there is no grammar in it. The four skills: listening; speaking; reading; writing, need grammar very much. It can be imagined when someone write a sentence and he or she does not keep the grammar, his or her sentence is not meaningful. It is like body without skeleton. These statements are supported by Wilcox's (2004: 14) statement in her study. She stated that "Grammar involves the rules and relationships through which we construct meaningful sounds, words, and sentences, we could not enjoy the language of content without it."

In addition, Wilcox (2004: 11) stated that:

grammar—all uses of the word and superadded connotations—stands outside of language as content, language as story, and unless one can adapt and acculturate to this location, unless one can see through or around content, one may not be able to grasp the idea of grammar.

Based on her statement, it can be conclude that people need an adaptation and acculturation just to understand what grammar is. It happens because grammar itself does not have particular meaning. Grammar cannot be explained like explaining what listening skill is, for example. So, grammar is not a simple thing which has an important role in a language.

Moreover, "the function of grammar has now all but been relegated to a last resort of editing and proofreading" (Elbow 167; Master v in Wilcox, 2004: 1).

By Elbow's statement, it is crystal clear that grammar is needed to make a passage perfect. That is why it is really important to teach grammar to students, and since it is not a simple thing, teacher should make it interesting to be learnt. One of the interesting ways in the learning of grammar is through concrete thing such as online newspaper which closes to the students.

Grammar covers many constructions in a language such as tenses, prepositions, pronouns, verb patterns, sentence patterns, punctuation, and so on. This study chose preposition, article, adjectives, and adverbs as parts of grammar to be taught to students of junior high school because those materials are important to be introduced to them and based on the observation and experience of I when taught them, their skill of those materials are still low, so they need to be taught about preposition, article, adjectives, and adverbs deeper and through an interesting way.

Pratiwi, Trihastuti, and Nurhayati (2010: 1) stated that grammar is one of skill that has to be mastered by language learner. They classify the grammar learning strategy into implicit and explicit. Learning grammar can be done implicitly by experience such as reading English newspaper, watching English TV program, and communicating with native speakers. It also can be done by imitating both of written and spoken texts. The second strategy in learning grammar is in explicit way. It can be done by two ways: inductive and deductive. Explicit-inductive learning is started by paying attention to certain sentence and then analyzes the grammar, whereas explicit-deductive learning starts when the

learner learn the pattern of grammar from the book or teacher, and then he or she apply it to make a sentence.

In addition, a study which has been held by Wigati (2014) shows that even college students get difficulties in writing because of the grammar. They do not pay attention to the use of tenses and there are lots of mistakes in their writing in term of grammar.

In this study, I focus on some elements of grammar: preposition, article, adjective, and adverbs.

2.2.5 Preposition

Azar (1989) stated "An important element of English sentence is the prepositional phrase." "A preposition is a word placed before a noun or a pronoun to show in what relation the thing denoted by it stands in regard something else." (Wren and Martin, 2006 in Bilal et al, 2013). Bilal et al (2013) argues that "prepositions give spice and sentence to make sense of it and to convey message completely as they express relationship between two parts of sentence." Koffi (2010) argues that English has higher number of prepositions than most other languages, 60 to 70 prepositions. Many of them are monosyllabic, while half of them have two syllables or more. The examples of monosyllabic prepositions are *on, in, at*, etc. Whereas *between, under*, and *within* are prepositions which have two syllables. Prepositions that have more than two syllables are *underneath* and *withstanding*. According to Krulj, Prodanovic, and Trbojevic (2011), English' prepositions can be divided into three criteria: formal, semantic, and syntactic. According to the

semantic criterion, prepositions can be divided into place prepositions, time prepositions, prepositions of origin, source, cause, aim, means, instrument, manner, agentive, accompaniment, exception, reference, subject matter, etc.

According to Bilal et al (2013: 563) English' prepositions possess a vast variety of meaning depending on the context. Particular choices of prepositions sometimes change the meaning of the same verb.

1) Verb + different preposition = different meaning

She is not agreed to this proposal = (klea)

She does not agree with me = (participant)

2) Verb + different preposition = same meaning

You compete with your friend too much = same meaning

You compete against your friend too much = same meaning

3) Verb + same preposition = different meaning

They hijacked the plane with gun = (instrument)

They hijacked the plane with his gang = (participants)

2.2.6 Article

According to Azar (1989) there are some basic articles in English: *a/an, some*, and *the*. Article *a/an* is used with a singular generic count noun. The difference of both of them is the noun that follows them. A noun which is begun with consonant is preceded by *a,* whereas a noun which is begun with vowel is preceded by *an.* For example: *A doctor heals sick people. An apple can be red, green, or yellow. A/an* is used when the speaker uses generic nouns to make

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generalizations. A generic noun represents a whole class of things which are not a specific, real, concrete thing but rather a symbol of a whole group. *Some* is often used with indefinite plural count nouns and indefinite noncount nouns. For example: *I ate some bananas. Allice ate some fruit. The* is used when the noun in a sentence is definite noun. It can be used both for singular or plural count noun and noncount noun. For example: *Thank you for the gift.* In that sentence, both speaker and listener know the gift.

However, there are some nouns which have no article. Plural count noun and noncount noun are written without any article. For example: *Strawberries are red. Fruit is good for us.* The speaker is talking about any strawberry, all strawberries, strawberries in general in the first sentence. In the second sentence, the speaker is talking about any and all fruit, fruit in general.

2.2.7 Adjective

Adjective is "a word that describes a noun or pronoun." (Cambridge Advanced Learner Dictionary) According to Pardiyono (2004: 174) adjective is a word that gives information or characteristic about a noun. It is an element in constructing a noun phrase. The examples of adjectives are *safe, tiny, pretty, cheap, awful, sophisticated,* etc. *Safe trip, tiny fish, cheap home appliances, the food is awful, the girl is sophisticated,* show the function of adjective that describes noun or pronoun. One of the characteristics of adjective is it cannot be added by suffix –*ing.* For instance, the word expensive cannot be added by –*ing* (expensiving is unacceptable).

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Pardiyono (2004: 174-175) argues that there are seven kinds of adjectives. The first is the original adjective. It is the original word of adjective, for example the words *clear, polite, neat, quiet,* etc. Those words are the original word without any prefix or suffix and they belong to adjective. Second is the adjective with *–ed.* The adjective with *–ed* is the formation of verb. It means that the original word belongs to verb, but it is added by *–ed ,* so that the word changes into adjective. For example the words *confused* (confuse (verb) + *ed*), *embarrassed* (embarrass (verb) + *ed*), *bored* (bore (verb) + *ed*). The third is adjective with *–ing.* It is different with the characteristic of adjective that is mentioned before, the characteristic point out that the original adjective cannot be added by *–ing*, but here, the original word is a verb then it is added by *–ing*. They are different things. The examples of adjective with *–ing* are *interesting* (interest (verb) + *ing*), *amazing* (amaze (verb) + *ing*). The fourth is adjective with *–ous*. This kind of adjective is the formation of noun. It means that the original word belongs to noun, then it is added by *–ous* and it changes into adjective. For example: *dangerous* (danger (noun) + *ous*), *famous* (fame (noun) + *ous*).

The next kind of adjective is adjective with *–ful*. It is formed by a noun and *–ful*. The words *beautiful* (beauty (noun) + *ful*), *colorful* (color (noun) + *ful*) are the examples of adjective with *–ful*. Then, the other kind of adjective is adjective with *–less*. It is formed by a noun and *–less*. For example: *meaningless* (meaning (noun) + *less*), *powerless* (power (noun) + *less*). The last kind of adjective is adjective with *–ive*. This kind of adjective is formed by a verb and *–ive*. The

examples are: *educative* (educate (verb) + *ive*), *comprehensive* (comprehend (verb) + *ive*).

2.2.8 Adverb

Devi (2013: 317) stated that "Adverb is a word that is placed with the verb or, in semantic terms, modifies the verb." Givon (2001) in Devi (2013) stated that adverb is one of the four major classes of lexical word: Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives, and Adverbs. Mathews (2007) defines adverbs as words typically used with verbs, to give more information in detail about actions, states, and events. Pardiyono (2004: 175-176) classifies adverb into three: single word, phrase with preposition, and clause. Adverbs in single word can be seen in *tomorrow, often, recently, never,* etc. Whereas the examples of adverb in phrase with preposition are *in the morning, after graduation, in the middle of the century, as soon as possible,* etc. The clauses which contain adverbs are *because the rainy season does not come on time, although the city is really beautiful,* etc.

Al Aqad (2013: 71) argues that "adverbs could complicate the sentence structure due to the various positions in the sentence." Since adverb has various positions and can be found in some structures, it gives complication in a sentence.

2.2.9 English Online Newspaper to Teach Grammar

Online newspaper is one of thing should contain a perfect grammar, since everyone in this world can access it from their own place. "The use of newspapers in the classroom on regular basis will inculcate habit of intensive and extensive

reading" (Mehta, 2010: 56). It can be use both to increase Indonesian students' reading interest and improve their grammar. By carrying online newspaper in the classroom, teacher introduces it to them and hopefully they will love it after the class is ended, since according to Babalola (2002: 403) "newspapers have a built-in capacity to motivate readers". Due to the students are supposed to read, they must read the passages in the online newspaper so that they begin a new good habit of reading. Beside, students are learning grammar too while they are reading them. Moreover, Hartoyo (2012: 1) stated that using ICT in the learning is a necessity to improve the quality in education and enhance the skill of students in the rapidity of technology development.

According to Mehta (2010: 58), one of the ways of using newspaper in the classroom is by using pictures found in the newspaper and tell the students to write sentences about the pictures using prepositions to describe the spatial relationships. I try to adapt Mehta's way with improvement. Picture which is found in the online newspaper will be used as a media for students to write sentences about the picture containing preposition, article, adjectives or adverbs. The text also will be used to teach the students. For example, students are supposed to make a list of sentences containing preposition, article, adjectives, or adverbs they found in the text.

Some passages have been randomly selected from The Jakarta Post in difference editions and themes. The following passages are the example of a text in an online newspaper:

Education and Culture Minister Mohammad Nuh is scheduled **to** launch *an* Indonesian study program **at** Exeter University, England, during his visit from May 27 to May 30.

The minister is also scheduled **to** meet **with** Minister **of** State **for** Universities and Science, David Willets, **at** *the* Indonesian consulate **in** London and visit universities **in** *the* country.

According **to** attaché Fauzi Soelaiman, *the* meeting will focus **on** *the* discussions **to** improve cooperation among universities **in** both countries.

He said some universities had shown interest **in** establishing study programs **about** Indonesia.

"They are still assessing *the* possibilities, but *the* meeting **with** *the* minister and officials **of** *the* noted universities **in** England will open opportunities **to** establish more study programs **about** Indonesia," he said, as quoted **by** Antara news agency. **(iwa) (***The Jakarta Post, Jakarta | Thu, 05/24/2012 12:11 PM*)

The Surakarta administration has canceled *the* celebration **of** Earth Hour **on** Saturday evening — during which residents were expected **to** turn off their lights **for** *an* hour from 8:30 p.m. **to** 9:30 p.m. — following escalating fuel protests.

Semarang had planned **to** close Jl. Slamet Riyadi **to** vehicles as part **of** *a* Car-Free Night event **on** Saturday evening as its contribution **to** *the* 2012 Earth Hour. All *the* street lights **along the** road were also **to** be switched off.

Semarang Deputy Mayor FX Hadi Rudyatmo said he did not want **to** put *the* event **at** risk, despite *the* House **of** Representatives' decision **on** early Saturday **to** revise *the* 2012 state budget, which includes *a* contentious article allowing *the* government **to** increase subsidized fuel prices **within** six months if *the* Indonesia Crude Price (ICP) is 15 percent higher than *the* one assumed **in** *the* state budget.

"It is okay [**to** cancel *the* Car-Free Night]. *The* most important thing is *the* campaign [**to** turn off *the* lights]," he said Saturday.

The Earth Hour celebration **in** *the* city will be relocated **to** *the* Ngarsopuro Corridor **with** art and cultural performances, which will start **at** 7 p.m. and will end **at** 10 p.m. *The* administration will still extinguish *the* lights **along** Jl. Slamet Riyadi.

Some residents were still staging rallies **in** *a* number **of** different places **in** *the* city, demanding *the* planned increase **of** fuel prices be canceled altogether rather than merely postponed. (swd) *(The Jakarta Post, Jakarta | Sat, 03/31/2012 1:21 PM)*

The Batam administration wants *the* central government **to** halt importing cars **to** Batam, claiming that *the* central and local governments are not collecting value-added (PPN) and luxury (PPNBM) taxes.

"Most **of** *the* import car trade manipulates consumers, as well as creates unnecessary traffic gridlock **in** Batam. *The* government should stop *the* policy," Batam Trade and Industry Agency chief Ahmad Hijazi told *The Jakarta Post* **on** Wednesday said.

Under current tax exemptions, car prices **in** Batam should be 75 percent less than those **of** sole authorized agents. However, prices **in** Batam were about *the* same **with** vendors **outside** Batam.

"*The* central government might have lost potential tax income while Batam residents bear *the* traffic jams. *The* local industry did not benefit," Ahmad noted.

Citing *an* example, Ahmad said that Honda Jazzes were priced **by** importers **at** Rp 195 million (US$21,060), while *a* local Honda dealer's website offered *a* starting price **for** *the* cars **at** Rp 199.5 million.

In response, Batam Indonesia Free Zone Authority spokesman Ilham Eka Hartawan said that *the* authority could not control local car prices.

The Batam administration previously announced plans **to** revise *a* local bylaw **to** stop *the* import **of** vehicles.

The central government issued *a* tax-exemption policy **for** cars **in** 2010, authorizing *the* local authority **to** issue permits **to** local importers, who have **since** imported 1,200 cars **into** Batam. **(swd)** *(The Jakarta Post, Batam | Wed, 05/23/2012 5:15 PM)*

Those passages contain prepositions (**bold**), articles (*italic*), and adjectives or adverbs (underline). It shows that online newspaper can be used to teach grammar because it contains many elements of grammar contextually. In this case, prepositions, articles, and the differences between adjectives and adverbs are proper to be taught to eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 8 Batang because I have done an observation for three months and the result is the students ability in mastering those elements of grammar are still low. They are selected because they are in the KTSP (Kurikulum Tingkat Satuan Pendidikan) curriculum of junior high school which is used in SMP Negeri 8 Batang.

According to Rohmah (2009) "60% of the students considered grammar the most difficult and least enjoyable part of their coursebook." That is why teacher needs materials which can attract students to learn grammar with pleasure.

Online newspaper can be an interesting learning resource because it is new for students in the class and it contains pictures that will attract them. Students can also choose the news based on their interests so they will enjoy the learning.

2.3 Framework of Thinking

The grammar ability of eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 8 Batang was still low. The aim of this research is improving their grammar ability by using teaching and learning media. The media chosen was online newspaper because it contains sentences written in a various types of grammar and the pattern is pretty correct. By reading the online newspaper, students can see what happen in this world, force them to read to enrich their knowledge, and also tell them the right grammar used in the passage.

After reading the online newspaper and they are supposed to do some exercises. The first is emphasizing the grammar, they are supposed to make a list of prepositions in the passage. Next, they have to write down their own sentences using preposition they found in the passage. After that, students will find out what preposition is and how to apply it by themselves. The second exercise is choosing a picture students love the most in the newspaper and then they have to write a sentence about the picture using correct article, adjective, and adverb. Beside, the comparison group will be taught through the textbook that they usually use in teaching and learning process.

I am going to find out whether using online newspaper in the learning of grammar is effective or not by measuring their ability. First, I gave them a pre-

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test, and then teach them using online newspaper, and finally measure whether or not they improve their ability by giving post-test.

The following figure is the framework of thinking in holding this study:
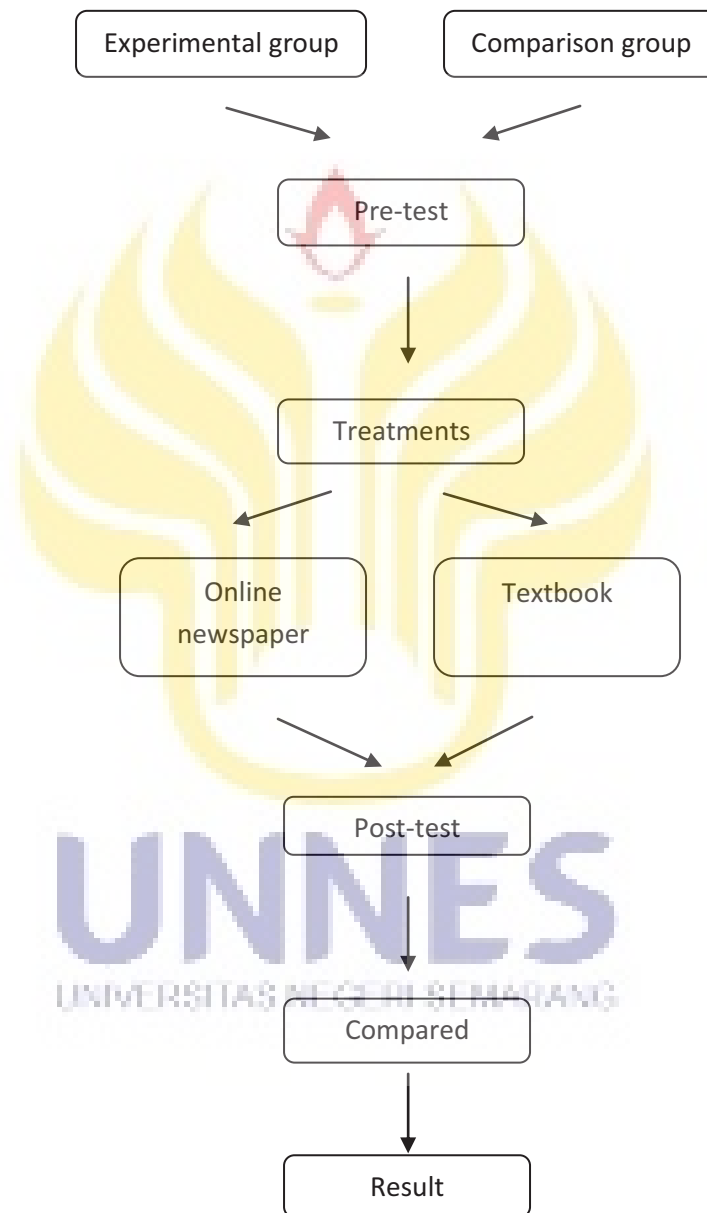

Figure 3.1 Framework of Thinking

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

5.1 Conclusion

Based on the detailed analysis and research findings discussed in Chapter IV, some conclusions can be derived as follows.

There was no significant difference of students' achievement in grammar ability between the students who were taught by using English online newspaper and those who were taught by using textbook for the eight year students of SMP Negeri 8 Batang in the academic year of 2015/2016.

5.2 Suggestions

Referring to conclusions of the research, I offer some suggestions for the readers. Firstly, teachers should use additional media or visual aids to support the learning process in order to make students are interested to learn. However, the media have to be suitable for them. It means the difficulty level must be match to their ability. In this case, English online newspaper is too difficult to be understood because of the language level.

Secondly, I hope that the result of this research will be useful for the readers. I also expect that the readers will have more reference in selecting teaching and learning media. The last but not least, this research can be one of the references for the next researchers who want to conduct the same research.

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