

## ABSTRACT

Perwitasari, Diana. 2010. *Improving Students' Pronunciation of English Plosive Consonant Sounds Using Short Story. An Experimental Study of the Tenth Grade Students of SMA Negeri 1 Batang in the Academic Year 2009/2010*. Final Project. English Department. Semarang State University. Supervisor: I. Drs. Amir Sisbiyanto, M. Hum, II. Drs. Alim Sukrisno, M.A.

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Pronunciation is an important part of English speaking skill. Not only grammatical but also pronunciation should be learned by the EFL/ESL students. In Indonesia, most of students cannot speak English in a good pronunciation because rarely English teachers teach pronunciation in their English classes. This condition made me interested to study about improving students' pronunciation of English plosive consonant sounds using short story as the media. The aim of this study was to find out how well short story can improve students' pronunciation of English plosive consonant sounds.

In order to gather the data, an experimental study with one group pre-test post-test was conducted. The experiment sample of this research was the students of X.1 class of SMA N 1 Batang, which consisted of 34 students. This research was conducted in five meetings, started on 20<sup>th</sup> of February 2010 to 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2010. On the first meeting, the pre-test was conducted. While on the second to the fourth meetings were conducted the treatment sessions. Here, I gave some explanations and practices of pronouncing English plosive consonant sounds using short stories as the media. The fifth meeting was the last session of this research which the post-test was conducted. The pre-test and the post-test were conducted to measure the students' ability in pronouncing English plosive consonant sounds. The accent aspect of FSI numerical rating procedure was used as the measurement of students' achievement.

Students' average of the pre-test was 55.23 and 87.01 in the post-test. It clearly showed that the post-test score was better than the pre-test. The difference mean between the pre-test and the post-test was 31.78. It applied to t-test formula to gain the t-value. The result of t-test was 10.96 and it was higher than table value (2.00). It was significant. It meant that short stories could be used as the media to improve students' pronunciation of English plosive consonant sounds.

Finally, since students need enjoyable and not monotonous learning experiences, English teacher should create various ways in teaching English to improve students' interest in learning English. Then, for the further researchers could conduct deeper research by developing various techniques and media in teaching English pronunciation.