THE APPLICATION OF DIRECTED READING - THINKING ACTIVITY (DR-TA) IN DEVELOPING THE STUDENTS READING COMPREHENSION AT THE NINTH GRADE OF JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
(An Action Research to the Ninth Grade Students of SMP N 1 Karangawen in The Academic Year 2011/2012)

a final project submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Sarjana Pendidikan in English

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ABSTRACT

Richanah. 2012. The Application of Directed Reading Thinking Activity (DR-TA) in Developing The Students Reading Comprehension at Ninth Grade of Junior High School (An Action Research at Ninth Grade Students of SMP Negeri 1 Karangawen in the Academic Year of 2011/ 2012). Final Project, English Department, Faculty of Languages and Arts, Semarang State University. First advisor: Drs. La Ode Musyaridun Second advisor: Fatma Hetami, S.S., M.Pd.

Keywords : Directed Reading Thinking Activity (DR-TA), Reading

This final project mainly aims at determining the application of Directed Reading Thinking Activity (DR-TA) in developing the students reading comprehension. In order to achieve the objective of the study, the writer designed a classroom action research which was done from August, 11th 2011 to September, 17th 2011. There were four meetings in this study including pre test and post tests. The population is the IX A students of SMP Negeri 1 Karangawen in the Academic Year of 2011/ 2012. The numbers of the population are 34 students that consist of 17 male and 17 female students. The instrument used to obtain the data was test, and questionnaire. The method that used in the study was Directed Reading Thinking Activity (DR-TA) method. The result of the study shows that the reading comprehension of the IX A’s students of SMP Negeri 1 Karangawen in the Academic Year of 2011/ 2012 are improve. The mean of the students reading score of pre test is 61.21. It is still not appropriate with the school requirements, that is 70. The result of cycle 1 test is 68.78. It increases 7.57 points. It means that the students reading comprehension is improve. In the cycle 2 test, the mean of the students score is 76.71. The difference result between cycle 2 and cycle 1 test is 7.93 points. It shows that their reading ability is improve. The result of post test is 80.29. It increases 21.08 from the pre test score. In line with the result, Directed Reading Thinking Activity (DR-TA) seems to be the alternative method to improve students’ ability in reading. In this study, the writer suggests that the teachers should be able to use the alternative media, method, or technique to improve students’ interest in the process of learning English lesson especially in reading. The use of Directed Reading Thinking Activity (DR-TA) as alternative method is one of the ways to achieve this goal since students need enjoyable and not monotonous learning experiences. Then, for the next researcher, they can do and apply deeper research by developing various kinds of methods. For example mind mapping, skimming and scanning, speed reading, etc.