

ABSTRACT

English Instruction in Senior High School should guide the students to possess reading ability. One of the essential elements in realizing this ability is the knowledge of words. Then, in order to increase this knowledge the Senior Highschool English Syllabus of the 1984 Senior Highschool Curriculum has presented it in the form of reading texts. In short, the learning of words is integrated with reading.

The problems of the research were: 1. In learning words through reading texts, how many repetitions are needed by the students to recognize those words? 2. How is the quality of reading texts used by the first year students of SMA from the viewpoint of vocabulary?

A field research was conducted to answer the first problem among the first year students of SMA "Yos Sudarso", Metro, Lampung. Eight reading texts using word repetitions were used to answer the problem. The researcher used an experiment of 20, 30, and 40 new words. Meanwhile, the second was approached through a desk research on the reading texts of the first year of SMA. A purposive sampling of thirty reading texts from six books was used.

This study was intended to discover the number of repetitions needed by the students to master words through reading texts and to know the quality of reading texts used by the first year students of SMA.

The results of this research indicate: 1. To achieve the mastery level of materials (at least 75 %), the students needed 4 repetitions for 20 new words; 5 repetitions, for 30 new words; and more than 7 repetitions, for 40 new words. 2. The quality of reading texts from the viewpoints of vocabulary was inappropriate. So, it can be assumed that the quality of reading texts from the six books is inappropriate.

Then, based on the results, the following conclusions are drawn: 1. to master new words, the students need

repetitions of those words, 2. to achieve the learning of new words integrated with reading texts, the students need appropriate texts.

The results of the study are intended to give a real contribution to the English teachers in teaching new words through reading texts. It is also important for the course designers to arrange appropriate reading texts for the first year students of SMA.