

## ABSTRACT

Indriyani, Fatia. 182070015 “*Using English Comics as a Medium to Teach Reading Comprehension to the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade of Junior High School* ”. A final project, English Language Education Study Program, College of Languages Sultan Agung Islamic University. The first advisor: Prof. Dr. Warsono, M.A and the second advisor: Didik Murwanto,S.S., M.Hum.

Key Words: Comics, reading comprehension, experimental research.

The objectives of this study are to explain how teaching reading comprehension using comics can improve students’ comprehension of texts and to find out the significant difference in reading achievement between the students who are taught using comics and those who are taught using conventional materials. The participants of the study are the students of VIIIA and the students of VIIIB at SMP Negeri 2 Batang. Each class consists of 40 students.

In this study, the writer used quasi-experimental research design. Two intact groups, which had already been organized into two groups, were experimental group and control group. Both groups were treated differently. At the first meeting, both groups were given a pre-test with the same test. Then, the treatment was given to the experimental group. At the end of the treatment both groups were given a post test and ended with questionnaire.

The analysis of the data showed that the students’ achievement on the pre-test was 74.0 for control group and 73.3 for experimental group. However, in the post-test they showed the different mean scores. The mean score of the control group was 78.5 and that of the experimental group was 83.3.

Based on the result, it could be seen that the treatment gave a significant improvement in the students’ ability in reading comprehension and also significant difference in reading achievement. Based on the observation and questionnaires, comics as a medium could motivate the students to read the material. Beside that, it also helps the students to understand the material and improve their vocabularies.