

## ABSTRACT

Puspitasari, Ayu, 2017, *Improving Reading Comprehension by Using Direct Method at SMP Plus Al Aziz Jember In The 2016/2017 Academic Year*. Thesis. The English Language Education, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Muhammadiyah University of Jember.  
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According to Jeffries and Mikulecky (1996:4) in Aprillianto, reading is one of the important ways to improve general language skills in English. They say that reading helps the students learn to think in English, enlarge the students' vocabulary, improve the students' writing, practice the students English if the students live in a non-English – speaking country, prepare the students if they want to study in an English – speaking country, and get experiences. According to Burns et.al (1987:16), Reading is developmental. It is not only a single skill, but also interrelated process of many skills. It means that reading is a complex process that is related with our interpretation while reading the text.

In this research, the research problem is “How can the use of Direct Method improve Reading Comprehension of the Eighth grade students at SMP Plus Al Aziz in the 2016/2017 academic year?”

. Based on the problems, the research objective is intended “To Improve Reading Comprehension by using Direct of the Eighth grade students at SMP Plus Al Aziz in the 2016/2017 academic year?”

This research was Classroom Action Research. The research area was SMP Plus Al Aziz in Jember. Furthermore, the research subjects of this research are the VIII A students of SMP Plus Al Aziz. Test and observation are used to obtain the data. In order to calculate the students' reading score, Alpha Cronchbach Formula is used. The data was analyzed using formula  $E = A/N \times 100\%$ . Direct Method improves the students' Reading Comprehension in two Cycles. In the cycle 1, the mean score of the students in learning process was 50% The result of students always improve in every meeting but not high. In cycle 2, the mean score of students in learning process improved it was 80%. It means that Direct Method can improve the students' Reading Comprehension. Besides that, the students score in reading test also improve. It can be seen in the end of cycle 1 the mean score of students were 57.75 and the presentation of students succeeded were 50% with 4 students success and 4 students not success. Then in cycle 2 the mean score of students were 71.5 and the presentation of students succeeded were 75% with 6 students succes 2 students not success.