

ABSTRACT

Rahmawati, 2024. *"Improving Students Reading Comprehension by Using Question Answer Relationship (QAR) Strategy at the Ninth Grade of SMP Negeri 1 Bua Ponrang"*. Thesis English Study Program Tarbiyah And Teachers Training Faculty State Islamic Institute Of Palopo (IAIN PALOPO). Supervised by Wisran and St. Hartina.

This research aims to find out whether the use of the question answer relationship (QAR) strategy can improve reading comprehension in the ninth grade of SMP Negeri 1 Bua Ponrang. The researcher adapt quantitative methods with a pre-experimental design. The researcher used purposive sampling totaling 25 students. The instruments in this research were reading tests and interviews. The data were analyzed statistically using SPSS Edition 20. The results showed that the average post-test score was higher than the pre-test score ($52.8 < 77.6$). Apart from that, the t_0 (t_{test}) value is 16.695 with a df (degrees of freedom) value of 24, while the t_t (t_{table}) value is 2.064 for a standard significance level of 0.05 at $df = 24$. It means the value of the t-test is higher than the value of the t-table. The researcher found a value (p) of 0.00 is smaller than (α) of 0.05, resulting in $p < \alpha$ ($0.00 < 0.05$). Therefore the hypothesis H_0 is rejected and H_1 is accepted. In conclusion, (1) The question answer relationship (QAR) strategy can improve students' reading comprehension, especially in English reading texts. (2) Apart from that, students' perceptions are that students are interested in using the question answer relationship (QAR) strategy in learning, especially reading learning and students reading comprehension increases after using the question answer relationship (QAR) strategy. It can be recommended the use of the question answer relationship (QAR) strategy is effective in improving students' reading comprehension because with the types of questions in the question answer relationship (QAR) strategy, students can understand the content of the reading text and make it easier for students to answer each question in the reading text.

Keywords: *Question Answer Relationship Strategy, Reading Comprehension, Narrative Text.*