THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SHORT STORY READING IN IMPROVING THE 2000 – WORD LEVEL VOCABULARY MASTERY OF STUDENTS AT PRISMA PROFESIONAL INSTITUTE

A THESIS

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During the writing of this thesis, there were days when I felt so happy and encouraged but there were also days when I felt so lazy and did not know what to do. However, due to some people, I managed to finish this thesis on time. Therefore, to show my gratitude to all of the people who have helped me since the beginning until the end, I dedicate this poem.

I stood on a very long and wide road
From the distance,
I tried to figure out the end
From the distance,
I tried to get the image
All of you came
You said “Go there”
All of you pushed
You said “Don’t be afraid”
All of you held my hands
You said “I’ll accompany”
I was so happy
So I laughed
I was so happy
So I ran
But the road was too long
It seemed that it would never end
I felt tired
So I grumbled
I felt tired
So I stop

Still, all of you were there
Still, all of you supported me
Still, all of you accompanied me
Finally, I got to the end
Finally, I could laugh again
Finally, I saw the image
This is all because of you
Even though I could take all of the stars in the sky
And give it to you
It won’t match my gratitude
Even though I could take the sun and the moon
And give it to you
It won’t match my gratitude
Even though I could ask for this world
And give it to you
It still won’t match my gratitude
Therefore, let me just say:
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From the bottom of my heart
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Surabaya, February 5, 2007

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ABSTRACT
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Thesis
The Effectiveness of Short Story Reading in Improving the 2000 – Word Level Vocabulary Mastery of Students at Prisma Profesional Institute

Short story is a short work of fictional prose compared to novel. As a work of fictional prose, short story is filled with imaginative events and characters. It combines five key elements; they are character, setting, conflict, plot and theme. Due to the characteristics, short story is said to be a kind of reading for enjoyment. However, nowadays, short story does not only function merely as an enjoyment. It can be a very effective tool for teaching and one of them is to improve students’ vocabulary.

In this research, the writer used three short stories as a tool in education. The short stories in this study functioned as a tool to give students many exposures on vocabulary. The short stories itself have been carefully selected to fit the students’ need on the 2000 – word level.

The subjects of the study were Prisma Profesional students who were selected (16 out of 71 students). First of all the students were given the pre-test. Next they were given eight days to read three short stories (Two stories were detective story – Sherlock Holmes and one story was about mystery. However, all of the stories were written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle) which had also been selected carefully. In the end, they were given the post-test. The pre-test and the post-test later on were analyzed to get the result whether short stories can really improve students’ vocabulary.

Keywords: short story, vocabulary
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