

Abstract

Dhira A. Nirmala (2008). *Clues to Factors Influencing Students' Competence in English: A Case Study in Jakarta Barat*. Jakarta: University of Bina Nusantara. This study was done due to the fact that the quality of education in Indonesia was relatively low compared to the neighboring countries. In fact, generally, senior high school alumni's had relatively low competence in English, although they had studied English since they were in the fourth grade of primary school. This study focused on the identification of some clues to casual factors that resulted in students' difficulty in English comprehension. This study focused on three specific factors, which were thought to cause the lack of understanding English, i.e., the way the English teachers taught, English class facilities and extra English class. This case study was done in two high schools in Jakarta Barat (one was a private and one was a public senior high school) that was selected purposively, and the respondents were the students in these two high schools (grade ten and eleven). This study succeeded to identify the clues to factors causing difficulties to students in comprehending English; the way English teachers taught (especially the frequency of tests and English exercises) and school facilities (especially library usage) really influenced students' competence in English. Besides, the extra English class did not have a significant influence to their English competence.

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