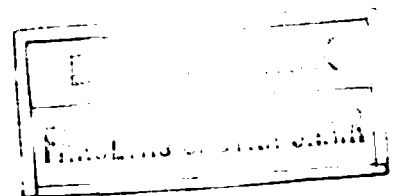


ABSTRACT

Besides the difference in physical appearance, male and female differ in the cognitive abilities. One of the differences is in the reading proficiency. In this case male and female differ in comprehending a reading passage. This study attempts to find out whether there is any difference between male and female of elementary school students in reading proficiency. It is based on some theories stating that females are more capable and potential in some verbal tasks including reading than males are.

In the observation, the writer took the sixth year elementary school of SDK. St. Mikael Surabaya as the respondents. The respondents in this study consist of two groups: the male group and female group, each group consisting of 19 students. In collecting the data, the writer gave them a reading test. The statistical method is used to analyze the data. By using the t-test the writer found the difference between male and female students in reading proficiency. So, the result of the study fits the previous assumption that male and female students are different in reading proficiency. Female are more fluent and capable in verbal tasks, in this case in comprehending a reading than males are. The difference is influenced by two factors that are internal and external factors. The internal factors are self-motivation and interest, while the external factors are the parents and the teacher treatment.



CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION