

## ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to find out the teachers' difficulties in teaching reading comprehension of the seventh-grade students at SMPN 22 Palembang. The research design used in this study was descriptive qualitative method. Participants in this study were conducted using a purposive sampling technique, the result is two English teachers who teach in grade seventh at SMPN 22 Palembang. The data were collected using a semi- structured interview with open-ended questions. Then, data from interviews was analyzed using thematic analysis in this study as part of the analysis. After analyzing the data, the findings showed that there were five difficulties that teachers faced when teaching reading comprehension in seventh grade students at SMPN 22 Palembang, as follows: (1) uninteresting teaching material, (2) limited instructional time, (3) lack of background knowledge (4) students' limited vocabulary, and (5) unexpected events in the classroom. Therefore, this research discussed the difficulties experienced by English teachers in seventh grade, thus it is hoped that readers especially English teachers who experienced similar difficulties can use this research to increase their variety of learning activities and overcome the difficulties they are faced. Keywords: Teachers' difficulties. teaching reading comprehension

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