

ABSTRACT

Lenggraeni, Viki Leli. 2016. **Compensatory Strategies Used by High and Low Achievers of Study Program of English Universitas Brawijaya: A Qualitative Study**. Study Program of English, Department of Languages and Literature, Faculty of Cultural Studies, Universitas Brawijaya. Supervisor: Indah Winarni

Keywords: Communication Strategy, Compensatory Strategy, High Achievers, Low Achievers.

In learning English as Foreign language, to be able to communicate effectively is the prime goal to be achieved by all learners. The learners try to make their interlocutors understand what they mean by using certain ways which are called compensatory strategies. The use of compensatory strategies can be influenced by proficiency level of the learners. In this study, the writer conducted a research about compensatory strategies which are used by high and low achievers of Study Program of English Universitas Brawijaya using the theory of Compensatory strategies by Poullise *et al.* (1990). There were two problems to be solved in this study : (1) What are the compensatory strategies types used by high and low achievers of Study Program Universitas Brawijaya, (2) What are the compensatory strategies types mostly used by high and low achievers of Study Program of English Universitas Brawijaya.

This study used qualitative approach and the type of research was case study. There were nine subjects in this study. They came from Public Speaking class 2014 that were selected based on their score in the Academic Speaking and Basic Oral and Auditory skill in the previous semester. The data were utterances containing compensatory strategies (CpS) in retelling a story.

The study revealed that all types of CpS used by high achievers, namely analytic strategies, holistic strategies, transfer strategies and morphological creativity. On the other hand, there were only three types of CpS, except morphological creativity, used by Low achievers. Additionally, Holistic strategies were the most frequently used by high achievers, while transfer strategies were the most frequently used by low achievers.

In conclusion, the different proficiency level of the students influenced the choice of compensatory strategies types. Then, the writer suggests students of Study Program of English to take more effort to solve their problems in communication by applying compensatory strategies. Besides, future researchers are expected to cover the shortcomings of this study in order to enrich the study in this topic.