

## **ABSTRACT**

This study aims to determine the effect of improved comprehension through the direct interaction strategy on the reading ability of XI students at SMK Telkom 2 Medan. The direct interaction strategy is used as an approach to create a more interactive and dynamic learning environment that actively involves student participation, with the goal of enhancing their comprehension in reading text-based instruction. The method used is quantitative with a quasi-experimental approach. The research sample consisted of two classes: the experimental class, which received treatment using the direct interaction strategy, and the control class, which used conventional teaching methods. The findings identified a significant improvement in reading comprehension among students who learned using the direct interaction strategy compared to those in the control class. This indicates that the strategy is effective in helping improve students' reading abilities.

**Keywords: Direct Interaction Strategy, Reading Comprehension, XI SMK School Students, Active Learning through Interaction.**