**READING COMPREHENSION II**

**Note: March 19th, 2014**

**Reading: a skill**

**BASIC CONCEPTS**

Being able to write may be determined by being able to read. However, being able to read requires techniques to assist the learners achieve the goal. The techniques themselves may be recognized as reading skills. Reading skills cover two main issues – a strong vocabulary and ability to read well. Bazerman (1985: 3) argues that they come to paradox; to read well, a strong vocabulary is required, and to build a strong vocabulary, the ability to read well is essensial.

 Writing ----------------------------- read -------------------- reading skills as a techniques

 A strong vocabulary to read well

* Word categories
* Sentence structure

The skills ask the basic ability on recognizing a basic structure – that is, the ability to identify, understand, and produce word categories (parts of speech) and sentence structure.

Reading skills lead to:

1. Skimming
2. Scanning
3. Previewing
4. Predicting
5. Building vocabulary
6. Recognizing paragraph structure
7. Pattern of organization
8. Making inferences

While a strong vocabulary refers to building vocabulary and making inferences, being able to read well covers skimming, scanning, previewing, predicting, recognizing paragraph structure, and pattern of organization.

**A STRONG VOCABULARY: RECOGNIZING WORD MEANINGS**

Some ways to find the meanings of difficult words according to Bazerman (1985:4) are:

1. Learn to use context – that is, clues that surrounding sentences sometimes gibe about the meaning of new words;
2. In a word you do not know, look parts within the word, parts whose meanings you might know;
3. Learn the difference between what a word means and what a word suggests or makes you feel;
4. Learn the difference between words that mean almost the same thing but have different shades of meaning;
5. Learn to use a dictionary so you can find meanings easily; and
6. Keep a list of words you want to add to your vocabulary.

**SENTENCE CLUES**