

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROBLEM BASED LEARNING (PBL) MODEL IN IMPROVING THE CRITICAL THINKING ABILITY OF STUDENTS CLASS VIII SMP NEGERI 3 GERUNG in the 2024/2025 school year

Critical thinking skills are needed by students in facing the challenges of the 21st century which has many innovations and new information. This study aims to determine the effectiveness of the problem-based learning model in improving the critical thinking skills of students in class VIII SMP Negeri 3 Gerung. This type of research is quasi experimental with a quantitative approach. The instruments used were observation sheets and critical thinking skills tests (post-test). The results of descriptive data analysis obtained the average value of the experimental class was 74.47, while in the control class was 65.60. The independent sample t-test showed a significance (2-tailed) of  $0.001 < 0.05$  and the effect-size test showed a value of 1.00. Based on the results of descriptive analysis where the average value of the experimental class is higher than the average value of the control class, the independent sample t-test and the effect-size test, it can be concluded that the problem-based learning model is effective in improving the critical thinking skills of students in class VIII SMP Negeri 3 Gerung.

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