TASANEE PUMIRAT : A STUDY OF ABILITY TO ANALYZE DISCOURSE TYPES IN ENGLISH READING OF MATHAYOM SUKSA SIX STUDENTS, BANGKOK METROPOLIS. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSO.PROF. SUPATRA AKSARANUGRAHA. 149 PP. ISBN 974-581-995-6

The study was conducted in order to study: (1) the ability to analyze discourse types in English reading of mathayom suksa six students, Bangkok Metropolis, (2) the ability to analyze five discourse types in English reading, that is, description, collection, cause-effect, comparison, and problem-solution, of mathayom suksa six students, Bangkok Metropolis. The subjects were mathayom suksa six students in the academic year of 1991, being stratified and randomly selected from sixteen secondary schools in Bangkok Metropolis. The total number of the subjects was 480. A test was designed by the researcher in an attempt to measure the ability to analyze five discourse types in English reading. The content validity was examined by five experts, and the reliability of the test, the level of difficulty, and the power of discrimination of each item in the test were statistically analyzed. After that, the subjects were tested and the obtained data were calculated to determine the arithmetic mean and the percentage. The results of the study revealed that:

1. The students' mean score of the ability to analyze discourse types in English reading was 41.54 of 75 total score or 55.39 by percent.

2. The students' mean scores of the ability to analyze five discourse types were respectively ranged as follows: collection: 9.31 of 15 total score or 62.07 by percent; description: 8.56 or 57.07; comparison: 8.35 or 55.67; problem-solution: 8.08 or 53.07 and cause-effect: 7.24 or 48.27