**Using Collaborative Learning Approach to Improve Learner’s Mental Lexicon of Words Association**

**Abstract.** English mastery for college students has been demanding nowadays. Therefore, English instructors have been inspired to design instructional activities and content knowledge to facilitate learning through contextual language use. One primary concern of contextual language teaching is comprehensible inputs and how they are processed cognitively to result in comprehensible and meaningful outputs. This study aims at looking at two perspectives, psycholinguistics and language pedagogy, to actually explain how mental lexicon is wired into students’ cognitive development. This study involved 60 college students in their senior years attending an English course in Institut Teknologi Kalimantan. By employing classroom action research, this study found best practices facilitating the mastery of collocation. The result shows that collaborative learning helps most students to create a dynamic and supportive learning environment to reduce anxiety while a reading text allows more opportunities to level up their mental lexicon ability.