## **ABSTRACT**

Harefa, Putri Natalia, Registration Number 2203121032, Challenges in Applying Independent Curriculum through Project-Based Learning in Grade X at SMA Free Methodist, A Thesis, English and Literature Department, Faculty of Language and Arts, State University of Medan, 2024.

This study aimed to investigate the applying Independent Curriculum through Project-Based Learning used by teacher based on Krajcik's Theory. This research was conducted using qualitative methods to investigate Project-Based Learning. The data collection techniques used in this research were observation and interview. The result of this research showed significant improvement in students' understanding and their personal growth as active learners, with the teacher noting increased confident students' articulation of their knowledge. Overall, the study demonstrated the potential of Project-Based Learning in fostering a deeper understanding of real-world issues while promoting essential life skills. This research provided the insight for English teachers by demonstrating how Project-Based Learning can enhance student engagement, critical thinking, and collaboration. Thereby, offering a beneficial approach to teaching English language learners and promoting deeper understanding of real-world issues.

**Keywords: Project-Based Learning, Independent Curriculum, Learning Characteristics** 

