

**THE CORRELATION BETWEEN LEARNING INTEREST AND
READING COMPREHENSION ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SEVENTH
GRADE STUDENTS OF SMP NEGERI 6 SUNGAI LILIN**

THESIS

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FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
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THESIS


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SURAT PERNYATAAN

Saya yang bertanda tangan dibawah ini:

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Menyatakan bahwa skripsi berjudul :

The Correlation between Learning Interest and Reading Comprehension Achievement of the Seventh Grade Students of SMP Negeri 6 Sungai Lilin.
Beserta seluruh isinya benar merupakan hasil karya saya sendiri dan saya tidak melakukan penjiplakan atau pengutipan dengan cara-cara yang tidak sesuai dengan etika keilmuan dan masyarakat ilmiah.

Atas pernyataan ini, saya siap menerima segala sanksi yang berlaku atau yang ditetapkan untuk itu, apabila dikemudian hari ternyata pernyataan saya tidak benar atau ada klaim dari pihak lain terhadap skripsi saya.

Palembang, 26 Agustus 2021
Yang Menyatakan



Dewi Risnawati

Motto and Dedication

Motto

There will always be a way and ease for everyone who has good intentions

This thesis is dedicated to:

- ♥ **My lovely parents, Dalhari and Supriyanti thanks for your pray, love, support, motivation and everything. I really love you.**
- ♥ **My beloved young brother (Gunawan) and sister (Maudy Nayla Diandra) who always cares about me and always make me happy.**
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ABSTRACT

Risnawati, Dewi. 372017026. The Correlation between Learning Interest and Reading Comprehension Achievement of the Seventh Grade Students of SMP Negeri 6 Sungai Lilin. Thesis, English Education Study Program, Sarjana Degree (S1), Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Universitas Muhammadiyah Palembang. Advisors: (1) Prof. Dr. Indawan Syahri, M.Pd. (2) Masagus Sulaiman, S.Pd., M.Pd.

Keywords: correlation, learning interest, reading comprehension achievement

This study deals with the correlation between learning interest and reading comprehension achievement of the seventh grade students of SMP Negeri 6 Sungai Lilin. The population of the study was all of the seventh grade students in the academic year of 2021/2022 which consisted 36 students and the sample was taken by using total sampling techniques with the total number of 36 students. The main objective of this study is to find out the relationship between students' learning interest (independent variable) and their reading comprehension achievement (dependent variable). The method used in this study was correlational design. The instruments used to gather the data were test and questionnaire. The score from both instruments were calculated and analyzed by using statistical procedure of Product Moment Correlation to see whether there was correlation between the two variables or not. The result showed that there was a correlation, with the index value of correlation coefficient (r -obtained) of 0,768 was higher than the index value of correlation coefficient of the Product Moment table (r_t) of 0,320 which meant that the null hypothesis (H_0) was rejected and alternative hypothesis (H_a) was accepted. In conclusion, there was a strong significance correlation between the two variables. Based on the findings mentioned above, the researcher assumes that the higher students' learning interest the higher students' reading comprehension achievement and the lower students' learning interest the lower students' reading comprehension achievement. Therefore, it can be concluded that learning interest is important role because it can increase students reading comprehension achievement.

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The writer hopes that the thesis give worthwhile contribution the improvement of the English teaching and learning process. The researcher realizes this thesis is still far from being prefect. For that the writer hopes the constructive critics and suggestion from all readers for perfection of this thesis. May Allah SWT, always gives guidance and blessing us. *Amiin Ya Rabbal' Alamin.*

Palembang, August 2021

The Writer

DR

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes (1) background of the study, (2) problem of the study, (3) objective of the study, (4) significance of the study, and (5) hypotheses of the study.

A. Background of Study

Reading is one of the important skills, because it can help students gain information, train to have a good reading habit, enrich knowledge, and model of a good writing. According to Richards & Schmidt (2010), reading is the processes by which the meaning of a written text is understood (p.483). In reading activity, students should be able to comprehend meaning of texts to get information and also knowledge from texts. Thus, it can be concluded that readers not only should know the meaning of words but also be able to harmer contained in texts.

In addition, Moreillon (2007) states that reading is making meaning from print and from visual information (p.10). It means that in reading activity, students should be able to get information from texts that can be in printed or visual forms. Hadyan (2013) says that reading is an activity done by people in order to get information out of a test (p.2). The goal of teaching reading is to assist students in improving their reading skill so that they can read English text efficiently and effectively.

Furthermore, Grabe and Stoller (2020) state that reading comprehension is the ability to understand and interpret information from a text appropriately (p.11). On other side, Snow (2002) says that reading comprehension is the process of extracting and constructing meaning together through interaction and involvement with written language (p.11). Reading comprehension can be defined as a process of interpreting meaning and it is not only reading the words, but also proceeding and even interpreting knowledge efficiently and fluently.

Interest in learning especially in reading can increase students' ability in understanding the subject. Because, with good interest they can enjoy in learning, they more active in class, and get many involving with the activities happening in

class such as asking and answering question. However, Indonesian students' have difficulties in comprehending English texts, one of them is because English is not their mother tongue. In line with the statements, it can be said that reading comprehension is an activity which is difficult to be done. One of the activities that reveals the lack of reading comprehension is the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) in 2018. It showed that the level of literacy of Indonesian was 74th from 79 countries which were participating in the test. According to the report, the Indonesian students' mean reading performance score of 371 in 2018 marks a 21-point decrease from the 2015 score and puts Indonesians far below the OECD average of 487.

Furthermore, based on the researcher's observation when she did KKN program at SMP Negeri 6 Sungai Lilin. The researcher found the real condition of students in reading, most of them were lack of interest in tended to learning text. They think that reading was a boring task, and they felt bored when they did it. Some of causes why the students almost get lose with interest in learning such as they are difficult to understand with teachers' explanation and they think English is difficult subject and not easy to understand it. In addition, researcher found that students were lazy to take the time to study and were lazy to go library.

There are several strategies involving student's interest in learning. To involve the student's interest in learning find out what students are intense about and then use those interests as a natural instigator to increase engagement. According to Harackiewicz, Smith and Priniski (2016) interest is a powerful motivational process that energizes learning and guides academic and career trajectories and is essential to academic success (p.1). Furthermore, Hidi and Harackiewicz (2000) say that when students are interest in an academic topic, they are more likely to go to class, pay attention, become engaged, take more courses, as well as process information effectively and ultimately perform well. Teachers have an important role in teaching learning process, because they play a vital role in the overall development of the students. So, the teacher must find the way how to increase students interest in learning English especially in reading text.

In fact, learning interest is possible to have a relationship to learning result because interest is an awareness of learning for students. Mindful learning will give

different results when compared to careless learning. So the higher the interest the higher the learning result by students, from the explanation stated, the researcher was interested in conducting a research under the title “**The Correlation between Learning Interest and Reading Comprehension Achievement of the Seventh Grade Students of SMP Negeri 6 Sungai Lilin**”.

B. Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study mentioned above, the identification of the problem of the research are:

1. The students have low interest in learning English
2. The students have low interest in reading
3. The students' reading comprehension are low

1. Limitation of the Problem

The limitation of the problem is the researcher wanted to analyze whether there is a significant correlation between learning interest and reading comprehension achievement of the seventh grade students of SMP Negeri 6 Sungai Lilin.

2. Formulation of the Problem

Based on the background above the researcher can be formulated the problem as follow: is there any significant correlation between learning interest and students' reading comprehension achievement of the seventh grade students of SMP Negeri 6 Sungai Lilin?

C. Objective of the Study

The objective of the study is to know whether or not there is a correlation between learning interest and students' reading comprehension achievement of the seventh grade students of SMP Negeri 6 Sungai Lilin.

D. Significance of the Study

The significance of the study may be useful for the following parties:

a. For English teacher

The findings of this study are expected to be able to improve their responsibilities in teaching their students.

b. For students

The result of this study is expected to increase their interesting Learning English.

c. For the other researchers

The results of this study are hoped as a basic consideration and basic information for other researchers do the further investigation or deep on going research.

E. Hypotheses of the Study

The researcher purposes two hypothesis in this study namely the null hypothesis (H_0) and alternative hypothesis (H_a) as follows:

a. H_0 : There is no significant correlation between learning interest and reading comprehension achievement of the seventh grade students of SMP 6 Negeri Sungai Lilin.

b. H_a : There is a significant correlation between learning interest and reading comprehension achievement of the seventh grade students of SMP 6 Negeri Sungai Lilin.

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