AN ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH STUDENTS' HABIT ON DIGITAL READING ON ACADEMIC TEXT

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AN ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH STUDENTS' HABIT ON DIGITAL READING

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ABSTRAK

Rizky. 2022. *Students' Perception Towards Online Listening Class*. Skripsi, Jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan, Universitas Islam Malang. Pembimbing I: Dr. Atik Umamah, S.Pd., M.Pd ; Pembimbing II; Dr. Imam Wahyudi Karimullah, S.Pd., S.S., M,Pd.

Keywords: membaca digital, kebiasaan, bahasa Inggris.

Dalam hal memperoleh informasi, keterampilan membaca dianggap sebagai kompetensi dasar yang menentukan keterampilan individu dalam menerima informasi tertulis dan kecerdasan umum suatu masyarakat. Bahan bacaan di era teknologi dapat diakses dengan mudah melalui internet yang menawarkan akses informasi terutama bagi generasi baru. Tersedianya bahan bacaan digital di internet memungkinkan pembaca untuk mengakses segala macam informasi dari seluruh dunia, artinya setiap individu di dunia ini dengan jangkauan internet memiliki kesempatan yang sama untuk menimba ilmu. Untuk itu peneliti tertarik untuk melakukan penelitian tentang kebiasaan membaca siswa dalam setting digital.

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian deskriptif kualitatif dengan instrumen kuesioner online dan wawancara semi terstruktur. Data penelitian ini dikumpulkan dari 10 mahasiswa jurusan Bahasa Inggris semester 7 Universitas Islam Malang. Analisis data menggunakan analisis kualitatif yang terdiri dari reduksi data, pengelompokan, pengkodean, dan interpretasi untuk mendapatkan data sebagai kesimpulan.

Hal ini menunjukkan bahwa frekuensi membaca siswa sangat ditentukan oleh tuntutan dan kebutuhan akademik. Semua siswa juga lebih menyukai teks digital karena kepraktisan, mudah digunakan dan ketersediaan materi di internet, dan siswa cenderung memilih bahan bacaan yang ringan dan pendek. Semua siswa memberikan tanggapan positif karena kenyamanan dan keakraban menggunakan teks digital serta pengalaman dalam membaca teks akademik digital. Namun terdapat juga kendala yang dihadapi oleh mahasiswa seperti masalah visual, mata lelah, kelelahan dan masalah teknis seperti terlalu lama untuk dibuka, file rusak, kesenjangan antara dosen dan mahasiswa dalam metode membaca dan perlindungan di beberapa teks digital yang diunduh.

ABSTRACT

Rizky. 2022. *Students' Perception Towards Online Listening Class*. Skripsi, English Education Department Faculty of Teacher Training and Education University of Islam Malang. Advisor I: Dr. Atik Umamah, S.Pd., M.Pd ; Advisor II; Dr. Imam Wahyudi Karimullah, S.Pd., S.S., M,Pd.

Keywords: Digital reading, habit, English.

In term of acquiring information reading skill is considered as basic competency that determines individuals' skill in receiving written information and general intellect of a society. Reading material in this era of technology can be accessed easily through internet which offer access to information especially for newer generations. The availability of digital reading material in the internet allows the reader to access all kinds of information from around the world, it means that every individual in this world with internet coverage have the same opportunity to gain knowledge. For this reason, the researcher interested in conducting study about the students reading habit in digital setting.

This study used a descriptive qualitative research method using online questionnaire and semi-structured interviews as the instrument. The data for this research were collected from 10 students of the English department from the 7th Semester at University of Islam Malang. The data are analysed using qualitative analysis that consists of data reduction, grouping, coding, and interpretation to get the data as a conclusion.

The shows that the students' reading frequency is mostly determined by academic demands and necessity. All the students also preferred digital text due to its practicality, easy to use and availability of the material on the internet, and the students tend to choose lightweight and shorter reading materials. All the students give positive responses due to the convenience and familiarity of using digital text as well as experience in reading digital academic text. However, there are also difficulties encountered by students like visual problems, eyestrain, tiredness and technical issues like taking too long to open, corrupted file, the gap between lecturer and students in reading method and protection in some downloaded digital text.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This introduction chapter explains the background of the studies, the Statement of the problems and purposes of the study, scope and limitation, the significance of the study and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Human life nowadays has changed significantly for the last 200 years due to the advancement of technology and global scale communication. As stated by Demir (2021) in the last two centuries, many changes have been identified in societies mostly due to technological developments, such as Internet and digital tools and devices, affecting all aspects of lives and communities. These advancement of technology affects many aspects in human life, from community scale such as economy, politics and education to individual's daily activities such as e commerce, digital currency, online documents and exchange of information. According to Tanjung (2017) to carry out social life and develop their knowledge people rely on information that can be acquired through direct communication as well as recorded and written material.

In term of acquiring information reading is the skill that allows individual to obtain knowledge from any parts of the world. Reading skill is an important language skill that allows reader to access global scale information in any point of time (Palani, 2012).

Reading is considered as fundamental skill that determines individuals' skill in receiving written information and general intellect of a society (Cahyono & Widiati, 2006). According to Loan (2011) reading is one of the eldest habits of human society and potentially the one of a kind without an equal substitute as humans have been reading since the dawn of age where knowledge have been passed down through generations. According to Cheung & Huang (2005) reading first developed in the form of manuscript for many ages until the discovery of printing press during the global industrialization that makes printed word available. Williamson (2008) added that the arrival of internet allows the access to digital reading material.

Nowadays reading material can be accessed easily through internet with a quick access to information where newer generation tend to neglect printed material like books, magazines or newspapers (Male, 2020). The availability of digital reading material in the internet allows the reader to access all kinds of information from around the world, it means that every individual in this world with internet coverage have the same opportunity to gain knowledge. According to Wibowo (2015), internet have changed reading culture, everyone can do everything online only by clicking or surfing the internet for particular purposes such as for knowledge, information, entertainment and other needs. A study by Parmis, Fernandez and Barro (2020) also found that students' reading habits had shifted from paper-based to internet-based reading.

Moreover, Tanjung 2017 shows that technology have changed people reading interest from printed to digitalized version as they tend to read using gadgets and spent time on the internet every day.

There are many studies aimed to analyze the influence of digital reading material towards reading habit in a society, for instace, the studies by (Tanjung, 2017; Parmis, Fernandez and Barro (2020) found that students' interest and habit in reading shifted from printed to digital version, this is shown in both studies that they prefer using gadgets to read instead using books. Moreover, Marasol and Kim (2019) shows that the students have more positive attitude with academic and recreational reading through digital material than reading in the print setting, but female students shows positive attitude towards both digital and printed setting. Additionally, a study conducted by Akidi, Agbase and Chukwueke (2021) showed that the majority of the students are active in using internet to study, prepare for exams, assignments, and chatting with friends, but neglecting the use of printed media such as books and printed articles.

From these previous studies, found the gap that most of the studies discusses about the influence of digital media towards reading but did not describe how the students read in digital setting, therefore, the researcher interested in conducting study about the students reading habit in digital setting.

1.2 Research Problems

Based on the background of the study about issues in writing literature review, the researcher writes the research questions as follows:

1. How do the students read English academic text on digital material?

2. How do the students perceive the benefits and difficulties in reading academic text in digital reading?

1.3 Purpose of the Research

According to the problems of the study, the researcher formulates the purpose of the research as follows:

1. To identify how students read English academic text on digital material.

2. To identify the students benefit and difficulty in reading academic text in digital reading.

1.4   Scope and Limitation of the Study

The research was conducted on English department students at University of Islam Malang, because the study is limited to English digital reading, and English department students are the most suitable participants for this study. The participants also limited to 7th semester because at this semester, students is expected to read a lot as most of the course focused on research and preparation for Thesis writing. Moreover, 7th semester students in pandemic situation mostly read from research articles and journals that usually available in the internet as digital fromat. The research is limited on the topic of digital reading and not reading in general. The number of participants in the interview is limited to 10 participants because it is sufficient for qualitative study and to save time and resources that is limited. In terms of the data collection, the researcher only managed to get 30

participants from all the population due to data collection time is limited to one week.

1.5.   Significance of the Study

This study provides beneficial scientific contribution to the study of reading habit especially digital reading.

1.5.1 Theoretical Benefit

Theoretically, the result of this research can give beneficial information about digital reading habit as well as possible benefits and difficulties in reading digital material.

1.5.2.   Practical Benefit

The result of the study provides the information of the students' digital reading habit as well as the benefit and difficulties in reading digital material. The information gives practical information to the readers as follows.

A. For students:

. This study informs and benefits the students about how other students read digital material in terms of preference, frequency and intensity to motivate and develop their own digital reading habit. Furthermore, this study informs the students with possible benefit and difficulties to help them carry out their digital reading.

B. For lecturer:

This research provides implication to the lecturer about university students' reading habit as well as the benefit and difficulties as the reference for the lecturers to facilitate material based on students' interest and to develop the way to optimize the benefits and minimize the difficulties of digital reading.

C. For Researcher

This study informs the next researchers about the steps, theories and particular method used by the current researcher to conduct the study about the current topic. This provides beneficial information for the next researcher to conduct upcoming research on related topic.

1.6 Definition of the Term

This section will explain the definition of the key terms used in this research to avoid misunderstanding.

1. Digital Reading

The term digital reading refers to reading activity using digital material that can be opened via gadget and computer instead of printed papers, but not necessarily have to be connected with internet. In this study, digital reading refers to how students read academic text using digital file.

2. Reading Habit

The term reading habit in this study refers to how the readers read that involves their reading frequency, preference, and intensity to read academic text using digital files.

3. Digital reading material

   The term digital reading material refers to academic reading material that can be accessed via computer, mobile phone or other gadget which in this study refers to academic text using digital files such as PDF and e book.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter explains briefly about the conclusion of the study from the findings and discussion to answer the research questions.

5.1 Conclusion

The result concluded that the students' reading frequency is mostly determined by academic demands and necessity. There are two notable reading patterns of students such as read less but consistent and read more but not in regular basis. All the students also preferred digital text due to its practicality, easy to use and availability of the material on the internet, and the students tend to choose lightweight and shorter material like journal articles. The result also shows that all the students give positive responses due to the convenience and familiarity of using digital text. Moreover, the students have positive experience in reading digital academic text, as it enables the students to read faster, accurate and more effectively with the availability of material and the support of features in digital platforms. Digital text also allows the students to find information in quicker and accurate way. The study also indicated some advantages and benefits of digital text such as the convenience, availability and easy to access, the use of features in digital text, and faster to read and the ability to copy and paste and own many articles in one device. There are also difficulties encountered by students like visual problems, eyestrain, tiredness and technical issues like taking too long to

open, corrupted file, the gap between lecturer and students in reading method and protection in some downloaded digital text.

5.2 Suggestions

From the conclusions of the study, the researcher also includes suggestions intended for the students, lecturers and future researchers related to reading academic text in digital format.

For the students it is suggested to utilize the benefits and features of digital text optimally as well as learn independently and always adapt to learning environment with sufficient effort because technology will keep expanding and always affect learning in the future. Moreover, despite of the difficulties in reading digital text, there are more benefits in reading academic text in digital setting, so it is suggested for the students to use its benefits optimally.

For the lecturers it is suggested to promote students' interest in reading digital academic text by giving more consideration about students' reading preferences and motivate them to learn independently using plentiful reading sources in the internet. It is also suggested to direct the students in detail about what kinds of text and levels of difficulties that suit them.

For the next researcher, it is suggested to further study about digital texts by focusing on the disadvantages and difficulties of reading using texts, and also how to minimize disadvantages and difficulties and optimize the benefits of digital texts, so that digital texts can be used effectively especially for English teaching and learning.

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