A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF STUDENTS' INTEREST IN READING AT THE EIGHTH GRADE OF SMPN 3 KOTABUMI ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/2022

[1]Rizqa Cahya Ramadani, [2]Rini Susilowati, [3]Irawan Suprapto
[1]rizqacahya99@gmail.com, [2]rini.ariyanto12@gmail.com, [3]supraptoirawan@gmail.com

[1,2,3]Universitas Muhammadiyah Kotabumi

Abstract: Reading is an activity in reading text that is useful for understanding the content of reading, reading as an activity to obtain information and messages given in written language. Interest is a feeling of liking or liking for something. Interest is a sense of liking and a sense of attachment to a thing or activity, without anyone telling. Reading interest is an interest that encourages individuals to carry out activities, pay attention, and enjoy reading activities. Interest creates a positive attitude towards an object, that is something fun that emerges from an object, and enjoyable reading. The limitation of the problem in this study was to determine the reading interest of eighth grade students at SMPN 3 Kotabumi. This research uses descriptive quantitative, the sample that the researcher takes is 32 students. In collecting the data, the researcher used a questionnaire and documentation. Data analysis was carried out by processing the data using percentages. The results of data processing from the reading interest questionnaire obtained from the overall recapitulation of students with a score of 59.9% who answered yes, and 40.1% with no. And in more detail, as many as 10 students (31.5%) low reading interest with an average English reading score of 61.7, 15 students (46.8%) high reading interest category with an average English reading score of 77.3 and 7 students (21.8%) reading interest in the very high category with an average English reading score of 9.00. So, it can be concluded that the reading interest of students at SMPN 3 Kotabumi, for those whose percentage of reading interest is getting higher, tends to have good reading scores in English.

Keywords: Interest, Reading, Students

Abstrak: Membaca adalah kegiatan dalam membaca teks yang berguna untuk memahami isi bacaan, membaca sebagai kegiatan untuk memperoleh informasi dan pesan yang diberikan dalam bahasa tulis. Minat adalah perasaan suka atau senang terhadap sesuatu. Minat adalah rasa suka dan rasa keterikatan terhadap suatu hal atau kegiatan, tanpa ada yang menyuruh. Minat baca adalah minat yang mendorong individu untuk melakukan aktivitas, memperhatikan, dan menikmati aktivitas membaca. Minat menimbulkan sikap positif terhadap suatu objek, yaitu sesuatu yang menyenangkan yang muncul dari suatu objek, dan bacaan yang menyenangkan. Batasan masalah dalam penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui minat baca siswa kelas delapan di SMPN 3 Kotabumi. Penelitian ini menggunakan kuantitatif deskriptif, sampel yang peneliti ambil yaitu 32 siswa. Dalam pengumpulan data tersebut, peneliti menggunakan angket dan dokumentasi. Analisis data dilakukan dengan olah data menggunakan persentase. Hasil olah data dari angket minat baca yang diperoleh dari keseluruhan rekapitulasi siswa dengan score 59,9% yang menjawab iya, dan 40,1% dengan jawaban tidak. Dan lebih rincinya adalah sebanyak 10 siswa (31,5%) minat baca rendah dengan rata-rata nilai membaca Bahasa Inggris adalah 61,7, 15 siswa (46,8%) minat baca kategori tinggi

[1]Mahasiswa Universitas Muhammadiyah Kotabumi
[2,3]Dosen Universitas Muhammadiyah Kotabumi

dengan rata-rata nilai membaca Bahasa Inggris adalah 77,3 dan 7 siswa (21,8%) minat baca kategori sangat tinggi dengan rata-rata nilai membaca Bahasa Inggris adalah 9,00. Maka, dapat disimpulkan bahwa minat baca siswa di SMPN 3 Kotabumi bagi yang persentase minat bacanya semakin tinggi sehingga cenderung nilai membaca Bahasa Inggrisnya baik.

Kata Kunci : Minat, Membaca, Siswa

1. INTRODUCTION

Reading is an activity in reading text that is useful in understanding the content of reading, reading as an activity to obtain information and messages given in written language Dewi (2020 p. 241). Reading is an active effort on the part of the reader to understand an author's message. According to Astuti (2013, p. 17) reading is a process of seeing and responding, as the reading process depends on the ability to see symbols. Reading is also an activity of a person to obtain information or messages in the form of written language. In addition, Wicaksana (2015, p. 27) states that reading is a process of recognizing words and integrating the meaning of words in sentences and reading structures, so that the end result of the reading process is that someone is able to make the essence of the reading.

Interest is a feeling of liking or great pleasure towards something. Interest is also the most important basic in the learning process. Interest is the development and direction of individuals or groups that will produce the expected generation. Interest can also be interpreted as a process that encourages and arises in the individual and the behavior it causes. According to Djaali (2013, p. 101) interest is psychological in a person to carry out useful activities to achieve a goal.

Interest is a sense of liking and a sense of attachment to a thing or activity, without anyone telling. Interest is basically the acceptance of a relationship between oneself and something outside oneself. The stronger or closer the relationship, the greater the interest. According to Singgih

(2013, p. 8) Interest according to psychology is the tendency to always pay attention and remember something continuously.

Reading interest is an interest that encourages individuals to do activity, pay attention, and enjoy the activity in reading. Interest raises a positive attitude towards an object, which is something pleasant that emerges from an object, and enjoyable reading. Reading interest grows from one person, so that to increase reading interest requires the awareness of each individual. The problem of reading interest is still a fairly current theme. This theme is often used as a topic of scientific meetings and discussions by observers and experts who care about the development of reading interest in Indonesia. This theme is always used as a material for discussion with experts who really care about the development of reading interest in Indonesia.

Students reading interest is something that makes students like reading more reading interest is an activity in reading that encourages individual to look for references in learning. According to Ormrod (2008, p.20) interest in reading is one of the main factors that support and educate people's live, and interest in reading begins at an early age. In other words, get used to reading by reading more. Improve logical oral skills. The opinion above, one of the factors causing dyslexia is the influence of students' reading interest. Therefore, it is necessary to make efforts to increase students' interest in reading so that they can continue to enjoy reading.

Reading is an important activity in our daily life, as it not only provides information but also a tool to help us expand our knowledge about many things in life. Reading will improve comprehension skill and improve thinking skill, increase activity and also acquainted with new ideas. According to Rahim (2008, p. 28) students reading interest is a strong desire accompanied by someone's effort to read. People who have a strong interest in

reading will be manifested in his willingness to obtain reading material. Reading interest is the tendency from basic language understanding to obtain information that is closely related to reading activity and feelings of pleasure that allow individuals to choose a reading. High reading interest will encourage students to continue reading a lot, for example, students' awareness in reading and the number of books that students want to read. According to Apriyati (2013, p. 5) reading interest is the students interest and enthusiasm in reading avtivities, student are introduced to read material from child to adult then the students habits will affect reading interest and effectiveness of learning at school.

Attempts to gain the students interested in reading should be done in any efforts, especially educators using a variety of methods and media developed through a conference variant. It is important to discuss other alternative media to develop interest in reading to be a bridge to master

the new information. It is able to conclude that reading interest is a strong desire strong accompanied by efforts that encourage someone to do activity in reading. Reading interest will lead students to read above his own awareness and pleasure**.** Reading interest usually arises because of students' thought and the awareness about the benefits of reading, for example to find meaning in reading, understand reading books, add information and develop intellectuality.

Based on the interview done with the English teacher of SMPN 3 kotabumi on wednesday 17 march 2021, students' reading interest in reading English still low. This is due to several factors such as a lack knowledge of the word which results the students to have difficulty in understanding many words that even when the students reading. They have difficulty to comprehend the content of the reading properly, because the students have difficulty in mastering vocabulary.

In Indonesia, people's interest in reading is still low which is very concerning, it is able to be seen from various study conducted in Indonesia. International Education Achievement (IEA) reports that reading proficiency of Junior High School students in Indonesia rank 38 out of 39 participating study. The Political and Economy Risk Country (PERC) surveys, a consulting agency in Singapore, at the end of 2001 placing Indonesia in the order of 12 out of 12 countries in Asia studied regarding reading interest. Based on UNESCO (2012, p.8), it is stated that the reading interest index in Indonesia is new reaches 0.001. In order to every 1,000 people there is only one person who has in interest in reading. The data illustrates how low the public's interest in reading.

The low reading proficiency of students in school is due to the system learning in Indonesia that has not made students have to read book. Many types of entertainment, games and TV show distract students and adults from book.

Many amusement is able to waste the time. Many book are relatively expensive which is not proportional to people's purchasing, and lack of attention from parents in become other factor that cause students to have low interest in reading.

Reading need understanding the content seriously. Based on the above problems, the researcher will conduct the research title. A descriptive study of students interest in reading at the eight grade of SMPN 3 Kotabumi academic year 2021/2022.

II. METHOD

Research Method

In this research, the researcher used descriptive method, with quantitative approach. Researcher used descriptive research because this research is not to test hypotheses but to describe phenomena that exist in the field. According to Nazir (2012, p.54) this descriptive method is a method

that examines humans, objects, conditions and events in the present. Based on the description above, it can be said as a description that revolves around the problem by carrying out research, it can be said to describe something that is objective and natural.

Research Instrument

In this study, the instruments that the researcher used were questionnaires and documentation. Instruments are basic things that must be prepared and must be considered in conducting research. The instrument is a means used by researchers to obtain data collection. In this study, researcher used a questionnaire to determine students' interest in reading. Questionnaires are a few questions to the identification of the topics in this study. A questionnaire is a form of a written question that is used to obtain information from respondents. The researcher made a questionnaires which was distributed

directly to students at SMPN 3 Kotabumi, the questionnaires consisted of 24 statement and 2 answer choice namely yes or no. Researcher used documentation in the form of students' score. The result of students' reading given by the English teacher.

Data Collecting Technique

Data collection is the steps in obtaining complete, objective and accountable data in accordance with the research problem. To obtain the data needed in this study, researcher used several techniques as follows:

1. Questionnaire

Questionnaire is a data collection technique in the form of statement. Researcher give questionnaire to the eight grade students of SMPN 3 Kotabumi. This study used a questionnaire, the list of statement is in the form of a guttman scale. This study uses Guttman scale because the

researcher want to get information about students' interest in reading.

2. Documentation

According to Sugiyono (2018, p. 476) documentation is a method used to obtain data and information in the form of books, archives, documents, written numbers and pictures in the form of reports and information.

Data Analysis Techniques

In analyzing the data the researcher used descriptive technique. Namely analysis that describes the conditions and phenomena that occur. To support the data collected by qualitative analysis, to measure students' interest in reading. The researcher uses this formula from Sudijono (2008, p. 43) as follows:

$$P = \frac{F}{N} \text{ x } 100\%$$

Description :

P = percentage of answers

F = answer frequency

N = number of respondents

Interest level criteria are from Setiawan (2018, p. 48)

1. 81% - 100% (very high)

2. 63% - 80% (high)

3. 44% - 62% (low)

4. 25% - 43% (very low)

This category is to see how low or high the student's score is given by the teacher determined by Permendikbud (2016, no 23)

< 70 (Low)

70 – 85 (High)

86 – 100 (Very High)

Table 1 Score Value of Questionnaire

No	Score Value	
1	Yes	1
2	No	0

Source: Sugiyono (2019, p. 150)

III.   RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

In this study, data collection was carried out for 2 weeks, starting from November 10, 2021 to November 25, 2021. In collecting data, researchers used

questionnaires and documentation. the function of this questionnaire is to determine the category of reading interest, and the documentation function is only to strengthen the data in the questionnaire which is the student's value in reading.

The number of samples for this study was 32 students. This closed questionnaire is what the researcher distributes to students and the researcher will present the questionnaire data in tabular form to make it easier to read and understand the table. From the table it will be known what percentage of answers to determine the interest of SMPN 3 Kotabumi students in the very high, high,

low or very low categories. The researcher uses this formula from Sudijono (2008, p.43)

$$P = \frac{F}{N} \text{ x } 100\%$$

Description :

P = percentage of answers

F = answer frequency

N = number of respondents

The results of processing the percentage data will explain the level of student interest in reading. While the documentation as a supporting tool and analyzed and described to strengthen the answer with an explanation of the percentage from the table.

1. Questionnaires

Table 2
Recapitulation of All Students' Questionnaire About Reading Interest

NO	STATEMENT	ANSWER FREQUENCY				TOTAL	
		YES		NO			
		F	%	F	%	N	P
1	24	**460**	59,9	308	**40,1**	**768**	100%

The following is a table of the result of the calculation recapitulation of all students

about reading interest. It can be seen that respondents chose the answer YES as much

as 460 , and respondents chose the answer NO as much as 308.

Then subtituted into this formula :

$$P = \frac{F}{N} \times 100\%$$

$$P = \frac{460}{768} \times 100\%$$

P = 59,9 %

Therefore, it can be concluded that all students' interest in reading is in the low category, because judging from the criteria the value of 44% - 62% is in the low category.

2. Documentation

The researcher got the student's reading score from the English lesson teacher. There are 3 categories in student scores, namely very high, high, and low (see appendix 4)

This is the value for measuring the value of reading English as determined by the Minister of Education and Culture (2016, no 23). There are 3 criteria for the assessment of students' learning outcomes, namely :

< 70 (Low)

70-85 (High)

86 – 100 (Very High)

In more detail, there are as many individual questionnaires as there are 10 students' or 31,5% with an average value of 61,7 in low category, 15 students or 46,8% with an average value of 77,3 in high category, and 7 students or 21,8 with an average value 9,00 in very high category.

From these data, there is a tendency that the higher the interest, the better the students score. If reading interest is low, then students learning outcomes are not good.

Therefore, it can be concluded that there are several number of respondents who fall into 3 categories. 10 students in the low category, 15 students in the high category and 7 students in the very high category.

Based on the conclusions above, the researcher will discuss, the results of the questionnaire which 59.9%, namely from the low category. Then the result of students' interest in reading is low. Students

who have low reading interest are expected to continue to increase their desire to read. Students who have high and very high categories continue to maintain their reading interest so that the results are good.

Discussion

In this section, from the steps of the results of the questionnaire data research that has been carried out, it can provide clear findings about the problems discussed. In the implementation of this study, the results of data acquisition were taken from questionnaires and documentation. Based on the results of the calculation of students' reading interest as a whole, a score of 59.9% was obtained. This means that students' reading interest is low, it is said to be low because at a score of 59.9% it falls into the range of values between 44% - 62%, namely in the low category.

According to Rahim (2008, p.16) there are several factors that influence reading interest namely psychological factors is students growth in the learning process, intellectual factors namely one's intelligence, environmental factors namely student activities outside school, at home and support from parents and psychological factors namely interest and motivation in students.

The results of the student questionnaire showed low reading interest, this was due to a lack of motivation and not use the time in a good way. If you want to achieve good results, it is necessary to have a reading habit, one of which is an interest in reading. The habit of reading will not be formed without the efforts of students. According to Crow and Crow in Najamiah (2017, p. 28-30) it is stated that a person's efforts if they want to have an interest will try to have a book to read books, when students have a strong desire then there must be an effort made to achieve that desire.

Based on the results of the research above, it can be concluded that the overall students interest is low. Therefore, efforts

are needed from students and support from parents and teachers so that the learning process can run very well and is expected to study hard and practice and be interested in reading.

IV.   CONCLUSION AND SUGESTION

Conclusion

Based on the results of the research that has been stated in the results of the research and the previous discussion of the formulation of the problems presented, the researcher can conclude as follows:

It can be said that the overall students' interest is low. This can be seen from the results of the calculation of the students' questionnaire as a whole which obtained a score of 59.9% with a score range between 44% - 62% and was in the low category.

Suggestion

Through this thesis, the researcher would like to provide suggestions for consideration. The suggestions are as follows:

1. For school,

School are expected to make every effort to provide books, short stories, school internet access and all things related to increasing students' interest in reading. It is also expected to provide special time for students to read at school. Students who have a high interest in reading will easily follow the learning process.

2. For Teachers,

Teachers are expected to never get tired of educating students to always read. Reading is very important so that students have the habit of reading, reading whatever is available. Lead them to acquire a high interest in reading and the depth of knowledge from the reading experience will lead them to greater achievements.

3. for All students,

Students are expected to always increase their interest in reading and curiosity about everything so that

knowledge becomes wider and deeper, thus opening up great opportunities for success. The researcher has tried his best to ensure that there are no errors in this research, but the researcher realizes that this research cannot be separated from weaknesses and mistakes, therefore, for our common good and for the perfection of this thesis, suggestions and constructive criticism from readers are expected. The researcher hopes that this thesis will be useful for all of us, especially for researcher.

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