

**MANGA COMICS IN PRACTICING EXTENSIVE READING
COMPREHENSION FOR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS: A
NARRATIVE RESEARCH**

A THESIS

**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of
Sarjana Pendidikan in English Education Department**



By:

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**ENGLISH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND TEACHER TRAINING
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K.H. ABDURRAHMAN WAHID PEKALONGAN**

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Dengan ini mohon agar skripsi tersebut segera dimunaqosahkan.

Demikian nota pembimbing ini dibuat untuk digunakan sebagaimana mestinya. Atas perhatian bapak/Ibu, saya sampaikan terima kasih.

Wassalamu'alaikum Wr.Wb.

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MOTTO

“The Earth without ART, is just EH”

Anonymous

“Follow your dream like breaker. Even if it breaks down”

Bangtan Sonyeondan

ABSTRAK

Komik manga merupakan salah satu media bacaan yang dapat membuat pembacanya terhibur. Dalam aspek pendidikan, komik manga juga memiliki peran yang dapat membantu siswa dalam melatih kemampuan membaca atau sebagai media pembelajaran. Penelitian ini meneliti bagaimana kita dapat melatih kemampuan membaca kita melalui komik manga, khususnya membaca pemahaman. Ada beberapa strategi membaca pemahaman yang dikutip oleh Gilakjani. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif dengan wawancara terbuka sebagai media pengumpulan data. Dalam menganalisis data, penelitian ini menggunakan teori Braun dan Clarke. Data diperoleh dari tiga orang mahasiswa dengan kualifikasi membaca komik manga dalam bahasa Inggris dan tentunya menggunakan metode membaca pemahaman ketika membaca komik manga. Ketiga mahasiswa ini juga memiliki wawasan yang mendalam mengenai komik manga. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa ketiga siswa menggunakan tiga dari tujuh strategi pemahaman membaca yang ada. Ketiga strategi tersebut adalah mengaktifkan dan menggunakan latar belakang pengetahuan, membuat dan mengajukan pertanyaan, dan memprediksi. Selama penerapan strategi membaca pemahaman, ketiga siswa mengalami beberapa kesulitan. Ada tiga kesulitan yang dihadapi yaitu prediksi yang salah, keterbatasan kosakata, dan ilustrasi cerita yang kurang jelas. Para peneliti berharap bahwa penelitian ini dapat menjadi refleksi dan evaluasi terhadap komik manga sebagai media pembelajaran.

Kata Kunci: *Manga Komik, Membaca Komprehensif, Strategi Membaca Komprehensif*

ABSTRACT

Manga comics are one of the reading media that can keep readers entertained. In the education aspect, manga comics also have a role that can help students train their reading skills or serve as a learning medium. This research examined how we can practice our reading skills through manga comics, especially reading comprehension. There are several reading comprehension strategies cited by Gilakjani. This research used a qualitative method with open interviews as a medium for collecting data. In analyzed the data, this study uses the theories of Braun and Clarke. Data were obtained from three students with the qualification of reading manga comics in English and, of course, using the reading comprehension method when reading manga comics. These three students also have a deep insight into manga comics. The results of this study show that three students used three of the seven existing reading comprehension strategies. The three strategies are activating and using background knowledge, generating and asking questions, and predicting. During the application of reading comprehension strategies, the three students experienced some difficulties. There are three difficulties faced such as wrong predictions, vocabulary limitations, and unclear story illustrations. The researchers hopes that this research can be a reflection and evaluation of manga comics as a learning media.

Keywords: Manga Comics, Reading Comprehension, Strategy of Reading Comprehension

PREFACE

Praises and gratefulness are sent to Allah SWT who has poured His grace and His gift and bestowed me guidance, health, and patience so that the writing process of my research proposal research **“Manga Comics in Practicing Extensive Reading Comprehension for University Students: A Narrative Research”** can be completed. It is submitted to English Education Department, UIN K.H Abdurrahman Wahid Pekalongan to fulfil one of the requirements for Degree of Sarjana Pendidikan. This study can be accomplished because of many supports from several people. Therefore, in this occasion I would like to express my sincere gratitude to:

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The Researcher

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Reading is an activity that we do almost every day. When we read, the thing that needs to be considered is the meaning of the words or sentences we read. And the meaning that we understand can have a different meaning too when other people read it. Reading may also need more processes than we realize. It may be useful to use teaching strategies that support reading activities and engage the reader in various ways (Kirby, 2007). Especially in reading comprehension. It can influence academic success and our later life functioning and performance (Yurko, 2020). Therefore, reading comprehension is so important for developing our reading. Such as read manga comics. It as a text accompanied by image for easier understanding the storyline (Jumiatty, 2023).

Reading comprehension refers to the ability to understand and make meaning from written text. According to Lipka (2012), reading comprehension is a multi-dimensional process that includes the reader, the text, and factors associated with the activity of reading. Reading comprehension connects two or more pieces of information in one understanding (Kirby, 2007). It is like the system in manga comics, which combines text and images to understand the storyline.

Extensive reading is the most effective way to approach language development (Brown, 2008). It's we read what we love and what we want to

read. Like magazines, newspapers, books, or e-books. We can find them everywhere. Students can read more text from the interesting thing. From that, students will understand the text easily. Extensive reading also can help beginners for select text to find their favorite ones (Day, 2003). It showed that extensive reading is a simple way to start a reading habit.

Manga is a part of Japanese art culture that has been known around the world. It is a Japanese comic or Japanese illustrated book that consists of a Japanese style of drawing (Anggraini, 2014). Learning media is not limited only to books. And not all media can be used as learning media. So, manga can be used as a learning media is that it contains illustrated text that is different from other story books. There is a coherence between illustrated and the text, students can easily understand and analyze it. Like Murakami and Bryce (2009) said “By combining visual and verbal texts with stories, manga can make difficult topics easy to understand.” In addition, manga comics are famous in Indonesia, especially among teenagers.

Anggraini (2014) mentioned that manga comics can be developed as learning media to motivate students to learn enthusiastically. It could be a solution for the students to choose manga comics as learning media. Manga comics can certainly have their interests as learning media because they contain images, not just written conversations.

The disadvantages, the words and sentences in authentic reading materials are complicated. Also, it makes the students with a lower level of English difficult to understand the content because it is taken directly from

the sources without being edited by the teacher. Sometimes, the information found in authentic material is from past material, and it has lost its validity (Islam, 2015). Berardo (2006) also argued that the worst thing about authentic material is when the reading process applied the wrong types of text, so the vocabulary is not suitable and relevant to students' needs. Thus, it will make students demotivated in doing the reading.

On the other side, manga comics are just delivered for manga lovers. Eventually, not all students can read manga comics as reading materials. Robbani (2021) said that words and sentences are complicated in manga comics. The information is taken directly from the sources without being modified by the teacher. This problem narrows for the students when they will read manga comics and makes it difficult for students with a lower level of English to understand it. Berardo (2006) also mentioned the worst part of real information is when incorrect sorts of texts were read during the reading process, resulting in vocabulary that is inappropriate and irrelevant to what students need. Thus, it can make students hard to start reading activities.

Several previous studies discuss manga comics in education. But there are some differences such as the skill that it focuses on or has a different manga comics title. The researcher chose this title due to his passion for manga comics. According to the researcher's observation about manga comics, there is proof that manga comics can be a learning media in extensive reading comprehension in those 3 participants, especially for enhancing reading comprehension. The result of this study will help college

students to learn reading comprehension with manga comics as media learning.

1.2 Formulation of The Problems

This study provides two questions:

1. What are the students' strategies in learning extensive reading comprehension through manga comics?
2. What are the students' difficulties in learning extensive reading comprehension by using manga comics?

1.3 Operational Definitions

Based on the thesis title, the researcher provides some definitions as follows:

1. Manga comics are a media of fan cultures and cross-cultural creations interrelating local needs with global formats and a genre-prone media which foregrounds aesthetic conventions, characterized by open rather than bounded structures ranging from narrative seriality to networked environments (Berndt, 2019).
2. Reading comprehension is the understanding of what a particular text means and the ideas the author is attempting to convey, both textual and subtextual (Yurko, 2020).
3. Visual reading is an understanding of data obtained from a visual source of information and it plays an important role in thinking (Batur, 2019).

1.4 Aims of The Study

This research aimed to explore how students practice reading comprehension through manga comics as their something most like to read.

1.5 Significance of The Study

1. Theoretical : This study help Gilakjani's theory and give information about the benefit when we use manga comics in education as a learning reading comprehension.
2. Empirical : This study provides insight into manga comics can be a learning media of learning reading comprehension.
3. Practical : This study provides information to readers about how the students learn reading comprehension by using manga comics, what are the difficulties, and the strategies for learning reading through manga comics as a learning media.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

5.1 Summary of The Findings

Based on the result and discussion, the findings revealed that students used some strategies during learning extensive reading comprehension in manga comics, namely activating and using background knowledge; generating and asking questions; predicting. Each strategy has its criteria to be used in reading comprehension. However, there are still many difficulties faced by the reader in applying those strategies, namely wrong prediction, vocabulary limitations, and unclear story illustrations. In this context, the participants faced those strategies while applying the strategy of reading comprehension. Each difficulties have some impacts on their reading comprehension strategies in reading manga comics.

5.2 Recommendation

In this section, the researcher would like to offer some recommendations. Further manga comics research, especially exploring strategies, can explore the strategies and the way how to solve them. The researcher hopes further researchers could reviewed this topic with different focus, as well as adding reliable reference sources.

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