

**STUDENTS' EXPERIENCES OF USING E-BOOKS IN
READING COMPREHENSION**

A THESIS

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



By :

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**ENGLISH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
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Wassalamu 'alaikum Wr.Wb.

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MOTTO

Pain is temporary. It may last a minute, or an hour, or a day, or a year, but eventually it will subside and something else will take its place. If I quit, however, it lasts forever.

(Lance Amstrong)

ABSTRAK

Saat ini teknologi memiliki peran penting dalam dunia pendidikan. Hal ini membawa inovasi baru berupa buku cetak ke buku elektronik yang banyak digunakan saat ini. Berdasarkan kasus ini, tujuan utama dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menyelidiki pengalaman siswa menggunakan e-book dalam pemahaman membaca. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif. Peneliti mewawancarai 4 siswa bahasa Inggris di universitas untuk mengumpulkan data. Data dianalisis dengan menggunakan analisis tematik berdasarkan teori Braun dan Clarke dan teori pemahaman membaca oleh Grellet. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa mahasiswa memiliki pengalaman positif menggunakan e-book di universitas. Siswa menjelaskan implementasi unsur-unsur membaca pemahaman. Unsur-unsur pemahaman bacaan menunjukkan bahwa masing-masing unsur saling mempengaruhi. Siswa memiliki pengalaman positif juga terlihat dari kelebihan yang dijelaskan oleh siswa. Mereka menjelaskan bahwa e-book bersifat fleksibel, mudah diakses, mudah digunakan, dan menarik untuk dibaca. Namun, e-book juga memiliki kekurangan yang dijelaskan oleh siswa. Kelemahan yang dijelaskan oleh siswa yaitu gangguan teknis dan cahaya layar yang dapat melukai mata mereka. Penelitian ini berfungsi sebagai evaluasi proses belajar mengajar menggunakan e-book dalam pemahaman membaca, yang diyakini dapat membantu untuk pendidik dan mahasiswa khususnya di tingkat perguruan tinggi.

Kata Kunci: Media Pembelajaran, E-book, Reading Comprehension

ABSTRACT

Technology has an important role in the world of education nowadays. It brings new innovations in the form of print books to electronic books that are widely used today. Based on this case, the main objective of this study is to investigate students' experiences of using e-books in reading comprehension. This study used a qualitative approach. The researcher interviewed 4 English students university to collect the data. The data was analyzed by using thematic analysis based on Braun and Clarke's theory and theory of reading comprehension by Grellet. The result of this study showed that students had positive experiences of using e-books in the university. Students explained the implementation of the elements of reading comprehension. The elements of reading comprehension showed that each elements are affecting the other. Students had positive experiences also showed from the advantages that were explained by the students. They explained that e-books are flexible, accessible, easy to use, and interesting to read. However, e-books also had disadvantages that were explained by the students. The disadvantage that explained by the students are technical distraction and the screen light that can hurt their eyes. This study becomes as an evaluation of the teaching and learning process of using e-books in reading comprehension, which is believed to be helpful for educators and students, especially at the university level.

Keywords: Learning Media, E-books, Reading Comprehension

PREFACE

Praise and thank god extend to me the gifts, favors, health, and patience that have given me in the process of writing this thesis. My thesis is titled "Students' Experience in Learning English Through Content on Instagram" and can be completed. It is submitted to the English Education Department, UIN K.H. Abdurrahman Wahid Pekalongan to fulfill one of the requirements of the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree at the English Education Department of Faculty of Education and Teacher Training, UIN K.H. Abdurrahman Wahid Pekalongan. I realized that the writing of the thesis was well done, since there was considerable support from several people. Therefore, on this occasion I express more gratitude for:

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The Writer

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The digital era brings a revolution that changed practically everything in our life, including the education sector (Sharma, 2017). This situation brings many things that have been shared on digital pages including books as learning media to read. Some studies found that learning activities in universities have the highest ratio of reading e-books (Cumaonglu, Sacici & Torun, 2013; Alexander, Carroll, 2016). E-book literacy has increased. It was observed that print books must have an electronic format and books in hard copy format changes in e-book format. Using the electronic version of the books as the media shows that e-books have many advantages and have important purposes for students in university (Cumaonglu, Sacici & Torun, 2013; Alexander, Carroll, 2016). Other studies showed that the use of e-books in university education is feasible (Majid et al, 2019). Students are beginning to accept the use of e-books for research purposes and accept the use of e-books as textbooks, but students are still hesitant to accept e-books as the primary format for reading in their spare time (Al Saadi, 2017). E-books cannot replace print books as the primary format for reading in their learning activities, students still prefer print books to e-books (Majid et al, 2019; Al Saadi 2017).

In Indonesia, technology can be used as a tool in learning activities. Some universities in Indonesia has often used electronic books as a media to

reading material. Students at the university level are active in reading e-books (Saalan, 2019). Current technology that used e-books as media in the education field becomes a very important tool in the educational world. Teachers and students in universities hard to get rid of reading e-books nowadays, and it grows up to dominate the learning media in learning English (Shama, 2017).

In reading books students have to read with comprehension to get the point of the books that they have read. Reading is the basic skill that is needed by the student to achieve academic success. Unfortunately, not every student has a good reading skill. Fakhrudin (2005) have find out the students' problems in comprehending English reading texts. The findings showed that the factors that probably make the students have difficulties in understanding English reading texts are related to vocabulary, grammar knowledge, and reading interest. Therefore, learning media is needed to support learning process in reading text.

Some of studies have been conducted to determine the advantages of using e-books in elementary school and junior high school to make the students more comprehending in reading text. Well-designed e-book learning system could provide a more personalized learning experience for the students (Huang, Liang, Chiu. 2013, Hanif, 2019). Despite all of the advantages of ebooks, studies from various locations and times have consistently shown that students, including those who have some experience reading ebooks, prefer printed book format over e-book format (Woody,

Daniel, Baker, 2010). Even in a developed country such as the United States, where the number of ebooks used as a percentage of library collections is quite high, the preference remains for printed format when it comes to the examination of substantive use (Goodwin, 2014). Although some studies have found that e-books might replace printed books the other studies also found that students are not ready to surrender printed books even though they mostly prefer reading e-books. (Alhammad, R, Yu-Ku, H, 2016)

Available research mostly investigated the use of e-book for student in elementary school, junior high school. Therefore, this study intends to fill the gap from the previous studies by investigating English students of using e-books in reading comprehension at the university level. From the explanation above, the researcher wants to investigate this topic, with the title "Students' Experiences of Using E-books in Reading Comprehension". This research is expected to be useful for teachers and students, especially at the university level as an evaluation of the teaching and learning process of using e-books in learning English.

1.2 Formulation of the Problem

This study provides two research questions :

1. What are students' experiences of using e-books in reading comprehension in English?
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of using e-books in reading comprehension for english students in university?

1.3 Operational Definitions

1. Learning Media is a tool for communicating the message of learning.
2. E-book is a digitally published electronic version of a book that contains text, images, and sound.
3. Reading Comprehension is understanding a written text means extracting the required information from it as efficiently as possible.

1.4 Aims of the Study

This research aims to identifying students' experiences of using e-book in reading comprehension, and find out the advantages and disadvantages of using e-books.

1.5 Significances of the Study

This significance of this research are explained as follows.

1. Theoretical Significance

This study contributed to Grellet's theory which supports theories relating to the reading comprehension.

2. Empirical Significance

This study give empirical insights into the students' experiences of using e-books in reading comprehension.

3. Practical Significance

This study is expected to be useful for teachers and students, especially at the university level as an evaluation of the teaching and learning process in using e-books.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

This chapter presents two sections. The first section is the summary of the research findings that have been discussed before. The second section contains suggestions for university students, lecturers, and future researchers.

5.1 Summary of the findings

This study have two research questions. The first questions ask about students' experiences of using e-books in reading comprehension in English. The second question is about the advantages and disadvantages of using e-books for students in the university.

Students' experiences of using e-books in reading comprehension had positive experiences by the English students in the university. Students explained the implementation of the elements of reading comprehension. The elements of reading comprehension showed that each elements are affecting the other. The type of the books are affected by the purposes of why they read the books, it also affected how the way they read the books. These elements are connected to each other.

Students had positive experiences also showed from the advantages that were explained by the students. They explained that e-books are flexible, accessible, easy to use, and interesting to read. However, e-books also had disadvantages that were explained by the students. The first disadvantage is a

technical distraction that can disturb when students read e-books. The second disadvantage is the screen light that can hurt their eyes.

5.2 Suggestion

In this section, the researcher would like to provide some suggestions for university students, lecturers, and future researchers. First, the result of this study expectedly would be useful for English students in university about using e-books in reading comprehension. Second, this research expectedly lectures to use e-books as a learning media in teaching reading comprehension. Third, future researchers should expand the research by conducting a deep investigation and adding more references related to the students' experiences of using e-books in reading comprehension. It is also possible to increase the number of participants to obtain more detailed relevant information.

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