

# Revealing Students' Reading Practice in English Language Department

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**Abstract—** The title of this paper is "Revealing Students' Reading Practice In English Language Department". This research about an analysis on exploring EFL students reading practice especially for students of English Department at State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya. From this research the objective are to know reading quality of the participants and the reason of reading. It can be useful for the lecture who teach at PBI UINSA . Lecturers will know how the reading quality of students and what they often read will affect the performance of students in the classroom.

The research method used is descriptive qualitative and how to analyze the data of this research is using descriptive statistic. As a usual descriptive statistic in the data collection to identify the data and other form and also to know frequency counts were tabulated and converted to percentages. The instrument of the research is questionnaire ,it used to explore the reading practice and the reading quality of English Department students. The respondents of this research are 70 students from English Teacher Education Department at State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya. There are 51 Female and 19 Male. These students are from all semester in English Teacher Education Department. The result of this research shows that most of students prefer to read using Indonesian. They prefer to read any sources when they have free time. Based on the data, the most media that usually used by the participants is Smartphone. The participants argue that reading using English can improve their skill in English. In fact, most of participants prefer to read using Indonesian rather than English.

**Keywords:** *reading practice, reading, reading practice in language department*

## I.INTRODUCTION

Reading is an activity that has not yet become a habit in Indonesia. The problem is students have a low interest in reading ,they prefer to another activities which are more attractive than reading. Based on data from national library (2017) that the avrage of Indonesian just read book three or fourth times a week with thirthy minutes until fifty nine minutes duration.Besides, Najwa Shihab as Indonesian literacy ambassadorsaid that it is challenges for her because Indonesian reading practice is still low. She argues that students only need to find one book to love reading. Find one book. Let's love reading. According to Most Littered Nation in The World of Central Connecticut State University (2016) found that the rank of Indonesian students' reading practice is in 62 from 65 countries. Moreover, Society of advanced countries in Europe,United State, Japan and Korea make a reading become one of mandatory activities in their daily life. This can be a reflection of developed country like Indonesia of which reading habit is still low.

Reading habit should be possessed by undergraduate students . In addition, Some previous studies have proven that reading is essential for EFL language proficiency. It can improve hand-eye coordination, enhance people's social skills, and etc. Regarding the importance of reading, it is essential that students who learn English as their foreign language. Iftanti (2012) found the EFL students' reading habits inEnglish is low. As said by Estika (2019) that college students prefer reading by online resources. As known by people that college students

will get many assignments, many discussions about some topics, many presentation, and etc. So that is why students need to practice the reading using good sources.

Erna Iftanti (2012) observed the English reading habits of Indonesian students of EFL. The finding is although the students have read English since elementary school, they do not indicate to have good English reading habits. Only few of them are identified to have good English reading habits as suggested by their eagerness to regularly spend time reading various types of English texts and their high motivation to read English for pleasure. The EFL students read English for some purposes such as for assignments, for pleasure, and for improving their skill and knowledge. They know that reading can improve their skill but they only read for school assignments.

Estika Satriani(2019) explored that Reading habit can be improved using online reading resources. There were 75% students have already have got reading habit. It has segnifiانت increase because online resources. By using online resources it can change the students who have low motivation in reading to be more motivated. This research was conducted on faculty of teacher training Islamic university on Riau. The participants were 156 students from different classes. The significant reasons of reading habit is to complete the task. So, online reading resorces can help the students to complete their tasks, get more information, to improve their reading skill, and to make reading more interested.

Lindita Skenderi(2017) states that the reading habit in college student on Macedonia not really good. Some of them more enjoy reading and prefer some romantic,historic or economic book. The reasons why students reading habit is nor good because of some factors. Those are the use of social networks,schedule very busy at school, and spent their time with friends . This research also shows that the students Macedonia don't read through printed newspaperand they believe that reading habit have become better after enrolling at university.The partipants who took part in the survey is 149, and researcher distributed the questionnaire by online, following random sampling. The participants are from both ethnic background, Macedonians and Albanians.

As said by many researchers before that some of students will read sources when there is an assignment from the lecturer. The reasons are because of students always use social media and the schedule in school is complicated. All researchers before were focus on the reasons why students read and about how is students' reading habit. Those researchers have not yet focus on how is the quality of students' reading practice. Do they read some journals? Do they like reading status? Or reading some information by whatsapp? Or instagram?. This

research will reveal the quality of students' reading habit in English education department at State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya. also researcher will use qualitative descriptive as the method to analyze the data. The data will be taken from questionnaire and interview. By doing this research, it can inform the lecturer about the common resources that are mostly read and also the quality of reading resources content.

**II. METHOD**

This research focuses on exploring EFL students reading practice especially for students of English department at State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Besides, it also focuses on students' reading quality. The respondents of this research are 70 students from English Teacher Education Department at State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya. There are 51 Female and 19Male. These students are from all semester in English Teacher Education Department. The questionnaire used in this study was from Erasmus but it was revised based on this research needs. The questionnaire is used to explore the reading practice and the reading quality of English Department students. It was focused on the participants quality in reading. The researcher distributed the questionnaire by whatsapp group. While giving the questionnaire, the researcher informs the participant about how to answer the questionnaire. Data of the study was analyzed using descriptive statistic where frequency counts were tabulated and converted to percentages.

**III. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

**1. Reasons for Reading**

<b>Reasons for Reading</b>	<b>Types of material</b>
<b>ASSIGNMENT TO IMPROVE ENGLISH SKILL</b>	Journal (13) E-book (29) Novel (41)
<b>PLEASURE HAVING FREE TIME</b>	Gossip (12) Magazine (20) Comic (25) News (39)

In terms of reasons for reading, this study identify some reasons such as for assignments, improving English skill, pleasure, and having free time. The types of study for improving English skill and assignment are journal, e-book, and novel. Whereas those cited for pleasure and having free time are gossip, magazine, comic, and news. From the data shows that the purpose of reading the students of PBI UINSA is to spend time or just fun / hobbies that have become the habits of the participants. However, the results of the second reading goal,

namely to complete the task or as a way to improve English skills are also not significantly different. Here shows that students of PBI UINSA often spend time reading fun genres to add insight and pleasure. On the other hand, the participants also read academic writing to improve English skills. Because this is a duty or obligation as a student majoring in English Education.

**2. Reading duration a day**

Based on the questionnaire, the participants duration of reading in a day is 34% of them spend 30 minutes and more to read. Then, 30% of them spend 15 minutes to read. The next is 21% of them only read around less than 15 minutes and the rest of the participants only read when they get bored.

**3. Media used in reading**



In this research, researcher uses questionnaire as the instrument. The favorite media is one of the measuring instruments in measuring the quality of the reading. Previous researchers have chosen media selections, including Print books, laptops, Smartphones, Tablets or iPad and books. 92 percent of students like to use smartphones when they read a. Students argue that using a smartphone when reading becomes more flexible. Students choose smartphones because they can save more money. After that as many as 48 percent of students choose print book media to be the preferred media that is often used, but Books become a media that is very rarely used for reading. Only 1 percent of students choose books as a medium for reading. Students prefer print books to books when reading. Most of them choose Print book because they have better reading quality in terms of content and author. They argue that most of the books sold do not have good quality reading, indeed there are books that contain quality but they have to pay a rather expensive fee. On the other hand the price of the print book itself is cheaper than buying a book. Technology is the main choice, such as laptops and tablets or ipad. Students more often use laptop media. Then 31 percent of students choose laptops as a medium for reading and only 2 percent of students who choose tablets or ipad become media in reading. Students say that the price that makes them choose a laptop from a tablet or ipad becomes the media when they read.

**4. Favorite Place for Reading**



Based on the data, the most favorite place for reading is in bedroom with the total 62.9%. The second place that participants prefer to read is everywhere with the total 35%. The next place is library with the total 22.9%. The other places are living room, bathroom, school, with the total less than 10%

**5. Preferred Language to Read**

Based on the data of the participants, most of the participants prefer to read using Indonesian rather than English. Even they are from English Department students but they prefer read using Indonesian. Most of them said that reading using English is a bit difficult especially in understanding the meaning. Besides, there are some vocabularies that difficult to be understood. It should be with frequent reading of English reading, it can expand knowledge or enrich our vocabulary. But, we are already too comfortable with Indonesian which is the national language of participants.

**6. Trust in Reading English**



Reading using English can be very useful for some people because English can improve some skills. Based on the data above, most of the participants with the total 75% believe that reading using English can improve English skill. Besides, some others participants with the total 15% believe that reading using English can improve their knowledge. The next is other participants with the total 6% believe that it can be a factor for their academic skill.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Overall findings of this research reveal that the English Teacher Education Department in State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya prefer to read different types of reading materials, have different reasons for reading as well as demonstrated language preference in reading. The result of this research is most of students prefer to read novel using Indonesian. They prefer to read any sources when they have free time. Based on the data, most of the participants are comfortable to read in the bedroom. The most media that usually used by the participants is smartphone. The participants argue that reading using English can improve their skill in English. In fact, most of participants prefer to read using Indonesian rather than English.

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