Abstract

One of the most crucial challenges faced by foreign language teachers is to make students aware how is important reading to support their learning. Reading will contribute to students' success in studying their subjects. This descriptive qualitative study aimed to investigate the factors inhibiting students to read at English Language Education Department of an Islamic private university in Yogyakarta. In addition, interview was used as the data collection method. Based on the research of this study, there are seven factors which inhibit students to read. These factors are time constraints, web attraction, social life, personal concerns, type of reading texts, lack of background knowledge and language proficiency in English. The time constraints such as doing home work, part time job and house chores do not allow them to have reading time. Students also reluctant to read because they prefer to have social media, hang out and me-time. Moreover students do not want to read because they do not like to read a scienctific or academic text. Furthermore, students are also reluctant to read because the text is written in English. They found difficulty in understanding the vocabulary, structure, and the context of the language.

Keywords: reading skills, the importance of reading, and the factors inhibiting students to read.