

**The Correlation between Senior High School Students' Reading Habit in  
English and Vocabulary Mastery**

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## **PUBLICATION SCRIPT**

### **The Correlation between Senior High School Students' Reading Habit in English and Vocabulary Mastery**

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#### **Abstract**

Reading becomes one of the most important skills in learning English because it declared in the Holy Quran, chapter (surah) Al-Alaq regarding its importance. The students need to improve their vocabulary mastery because there are some vocabularies in every part of reading. In order, the students need to build good reading habit in English because it was beneficial to improve vocabulary mastery. As the fact, it was not easy for the students to build good reading habit in English because they still difficult to understand the language. Then, this research was to find out the correlation between senior high school students' reading habit and their vocabulary mastery.

This research used quantitative approach with correlational design. The respondent of this research were 108 students from 150 students' grad XI in one senior high school at Yogyakarta. The questionnaire and vocabulary test as the instruments used to measure the data. Then, Pearson product moment used to measure the correlation. The first finding showed that senior high school students' reading habit in English in low category because the mean value was 12.65. Then, the vocabulary mastery was in low category because the mean value was 5.16.

Additionally, the H1 or there is a correlation between reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery is accepted because the significant value was 0.019 and lower than 0.015. It means that between reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery has positive significant low correlation and reading habit is main point to improve students' vocabulary mastery.

*Keywords: Reading, reading habit and vocabulary mastery*

## **Introduction**

Reading is the most important skill to increase language ability because it is declared in the Holy Quran surah Al ‘Alaq (96):1 which first line, *Iqro* or read. It means that reading is important. Then, for the senior high school students need to improve vocabulary mastery because there are some vocabularies in every part of reading. In order, the students need to build good reading habit in English because the habit of reading is beneficial to improve vocabulary mastery. It is supported to Patel and Jain (2014) who stated that reading habit is reading activity that regularly and repeatedly done by people which is beneficial to improve vocabulary mastery. Then, without mastering the vocabulary the students will be difficult to understand the language. It means that the students need to have good reading habit to improve their vocabulary mastery because Syaifuddin (2016) found that there is a correlation between reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery.

However, to build good reading habit is not easy for the senior high school students because they believe that English is very difficult for them and they do not understand the language. It makes them not interesting to build reading habit. It is supported to Iftanti (2015) who found that Indonesian students have low reading habit. Based on that, this research aim's to investigate the senior high school students' reading habit in English, to identify the senior high school students' vocabulary mastery and to find out the correlation between reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery.

## **Literature Review**

Reading habit is reading activity where it is done regularly without intimidation from others and includes indicators such as; frequency, time allocation and variety of text. According to Chettri and Rout (2013), reading habit is reading activity that repeatedly carried out by people. Also, Sari (2016) found that reading habit is a habit of reading when the students are reading frequently and happily. Then, Shen (2006) stated that to identify students' reading habit there are some aspects such as; time allocation, frequency of reading and material of reading. Moreover, Richards (2001) stated that there are two kinds of materials text such as; authentic including novels or short story and created material including text book. Therefore, reading habit is important to improve vocabulary mastery (Owusu-Acheaw, 2014).

Moreover, vocabulary mastery is important for the student because according Alqahtani (2015), the students need to mastery the vocabulary by increasing their reading habit because without mastering the vocabulary the students will difficult to understand the language. Therefore, Syaifuddin (2016) stated that between reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery has positive significant medium correlation. It means that, reading habit is one of the way to improve vocabulary mastery because when the student have good reading habit it automatically improve their vocabulary mastery. Based on that, the hypothesis of this research is H1 or there is a correlation between reading habit and vocabulary mastery.

## **Research Methodology**

This research used quantitative approach and correlation design to confirm the correlation between senior high school students' reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery. Then, this research conducted at one senior high school in Yogyakarta. Additionally, the sample of this research was 108 students grad XI from the total population were 150 students including four classes there were XI IIK (*Agama*) with 31 students, XI IPA 1 with 27 with students, XI IPS 3 with 24 students and IPS 1 with 27 students as the respondent of this research.

This research used modified questionnaire and vocabulary test. Furthermore, the questionnaire was modified from Tikasari (2014) research including 8 statements which valid and reliable to measure students reading habit in English then the questionnaire was in Indonesian language. Also, the vocabulary test modified from Nation (2017) provides 17 questions in multiple choices. To analyze the data, the researcher used descriptive statistic and inferential statistic. Pearson product moment used to measure the correlation between reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery.

## **Finding and Discussion**

Firstly, the senior high school students' reading habit in English has various level there were low and intermediate. However, the mean value was 12.65. It means that the senior high school students' reading habit in English is in low level. Moreover, it was possible because most of the students stated never to read English frequently so their frequency of reading is low. Then, they were

belongs to category of non readers or readers who do not read for pleasure. Probably they were not read because they difficult to choose the material that they want to read for pleasure. It can be concluded that may be the students have low reading habit because the students not read English regularly so they have low frequency in reading and they may not interesting to read because they nor read for pleasure and still difficult to choose the materials that they want to read.

Secondly, the vocabulary mastery was considered in low level because the mean value was 5.16 but the students' vocabulary mastery has various level there were low, intermediate and high. In this context, it was possible for the students to have low vocabulary mastery because they do not know the words and rarely to use the words. Also, probably the students not focus in learning vocabulary mastery because they also mastering the four language skill such as; reading, listening, writing and speaking. Then, it also possible for the students have low reading habit because they not focus in doing the test. It was because the time allocation of the test was quickly. So, it can be concluded the students have low vocabulary mastery because they rarely to use the vocabulary, do not know the meaning of the words, not focus in learning vocabulary and not focus in doing the test.

Thirdly, between reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery has a positive significant in low correlation it was because the significant value was 0.019 which is lower than 0.05. Also, the coefficient value was 0.255 which is belongs to low category. It can be concluded that the H1 of there is a correlation between reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery is accepted. It was

supported to Syaifuddin (2016) who found that there is a correlation between reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery.

Additionally, the correlation was positive correlation which means that if the students have good reading habit in English then their vocabulary mastery was considered in good level. In this context found that students reading habit in English and vocabulary mastery have low category. It can be concluded that reading habit in English improve vocabulary mastery and it affect to students' vocabulary mastery. Also, reading habit is the main factor to improve vocabulary mastery.

### **Conclusion**

Senior high school students' reading habit was in low category and their vocabulary mastery was considered in low category. Furthermore, there is a significant positive correlation between reading habit and vocabulary mastery because the significant value was 0.019 lower than 0.05. It means that if the students have good reading habit they will automatically have vocabulary mastery. Then, the students need to increase reading habit because reading habit is the beneficial to improve vocabulary mastery. The students need to build motivation in reading which is beneficial to improve their reading habit. It was needed for the teacher to give more exercise to read for the students and support them in improving vocabulary mastery.

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