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## STUDENTS' DIFFICULTIES IN READING ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

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### ABSTRAK

Membaca adalah proses mengolah dan mengubah informasi dari bentuk tulisan kedalam bentuk sebuah pemahaman abstrak dalam pikiran. Membaca proses berpikir yang individual dan dipengaruhi oleh beberapa faktor, seperti: (1) skemata dan (2) kemampuan berbahasa pembaca. Koran adalah media informatif yang sangat besar pengaruhnya dalam penyebaran informasi lokal dan internasional. Era globalisasi dewasa ini telah menuntut banyaknya informasi internasional yang harus diketahui oleh Negara berkembang dan hadirnya Koran berbahasa Inggris adalah salah satu pengaruhnya. Penelitian ini melibatkan mahasiswa jurusan Sastra Inggris sebagai subyek penelitian. Hasil penelitian ini mengatakan bahwa faktor utama yang sangat mempengaruhi dalam proses membaca adalah kekhasan obyek bacaan. Penelitian ini mendapati bahwa dalam membaca Koran berbahasa Inggris, pelajar Indonesia memiliki tiga (3) kendala dalam proses pemahaman, diantaranya: (1) kosakata 20%, (2) skemata 60%, dan (3) struktur kalimat 20%. Diantara ketiga kendala atau masalah diatas skemata adalah kendala yang paling banyak dialami oleh pembaca Indonesia

Kata kunci: *membaca, narasi, deskripsi*

### INTRODUCTION

English has been global. Globalization era has made English as one of important thing for every level of human life. One of English field is in Economy; the trading system. There is a free circulation for foreign country to fill the trading activity in another country; one of the place is in Indonesia. This situation has made many English Newspapers exist in Indonesia. The English Newspapers bring some effect to the product which is

advertised; (1) the quality description looked higher, (2) the popularity of the product looked better, (3) the product looked more luxurious. As an Newspaper which advertised product, Indonesian people found have some difficulties in understanding the explanation or the meaning of the product description in the Newspaper. This condition make some Indonesian people found make mistaken in buying product objected. This situation found as one important reason to discuss the Indonesian people reading habit in

English Newspaper. Reading is a process of extracting meaning from written form into a comprehension. Reading is influenced by some factors, they are: (1) linguistics ability, (2) schemata, (3) level of reading habit. Linguistics ability is closely related with reading process. Reading process is an extracting process from a written which is contain of grammar and linguistics content, this written component will be pointed by the reader linguistic ability. The other factor of reading is schemata, schemata is an digest information from every reading material which will be interact to the new information come to the reader mind. The last factor of reading is the level of reader reading habit. A beginner reader have a different ability in reading than reader who has a lot of reading experience.

**Newspaper as a language display** media, has structure of it; title, body copy, and slogan. Title is the title of the Newspaper. Most of products display the name of the product as the title of the Newspaper. Body copy is the paragraphs in the Newspaper which explain the product, such as by giving a complete information about the product, the processes of how to use the product or any consumers experience who had use the product. The last is slogan. Slogan is a interest catching consumer attention in Newspaper. People will usually closely remember the product by remember the slogan of the product. Reading models can be analyzed from some factors. Factors in reading models are the things that influence the processes of reading. There are three broad models in reading process proposed by some theorists. They are (1) bottom-up model, (2) top-down model, and (3) interactive model. These three models will be elaborated in the following session together with some theorists in every model. These three reading model will be observed in the readers practical reading processes in

reading the English Newspaper. In conclusion, in this research there will be a description about the readers reading model in reading English Newspaper.

## READING

The process of reading is the interaction between reader and writer in the text. In reading processes, reader and writer are two subjects interact in the text. Reader's cognition is the place of the reading processes. Writer is the source of the information got in reading activities. Writer is the source of the information whom also as the reader's partner in the communication between reader and writer indirectly in the text. And last, text is the meaning potential. In reading processes text doesn't consist idea nor information before it's being read by the reader, the potential is realized in the product of understanding only by readers reading by Halliday and Widdowson (1999; 7). In conclusion, reading processes is interactions or indirect communication between reader and writer in the text.

Readers' background knowledge, concept-driven and data-driven, reader's ability in processing text, and reading context are four factors influence the processes of reading. These four factors define processes of reading. The processes of reading can be defined from some criteria. There are some criteria in defining reading processes; (1) based on the processes' characteristics, (2) based on the post of information, (3) based on the correlation of psychological and linguistics aspect.

## NEWSPAPER

As explained previously, reading processes are never released from two important general aspect in human cognition, they are; (1) schemata or the

prior knowledge and (2) the ability to use the schemata or meta-cognition. Schemata and meta-cognition are two important aspects that influence people points of view for many things around them including in reading activities or reading processes. A newspaper is a regularly scheduled publication containing news of current events, informative articles, diverse features and advertising. It usually is printed on relatively inexpensive, low-grade paper such as newsprint. By 2007, there were 6580 daily newspapers in the world selling 395 million copies a day. The worldwide recession of 2008, combined with the rapid growth of web-based alternatives, caused a serious decline in advertising and circulation, as many papers closed or sharply retrenched operations. General-interest newspapers typically publish stories on local and national political events and personalities, crime, business, entertainment, society and sports. Most traditional papers also feature an editorial page containing editorials written by an editor and columns that express the personal opinions of writers. The newspaper is typically funded by paid subscriptions and advertising. A wide variety of material has been published in newspapers, including editorial opinions, criticism, persuasion and op-eds; obituaries; entertainment features such as crosswords, sudoku and horoscopes; weather news and forecasts; advice, food and other columns; reviews of movies, plays and restaurants; classified ads; display ads, television listings, inserts from local merchants, editorial cartoons and comic strips. Since newspapers began as a journal (record of current events), the profession involved in the making of newspapers began to be called journalism. In the yellow journalism era of the 19th century, many newspapers in the United States relied on sensational stories that were meant to anger or excite

the public, rather than to inform. The restrained style of reporting that relies on fact checking and accuracy regained popularity around World War II. Criticism of journalism is varied and sometimes vehement. Credibility is questioned because of anonymous sources; errors in facts, spelling, and grammar; real or perceived bias; and scandals involving plagiarism and fabrication. In the past, newspapers have often been owned by so-called press barons, and were used for gaining a political voice. After 1920 most major newspapers became parts of chains run by large media corporations such as Gannett, The McClatchy Company, Hearst Corporation, Cox Enterprises, Landmark Media Enterprises LLC, Morris Corporation, The Tribune Company, Hollinger International, News Corporation. Newspapers have, in the modern world, played an important role in the exercise of freedom of expression. Whistle-blowers, and those who "leak" stories of corruption in political circles often choose to inform newspapers before other mediums of communication, relying on the perceived willingness of newspaper editors to expose the secrets and lies of those who would rather cover them. However, there have been many circumstances of the political autonomy of newspapers being curtailed. Opinions of other writers and readers are expressed in the op-ed ("opposite the editorial page") and letters to the editors sections of the paper. Some ways newspapers have tried to improve their credibility are: appointing ombudsmen, developing ethics policies and training, using more stringent corrections policies, communicating their processes and rationale with readers, and asking sources to review articles after publication. Reading newspaper print has a lower impact on global warming than reading online, according to one of the world's leading paper-makers, because the impact

of powering computers allegedly outweighs the impact of creating newsprint. "Reading a newspaper has a lower impact on global warming than reading the news online for 30 minutes," according to *Torraspapel's Paper*. This study is qualitative descriptive. This study described the process of reading in English Newspaper.

### METHODOLOGY AND FINDINGS

This study grouped into descriptive qualitative because this study objected to describe the quality of readers' reading processes in reading English Newspaper. This study is designed to be applied to the students of English Department. There are 12 students to be the subjects of this study. The 12 students are those who have three different level of linguistics proficiency. Linguistics proficiency used as one of invisible factor in this study because the subjects will read the Newspaper by affected with the linguistics proficiency.

TOEFL was administered to map the students linguistics proficiency; as it was explained in chapter two that linguistics proficiency is an important thing in reading processes. Linguistics proficiency test itself is used in the context of language testing to refer in general to knowledge, competence, or ability in the use of a language (Bachman, 1991: 16 in Ekalestari, 2004:24). The test is Test of English as a Foreign Language because it is one standard test to measure the English proficiency (Bachman, 1991: 16 in Ekalestari, 2004:24). The TOEFL test will be mapped into three categories; low, mid, and high. These three categories are mapped based on the score resulted after test. Students with low level of linguistics proficiency are the students who got 60-70 score of TOEFL, students with mid level of linguistics proficiency are the students who got 71-80 score of TOEFL, and last students with high level of linguistics proficiency are the students who got 81-100 score of TOEFL.

Sub ject	Familiarity Newspaper	Reading model characteristics	Linguistics Proficiency	Reading Model used
DN	Familiar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject activate schemata</li> <li>2. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning</li> <li>3. Subject handles the difficulties with reading technique</li> </ol>	Low	Interactive Reading Model
	Unfamiliar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject activate schemata</li> <li>2. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning</li> <li>3. Subject handles the difficulties with reading technique</li> </ol>		Interactive Reading Model
LM	Familiar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject activates schemata</li> <li>2. Subject reading the text for few times</li> <li>3. Subject read all the words in the text</li> </ol>	Low	Interactive Reading Model
	Unfamiliar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject read all the words in the text</li> <li>2. Subject activates schemata</li> <li>3. Subject handle the difficult words by using context clues</li> </ol>		Interactive Reading Model
PV	Familiar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject activate schemata</li> <li>2. The subject reading the text for few times</li> <li>3. The subject read all the words in the text</li> </ol>	Low	Interactive Reading Model
	Unfamiliar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject read all the words in the text</li> <li>2. Subject activates schemata</li> <li>3. the subject handle the difficult words by using context clues</li> </ol>		Interactive Reading Model
GL	Familiar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject activates schemata.</li> <li>2. Subject combines words among</li> </ol>	Low	Interactive Reading Model

		sentence into meaning.		
	Unfamiliar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning</li> <li>2. Subject focuses to the difficult words to proceed the information from the text</li> <li>3. Subject handle the difficult words by using context clues</li> </ol>		Interactive Reading Model
MS	Familiar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject activates schemata</li> <li>2. Subject focuses to the difficult words to proceed the information from the text</li> <li>3. Subject handles the difficult words by using context clues</li> </ol>	Low	Interactive Reading Model
	Unfamiliar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning</li> <li>2. Subject focuses to the difficult words to proceed the information from the text</li> <li>3. Subject handle the difficult words by using context clues</li> </ol>		Interactive Reading Model
NL	Familiar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject is unable to activate the prior knowledge</li> <li>2. Subject focuses to the difficult words to proceed the information from the text</li> <li>3. Subject handles the difficult words by using context clues</li> </ol>	Mid	Interactive Reading Model
	Unfamiliar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning</li> <li>2. Subject focuses to the difficult words to proceed the information from the text</li> <li>3. Subject handle the difficult words by using context clues</li> </ol>		Interactive Reading Model
VN	Familiar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject activates schemata</li> <li>2. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning</li> <li>3. The subject handles the difficult</li> </ol>	Mid	Interactive Reading Model

		word in context clues		
	Unfamiliar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning</li> <li>2. Subject handles the difficulties in reading technique</li> </ol>		Interactive Reading Model
HY	Familiar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject activates schemata</li> <li>2. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning</li> <li>3. The subject handle the difficult word in context clues</li> </ol>	Mid	Interactive Reading Model
	Unfamiliar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning.</li> <li>2. Subject handles the difficulties in reading technique</li> </ol>		Interactive Reading Model
BS	Familiar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject combines words into meaning</li> <li>2. The subject handles the difficult words in reading technique</li> </ol>	High	Interactive Reading Model
	Unfamiliar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning</li> <li>3. The subject handles the difficult words in context clues</li> </ol>		Interactive Reading Model
ZN	Familiar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject activates schemata</li> <li>2. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning</li> <li>3. Subject handles the difficulties in reading technique</li> </ol>	High	Interactive Reading Model
	Unfamiliar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning</li> <li>2. Subject activates schemata</li> <li>3. the subject handle the difficult words in context clues</li> </ol>		Interactive Reading Model
MR	Familiar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject activates schemata</li> <li>2. The subject reading the text for few times</li> <li>3. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning</li> </ol>	High	Interactive Reading Model



	Unfamiliar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning</li> <li>2. Subject activates schemata</li> <li>3. Subject handle the difficult words in context clues</li> </ol>		Interactive Reading Model
NJ	Familiar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject activates schemata</li> <li>2. Subject combines words among sentences into meaning</li> <li>3. Subject handles the difficult words in context clues</li> </ol>	High	Interactive Reading Model
	Unfamiliar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject activates schemata</li> <li>2. Subject combines words among the sentences into meaning</li> <li>3. Subject handles the difficult words in context clues</li> </ol>		Interactive Reading Model

Reading is fundamental. Reading is a complex cognitive processes in decoding information. Reading is an interaction between reader and writer in text as a meaning potential. As a complex cognitive processes, reading deliberates the personality in it.

Practically, reading is a difficult activity for students in general. It was found by facing the difficulties of reading and the low reading comprehension made by student. Reading processes support by some important items, schemata and linguistics proficiency are the important things in reading. The interaction between schemata and linguistics proficiency will support reading processes. As a complex cognitive processes, it is very possible that personality types affect reading processes.

Reading processes can be defined into some processes. Based on the source of information, based on the characteristics, and last, based on the psychological aspect. Based on the psychological

aspect, reading processes defined into three; bottom-up model, top-down model, and interactive model. For those reading processes, schemata and linguistics proficiency are two important things deliberated.

The findings of this research found that language of Newspaper and the advertised of the product give a lot of influence to the society's schemata. Mostly, all the society has a lot of schemata related to the advertising of the Newspaper. The distribution of Newspaper make society easier to read and understand the Newspaper, thus from this study there is an action to find the reading processes of society with their enough schemata related to the Newspaper.

Based on the research it was found that the reader's schemata made readers read the Newspaper in interactive way. Readers merely activated their schemata, interact with the content of the Newspaper and there's no difference way or reading processes for the reader of

low, mid, and high linguistic proficiency. In conclusion, all readers read the English Newspaper by using interactive reading model.

## CONCLUSION

Newspaper is a media to advertise any product, thus language of Newspaper is a unique and various. Newspaper is an interesting thing in any media. Newspaper is an interesting thing because of its structure and the words choice.

Reading is a process of absorb any meaning from printing media into meaning or comprehension. The interesting characteristics in Newspaper make readers catches the meaning in a various way. From this study, it is found that:

1. Reader read the Newspaper by take the keyword; the interesting words
2. Reader read the Newspaper by communicate with the schemata related with the Newspaper
3. In conclusion, in reading Newspaper reader use interactive reading model

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