

DESIGNING READING MATERIALS BASED ON ISTANA MAIMUN

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ABSTRACT

Reading is a crucial language skill that students must master to enhance their understanding and knowledge of various subjects. In terms of reading, various topics of text are very necessary for the language learners to make them becoming more knowledgeable. It is crucial to design reading materials which is attractive and interesting to attract students to read. This research aims to know exactly the story behind the Maimoon palace and to transcribe the story to the form of reading text. In order to conduct this research, interview method was used by the researchers to collect data. After conducting the research, there were several findings about the story of Maimoon palace from the source person in the Maimoon palace. Then, the result of interview was written in the form of story of the palace. Briefly, designing reading materials based on Maimoon palace will attract students to read the story in order to increase and enhance their reading skill and vocabulary.

Keywords: designing material, reading materials, reading comprehension

1.1 The Background of the study

Reading is a very complex process and involves many factors. For example, it involves internal and external factors of the reader himself (Nurhadi 2008). Internal factors are factors that exist within the individual who is learning, while external factors are factors that exist outside the individual (Slameto, 2013: 54).

Research conducted by Valentino (2013) shows that there is an influence of internal and external factors on student learning outcomes. Internal factors consist of physical and spiritual factors. Physical factors consist of health factors (such as physical disability) and fatigue (including spiritual and physical factors). Meanwhile, external factors consist of family, school and community. Family factors consist of all family members who can influence the child. School factors consist of teachers, learning processes, infrastructure, school principals, media and learning methods. Community factors consist of all members of society consisting of peers, scholars and others in the student's external environment (Drs. Slameto 2010, p. 54).

To be able to understand the content of a text well, you need good reading skills. Students are not only required to be able to pronounce language symbols, but also must be able to understand the information and meaning of the reading. Thus, reading activities do not only stop at the form recognition stage or initial reading stage, but also at the stage of understanding the meaning of the series of language symbols being read. This is in line with Rahim's opinion (2019: 14) which states that reading is not only a process of decoding (combining) language symbols into language sounds, but is also a process of building meaning from text or reading.

In this era of globalization, the ability to read has become truly necessary. Through reading, students or anyone can gain as much knowledge as possible from science books and other sources, such as newspapers, magazines and the internet. Students' reading abilities should be relatively good, this news is based on a curriculum that is getting better. However, reality shows that students' reading abilities at school are not yet satisfactory.

Students' lack of reading ability is caused by internal and external factors, namely students' lack of interest in reading, low student motivation to learn, low level of student intelligence, less effective learning strategies, low students' creative thinking abilities, and others. The following are some of the difficulties experienced by students in learning English and their solutions: Lack of Self-Confidence, Limited time for studying, Not Memorizing Vocabulary, Difficulty in Pronunciation, Afraid of Learning Grammar, Difficult to Translate, Not having friends to practice with.

The solution offered by researchers to overcome students' reading comprehension is to design interesting reading material with objects that people rarely know about or can be called unique.

Reading proses need reading text, there are some type of reading text namely descriptive text. Description text is a type of text that is often used and found. Based on the Big Indonesian Dictionary, descriptive text is exposition or depiction text with clear and detailed words.

Contains depictions of places, objects, places or events that can be felt, seen, smelled and heard. Description text describes the condition of the object from the author's point of view. So the writer must be able to explain concretely.

This Research intent to design a reading material based on the object related to North Sumatera one of famous building in North Sumatera is Istana Maimun. Maimun Palace is the palace of the Deli Sultanate which is one of the icons of Medan City, North Sumatra. Maimun Palace is a palace inherited from the Deli kingdom led by Sultan Al-Rasyid Perkasa Alamsyah in 1973. Maimun Palace was occupied by the 4 Malay Sultans who ruled at that time. This building was built in 1988, architected by TH Van Erp, who also worked as the Konijnlijk NederlandsIndische Leger (KNIL). Deli, with Islamic, Spanish, Indian, Dutch and Italian styles.

To support this research,the researchers took some previous study, First, Imam Fauzi and Dian Hanifah(2019) Designing Reading Materials For ESP Students Vocational High School Of Medical Science. What this previous research has in common with this research is designing reading material using qualitative methods. The data collection instrument is the same, namely the interview method. This previous research was the author's research, namely that their research only focused on Vocational High School of Medical Science students, while this research was aimed at all students without distinguishing between schools and majors.

Second, Anggraini (2022) Developing English Reading Material Of Descriptive Text For Grade X Students Of Fashion Design Sruudy Program At SMKN 1 Stabat. What previous research has in common with this research is designing reading materials using qualitative methods and text descriptions. The data collection instrument is the same, namely the interview method. This previous research was the author's research, that is, the research only focused on students of the fashion design study program at SMKN 1 Stabat who were in class X, totaling 33 students. Meanwhile, this research is aimed at all students without distinguishing between schools and majors.

Third, Ari Saputra, Sutarman Sutarman dan Syamsurrijal Syamsurrijal (2020) Designing Life Skill Based English Reading Material For Second Grade Students Of SMA Negeri 1 Pringgasela. What previous research has in common with this research is designing reading materials using qualitative methods and text descriptions. The data collection instrument is the same, namely the interview method. This previous research was the author's research, that is, the research only focused on students of the fashion design study program at SMKN 1 Stabat who were in class X, totaling 33 students. Meanwhile, this research is aimed at all students without distinguishing between schools and majors.

1.2. The problem of study

In connection with the above explanation , the research questions are:

1. What is Istana Maimun?
2. How to transform the story of the Maimun palace into a reading material?

1.3. The objectives of study

1. To find out what Maimun Palace is
2. To find out how to transform the Istana Maimun.

1.4. The scope of study

The scope of research will be focused on descriptive text

1.5. The significances of study

This research will help the reader to know more about one of the historical buildings in the city of Medan.

Method of research

2.1. Research design.

The research methodology employed in this study will involve qualitative descriptions rather than quantitative data. Subsequently, the acquired data will undergo processing and analysis, resulting in written documentation that will serve as reading material. Subsequently, the acquired data will be subjected to processing and analysis, resulting in a written format that will serve as reading material.. According to Sugiyono (2018) qualitative research methods are research methods based on philosophy, which are used to research scientific conditions (experiments) where the researcher is the instrument, data collection techniques and qualitative analysis emphasize meaning.

Qualitative research is a type of research that focuses on describing and analyzing data. Qualitative research places greater emphasis on the process and meaning from the standpoint of the subject. The theoretical framework serves as a navigational tool to ensure that the study direction aligns with the empirical evidence in the field . Research design is a structured and strategic plan or framework that provides guidance for carrying out the research process. The study design aims to provide researchers with clear and structured guidelines for conducting their investigation. To obtain responses to inquiries in a research context. Research design is a predetermined framework used to elucidate a topic. Research will be carried out according to this research design. The reasoning provides a clear framework for the subsequent steps of the process, including

the classification, interpretation, and suggestions involved in doing the research study. The selection of a research approach is a crucial decision in the research design process as it directly influences the pertinence of the information to be acquired for a study.

2.2. Study Time and Place.

The duration of this research is planned to be approximately 6 months starting from June 2023 to November 2023. This research will be carried out at Maimun Palace, Medan, North Sumatra. So that readers know the real origins of the Maimun Palace building, researcher as the researchers of this journal will obtain data and analysis through the informant directly. Researcher will include how the Maimun Palace was founded in full here.

2.3. Research Subjects.

The subjects of this research are informants who are directly at the Maimun Palace and the information will also be taken from several existing journals to support this research.

2.4. Research Instrument.

Research instruments are the key to research, while data are truthful and empirical, namely conclusions or research findings. In this regard, according to Sugiyono (2019: 156), a research instrument is a tool used to measure observed natural and social phenomena. In this study, researchers utilized a research tool, specifically a questionnaire. The instrument's quality directly impacts the quality of the collected data. The analysis of the structure and cultural values of the Maimun Palace's construction was conducted through the use of instruments and observations.

A. Interview.

An interview is an interaction between a reporter and a source with the aim of obtaining information and explanations regarding the topic being sought. In an interview, a reporter must have or have previously had questions to ask the source. This interview will be conducted to obtain complete information about the origins of the Maimun Palace building in the middle of Medan City, North Sumatra. Informants at the Maimun Palace will be interviewed by the research to obtain complete information so that it can be included in this research.

B. Observation.

Observation is the act of closely and immediately examining a certain object at the research site. In addition, this observation encompasses systematic documentation of all symptoms exhibited by the object under study. In this case, observations will be carried out by coming to the location directly and investigating in the research field. This research will observe the origins of the Maimun Palace building which is located in the middle of the city of Medan, North Sumatra.

C. Documentation.

Documentation refers to the systematic gathering, careful choosing, efficient handling, and organized retention of information within a certain domain of knowledge. In addition, documentation is often characterized as the act of supplying or gathering proof and information, such as photographs, quotations, newspaper clippings, and other sources of reference. In this documentation the researcher will take pictures directly at the location that the researcher will research and will be proof that this research was actually carried out directly and the reader will be even more interested.

2.5. Data collection technique.

This section will discuss research instruments and research data collection steps. This research instrument is crucial for data collecting in both general research and specifically in qualitative research. An open questionnaire is used as the instrument for gathering this data. This research study permits participants to provide detailed explanations or justifications for the extent and duration of their replies, with the aim of gaining further insights into individuals or objects.

To obtain the data for this research, the author can collect the data with observation and interview through several steps as follows:

1. Drawing up an open questionnaire.
2. Submit an open questionnaire to the author.

2.6. Data Analyzing Techniques.

According to Sugiyono (2010: 335) What is meant by data analysis techniques is the process of searching for data, systematically arranging data obtained from interviews, field notes and documentation, by organizing data into categories, describing it into units, carrying out synthesis, arranging it into selecting patterns. what is important and what will be studied, and make conclusions so that they are easily understood by yourself and others.

The research use the methodology of inductive data analysis for data analysis. Inductive data analysis involves deriving general conclusions from specific facts.

The steps for analyzing the data in this research are as follows:

1. Data Collection

Data collection is searching, recording and collecting everything objectively and as is according to the results of observations and interviews in the field, namely recording data and various forms of data in the field.

2. Data Reduction.

According to Sugiyono (2018:247-249) Data reduction is summarizing, selecting the main things, focusing on important things that are in accordance with the research topic, looking for themes and patterns, in the end providing a clearer picture and making it easier to carry out further data collection. In this research, we will also take some documentation from our research location, namely the Istana Maimun Medan. Process that requires intelligence and great depth of insight. In reducing the data of researchers will be guided by the goals to be achieved.

3. Data Display

Once the data has been minimized, the subsequent stage involves presenting the data. Data presentation is the process of organizing a set of data in a structured manner, making it easily comprehensible and enabling the generation of meaningful conclusions. Qualitative data can be presented in several formats, such as narrative text (in the form of field notes), matrices, graphs, networks, or charts.

Result and Discussion

3.1. Designing Reading Material based on Historical building: Maimoon Palace

In order to design reading material based on one of historical buildings in Medan, Maimoon Palace, the researchers requires the process of observation and interview. First of all, the researchers observed the building inside and outside and tried to invite the related person of the Maimoon Palace on interview. By doing observation and interview, the collection of data was already collected. In order to make the reading material becoming easier to understand, the chart was attached below to show to the readers on how to design reading material of historical building in Medan. It is Maimoon Palace, one of biggest palace in Medan, North Sumatera.

3.2. Historical Building in Medan: Maimoon Palace

In this section, the writer or author designs a descriptive text for reading material with the title "Maimoon palace". The text is considered as a reading material for senior high school students. This reading material is arranged or composed in order to improve students' reading comprehension. By reading this text, it will help student to understand a history based on context. Students don't only enhance their knowledge but it also improves their understanding of the text.

MAIMOON PALACE



Maimun Palace is a historical heritage located in Medan, North Sumatra, the royal residence of the Deli Sultanate and a prominent landmark in the city. This palace is located on Jalan Brigadier General Katamso, Aur, Medan Maimun. Maimun Palace was founded on 26 August 1888 and completed on 18 May 1891. Maimun Palace has an area of around 2772 m, with a yard area of 4 hectares, length from front to back 75.50 m, building height 14.14 m. The palace building has 2 floor and has 3 parts, namely the main building, the left wing building and the right wing building. However, now access to the left wing building, the right wing building and the second floor is not open because it is inhabited by the palace's extended family such as the children and grandchildren of the kingdom. And the name Maimun itself is taken from the name of the sultan's consort, Siti Maaimunah.



This palace holds unique relics from ancient times of leadership. Historical objects that can still be displayed include the sultan's throne, sultan's chair, herald keris, souvenir keris, pepper tumbok, lamp hangings, photos of the sultans and their families and photos of several ancient royal activities. household appliances, musical instruments, and much more. The splendor of this palace steals the attention of every visitor, starting from the luxurious chandeliers, the palace interior which combines the

styles of several countries to produce a unique building. In order to preserve the Maimun Palace and the historical objects in it, maintenance is carried out by regularly cleaning the Palace area, both inside and outside the palace, as well as cleaning historical relics once a month. Historical objects in this palace Not just anyone is allowed to hold or sit on it. There is a regulation that you cannot sit on the sultan's chair or the sultan's throne because you saw that the condition of the relic was getting older, so to maintain its durability this regulation was made. Another regulation set by the Maimun Palace for visitors is that they are not allowed to wear shoes. or slippers into the Palace.



Maimun Palace is open to the public, you can visit this palace every day at set times, namely from 8 am to 6 pm. With an entrance ticket price of 10,000 for adults and 5,000 for children. Apart from being used as a tourist destination , Maimun Palace is also used for other social activities by the Government of North Sumatra, such as music concerts, cultural arts festivals and other major celebrations in the city of Medan. Even though this building is hundreds of years old, many visitors come every day because of their great curiosity about what historical relics are in this palace. When entering this palace, visitors will be amazed by the uniqueness and beauty of its architecture which combines Islamic, Spanish, Indian, Dutch and Italian styles. However, unfortunately, inside the palace, handicraft buying and selling activities are carried out. such as songket sarongs, woven wallets, woven bags, songket peci, bracelets, and many more. These handicrafts are made by local people in the city of Medan, North Sumatra. Many people come to buy handicrafts as souvenirs to take home. The appearance of Maimun Palace from the outside shows people taking advantage of this opportunity by selling food, opening game rides, trading around and so on. It is not only a tourist destination but also a place to earn a living for certain communities. This impression makes the Maimun Palace lose its historical value.

Cannon Butts



The term "butt" is used to describe this cannon due to its stump-like or irregular design. In addition, flowers are added as adornment. Adjacent to the damaged section of the cannon, there was a receptacle containing water. Cannon Butts existed before the Deli Sultanate, namely the new Haru kingdom which was located in Delitua, this happened around 1612. The Haru kingdom was led by 3 king children, namely Mambang Yazid, Putri Hijau, Mambang Khayali. Putri Hijau, a beautiful princess who wanted to be married to the Sultan of Aceh, but Aceh's intention was to expand her territory and Putri Hijau did not agree, then Aceh attacked Putri's kingdom and a war broke out. or the youngest's power into the cannon, then this cannon was fired at the Acehnese troops, continuously fired until the cannon was hot and broke. According to the story, the broken cannon flew into Suka Nalu, a village in the Karo highlands. shortly, the first Deli kingdom was founded in Delitua in 1632, while the Maimun Palace was the 5th palace. Essentially, according to this tradition, Putri Hijau underwent a transformation into a cannon in order to safeguard the palace from the incursion of the king of Aceh's warriors, whom the princess had spurned. In addition, there is another aspect of the cannon that is really captivating. There is a minuscule aperture in the cannon. When the visitor's ear is positioned within the aperture, they will perceive a distinct auditory sensation.

Conclusion and Suggestion

At the end of this article, the author or researcher wants to deliver to the readers that reading material is much more important to the English learners in order to improve their understanding of any text and context and enhance their vocabulary. That is why the article is written. Here are suggestion and conclusion regarding of the research conducted by the researchers.

Reading material based on historical building in any town sometimes attracts the readers to have the desire and curiosity to read the text from the beginning to the end of the text, to comprehend the text, and to get information from the text. Maimoon Palace is one of the historical buildings in Medan. Everyone in Medan knows Maimoon Palace but they don't know exactly the story behind the building. By arranging this article with the reading text about it, it will deliver to the readers the story behind the Maimoon Palace. After reading the article, the readers will know a little bit of the story. As an English teacher, lack of vocabulary sometimes becomes a problem when they want to master English. By designing a reading material based on Historical place or building, it will increase their vocabulary. They will get new words that can be important in the spoken English. Last but not least, reading material is crucial for the English learners to improve a lot in their journey of learning English.

B. Suggestion

Arranging this article, the researcher seriously wants to make this article to the perfection. But as an ordinary man, the imperfection is always followed behind. If there is any suggestion in order to improve this kind of text regarding of the Maimoon palace, the researchers is open for sure to get the suggestion in order to make this reading material well. And the writers is also open for the critics if there is any.

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