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## Analysis Students Difficulty In Reading English Article

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### **Abstract**

*English is a foreign language for Indonesians, it is possible that students who study English have difficulty understanding in reading, because of limited understanding, or wrong reading. This research will be conducted at Ninth Grade Students of Junior High School 6 Mandau. This study used purposive sampling because all participants who were allowed to participate were students who had problems in reading English articles. Researchers discovered from the study's findings that a number of factors influence how challenging it is to read English-language publications. Environmental and psychological elements were used by researchers to determine which factor had the most influence. Learning English articles is not easy. Based on the research, there are difficulties that students experience in learning English articles. These are problems with Grammar, Problems with Vocabulary, and Individual Personality. For further research in foreign language learning, it is hoped that this study can be a source of knowledge and/or information to dig deeper into the problems in learning English. Therefore, there will be rich information on how to overcome these problems.*

**Keyword:** *Students' Difficulties, Reading Article*

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Student difficulty is the state or quality of being difficult to do or understand (Hornby, 2001). The difficulty is an error faced by students in the teaching and learning process. This happens because students are confused or do not know or understand the material that the teacher has explained. In this case, difficulty is the state that students have difficulty understanding English reading texts. From the results of interviews and questionnaires, it was found that almost all students have difficulty in pronouncing words, how to write and spell, and how to use them in the correct grammatical pattern. Different grammatical forms of words known as inflection is one of the causes of students' difficulties in learning vocabulary. This is supported by Haryanto (2007).

Despite English being a widely spoken global language, students still encounter numerous challenges when learning English, and one of the prevalent issues is related to speaking skills. According to Sawir, students lack confidence in their English proficiency. This lack of confidence becomes apparent during class presentations, where they feel uncertain about their pronunciation and overall performance. Additionally, teachers' approach to English instruction plays a role in contributing to these difficulties. One teacher highlighted that students are not given enough opportunities for classroom conversations, and teachers themselves may not engage in English conversations with their students. It is worth noting that the challenges in learning English are not

solely attributed to teachers; environmental factors also play a role. For instance, some students do not receive adequate support from their families in their English learning journey.

Although English is an international language, students still have many problems in learning English, and one of the common problems is speaking. Sawir mentioned students are not confident with their English. We can see it when they are asked to present to their classmates. They are not confident about their pronunciation or performance. Another problem comes from the teacher who teaches English at school. She said that their teachers do not familiarize students with the opportunity to have conversations inside the classroom or teachers do not familiarize themselves with talking to their students using English. The factors that cause difficulties in learning English do not only come from the teachers, but also from our environment. Sometimes their families do not support students to learn English.

The role of English as the most widely spoken language in the world has demonstrated its attractiveness to students wishing to continue their education at a higher level. In Indonesia, many jobs require English as a basic skill and it is the main language used in the wider community, for example "in business, politics, education and the media" (Lauder (2010, p. 10) and in specific fields such as "medicine, banking, tourism, diplomacy and computer languages" (Mohammed, 2018, p. 1381). According to Riyandari (2004), in order to compete and survive in the global workplace, graduates need to demand and master English as a basic skill. However, the desire to master English is not simple because learning a new language that is different from one's first language is not an easy thing to do. In fact, it is a long and complex process that requires patience during the learning process. This is because a learner needs to pay attention to every aspect of the new language, such as grammar and culture (Brown, 2000).

English is a foreign language for Indonesians, it is possible that students who study English have difficulty understanding in reading, because of limited understanding, or wrong reading. According to Patel and Jain (2008: 35). The student's difficulties can be caused by some factor, according to Graham & Harris (in Glynn, 2006:98). In the increasingly advanced era of globalization, the ability to communicate in English is becoming increasingly important. English has become an international language that is commonly used in various fields, including business, education, and technology. Therefore, many students around the world choose to learn English as a foreign language. However, the process of learning English is not always easy for students who use it as a second or foreign language. They often face a number of problems that can affect their ability to understand, speak, read and write in English. Understanding these problems and finding ways to overcome them is very important in improving student learning outcomes.

According to experts, there are several common problems faced by students studying English as a foreign language. One of them is the difficulty in understanding grammar (grammar). Experts such as Brown (2007) and Celce-Murcia (1991) reveal that the complex grammar of English and rules that are different from students' native language can be a big challenge for them. In addition, students also often face difficulties in expanding their vocabulary. According to Nation (2001), learning a wide and varied English vocabulary requires constant effort. Students often have difficulty remembering and applying new vocabulary in the right context.

In this context, this journal aims to investigate the problems faced by students learning English as a foreign language. In addition, this journal also focuses on how these students overcome these problems. By understanding the problems faced by students and the strategies used to overcome them, we can develop a more effective learning approach in the learning context English as a foreign language. Based on the background above the writer limits the problem on the Analysis Students Difficulty Reading English Article at Ninth Grade Students of Junior High School 6 Mandau.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This research was conducted among ninth grade students of Junior High School 6 Mandau . This study used purposive sampling because all participants who were allowed to participate were students who had problems in reading English articles. Purposive sampling refers to the identification or selection of individuals as participants who experience the research phenomenon (Palinkas et al., 2015). The population of this research is the nine years students of Junior High School in academic years 2022/2023. It consists of Four Classes. The total number is 10 Students. The technique used is the purposive sampling.

No	Class	Number of Students
1	IX.1	3
2	IX.2	3
3	IX.3	2
4	IX.4	2
	Total	10

## **Results and Discussion**

### **Grammar Problem**

Grammar has a crucial role in learning a new language as it is referred to as a valuable asset in understanding the structures of a language (Saaristo, 2015). Grammar is defined as a set of rules which is used to interpret a language correctly to create an understandable language (Zhang, 2013). On that account, understanding grammar is vital to construct sentences accurately. Nevertheless, every language has its grammar which is sometimes highly different from others. This study found that students encountered challenging problems to work on how to use English grammar, particularly tenses, into correct rules to set up sentences so that people can understand their meanings. This finding is similar to research conducted by Maros, Tan, and Salehuddin (2007) that most students faced difficulties to arrange sentences correctly due to errors in subject-verb agreement.

Moreover, grammar is also one of the reasons for students being inactive in-class interaction. It makes them silent and afraid of giving their opinion because they focus excessively on grammar

which is producing unnatural language (Panggabean, 2015). This fact appears as the result of the lack of opportunities for non-English background students to practice the target language outside the formal institution. This result has some similarities with a study on EFL learners conducted by Al-Roud (2016) who found that one of the factors hindering students to be active in speaking was the linguistic domain because they felt incapable of expressing their ideas orally. However, a different result was found in a quantitative study in Japan. Lockley and Farrell (2011) claimed that there was no correlation between a lack of grammar ability and fluency speaking.

### **Vocabularies Problem**

Learning the English language also includes vocabulary as one of its difficulties. Students lack vocabulary in writing an essay. Therefore, the teachers find many unstructured sentences because the students prefer constructing their ideas through "Google Translate". Similar to pronunciation and vocabulary, teachers also still find many grammatical errors in students' works. Sometimes students do not know about the function of tenses. They do not know how to use them in the right condition, such as how to use simple tense and simple continuous tense in proper ways. Other than micro-skills, the English language also has macro skills. They are four main skills in learning the English language, namely reading, listening, writing, and speaking skills. Corresponding to micro-skills, students find difficulties in learning them. Yet, the difficulties of macro skills are still related to micro skills.

### **Individual Personality**

Personal skills and needs are commonly seen to impact students' abilities and capacities to study. Regarding this, make some important observations. Her studies show that writing skills, particularly when under time pressure are seen as being the biggest obstacle faced by students. An interesting observation made here is that she claims many students prefer to write in Thai and then translate it into English. Such practices are sure to present obstacles to natural fluency. To help overcome problems associated with writing, particularly grammar difficulties. The peer feedback and advice continued ongoing monitoring of students' individual needs also highlight the problem of learning English articles and modes of writing when composing essays in English. It is seen as important here for students to overcome the strong tendency to relate to their first language while writing in a second one. In the same way, Khan, & Khan also address the problem of students unconsciously using their first language. Learners can easily get into the habit of using their mother tongue, and in this way, they face further obstacles in learning English.

Researchers discovered from the study's findings that a number of factors influence how challenging it is to read English-language publications. Environmental and psychological elements were used by researchers to determine which factor had the most influence.

From the study's findings, it can be inferred that psychological factors play a major role in determining how difficult it is to read English publications.

when these psychological elements consist of:

1. Inspiration
2. enthusiasm
3. Social development
4. feeling
5. Self-adjustment,

even while external influences like the pupils' upbringing and the socioeconomic circumstances of their families have little bearing.

### **Conclusion**

Learning English articles is not easy. Based on the research, there are difficulties that students experience in learning English articles. These are problems with Grammar, Problems with Vocabulary, and Individual Personality. For further research in foreign language learning, it is hoped that this study can be a source of knowledge and/or information to dig deeper into the problems in learning English. Therefore, there will be rich information on how to overcome these problems. For teachers, this research can be their source to better help students to reach their maximum potential in learning English. Finally, for students, it is hoped that this research can make them aware of the problem and help them to overcome the problem as early as possible.

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