

Reading Literacy Preferences of Indonesian Language and Literature Education Students

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Abstract

This study was conducted to analyze the preferences of reading literacy types and media of Indonesian language and literature education students, Faculty of Teaching and Training Education, University of Mataram. This study is a qualitative study and is included in the type of single case study research. The data of this study are the types of non-subject reading books and types of reading media used by students in developing their reading literacy culture. The data sources of this study are students' daily reading journals and interview results. The results of the study show that the types of non-subject books that students have read are novels, Wattpad, poetry, motivational books, and comics, while the media used by students to read are physical and digital books..

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1. INTRODUCTION

As one of the receptive language skills, aspects of reading skills are important to pay attention to [1]. Before getting to the aspect of speaking or writing skills, reading skills will greatly influence productive language skills. The better a person's receptive language skills, the better the person's productive language skills.

Unfortunately, the reading literacy skills of Indonesian people are still lacking compared to countries in the world. One of the reasons for this is because Indonesian students read textbooks more often than non-textbooks [2], and also because there are demands or pressure from teachers. This has fatal consequences because not many students view reading as an enjoyable necessity, but as an urgent obligation.

One action to prove the lack of Indonesian people's reading literacy habits is to check students' reading journals. Reading media and type of reading can influence a person's reading habits [3]. This reading journal concerns the titles of books that have been read by someone. In fact, students' reading in higher education requires them to gain a high level of understanding [4] so it is important to check student reading journals.

Indonesian Language and Literature education students, especially at FKIP Mataram University, are a reflection of students who should be close to the world of reading, especially reading literature and non-literature. According to Pradita [5], reading is the most appropriate means to broaden students' understanding of phenomena that occur in their environment. Apart from that, Widiastuti et

al. [6] also believes that reading activities will increase a person's creativity and intelligence. But in reality, the types of reading for Indonesian language and literature education students are not very diverse. Even the number of books ever read is very low.

Apart from the type of reading, other factors to measure students' reading preferences can be done by looking at the reading media used [3]. Nowadays, reading media formats are not only found in physical form, but also digital. According to Munandar [7], in accessing textbooks, students read more through digital media compared to physical books. This shows a change in reading media in this era of globalization [8].

There are two previous studies that support this research. First, Herawati's research [9] examined students' reading interest. This research produced findings namely that the factors that influence student literacy are external and internal motivational factors. Second, research by Nariratri et al. [10] who researched the influence of the advantages of digital reading on students' reading interest.

From the two previous studies, there are similarities and differences between this study and the two studies. What this research has in common with the first and second studies is that they both examine the culture of reading literacy among students. Meanwhile, the difference between this research and the first research lies not only in the research location, but also the research objectives. The first research aims to determine the factors that influence students' reading literacy, while this research analyzes the types of reading and students' reading media. Apart from that, the difference between this research and the second research also lies in the research objectives, the second research only focuses on aspects of reading media, but this research not only discusses reading media, but also the types of student reading.

Examining problems related to reading literacy, this research aims to analyze the preferences for types and media of reading literacy of Indonesian language and literature education students at FKIP, Mataram University. It is important to carry out this research to evaluate students' reading habits so that improvements can be made to students' reading literacy culture.

2. METHOD

This research was conducted using a qualitative approach and included a single site case study type of research. A qualitative approach is used because it is research that examines actual phenomena and is not made up. The single case study research type was used because it was in accordance with the research objectives, namely to examine reading literacy cases at one site, namely the Indonesian Language and Literature Education study program, Mataram University.

The data for this research are the types of non-learning reading books that students have read and the reading media used to access these readings. The data sources for this research are students' daily reading journals and drafts of student interviews. A daily reading journal will be very helpful to see a person's competence and reading habits [11]. The population of this research is all students of the Unram Indonesian Language and Literature Education Study Program, while the sample of this research is 75 students. Samples were taken randomly to obtain representativeness of the population. The selection of this population was carried out because first semester students were actually taking a Reading Skills course so they had a daily reading journal whose validity could be better controlled.

This research data collection technique uses library study and interview techniques. A literature study was carried out to observe the daily reading journal data held by each student. This reading journal can answer the research objectives, namely regarding data on students' types of reading and reading media. Meanwhile, interviews were conducted to reconfirm the data filled in by students in the daily reading journals they created.

Research data analysis was carried out in three stages, namely data reduction, data display, and drawing conclusions. First, data reduction is carried out to remove data that is not needed and is not in accordance with the indicators to answer the research objectives. Second, data display is carried

out by collecting data that has been reduced to make it easier to draw conclusions. Third, drawing conclusions is the final process to conclude the type of reading and reading media of students.

3. RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The research results show that there are six types of reading that are often consumed by students. The six types of reading are novels, poetry collections, short stories, comics, fiction and motivational books. Meanwhile, for reading media, students not only read through physical media, but also through digital media. A description of the percentage of student reading types and reading media is in diagrams 1 and 2 below.

3.1 Types of Student Reading

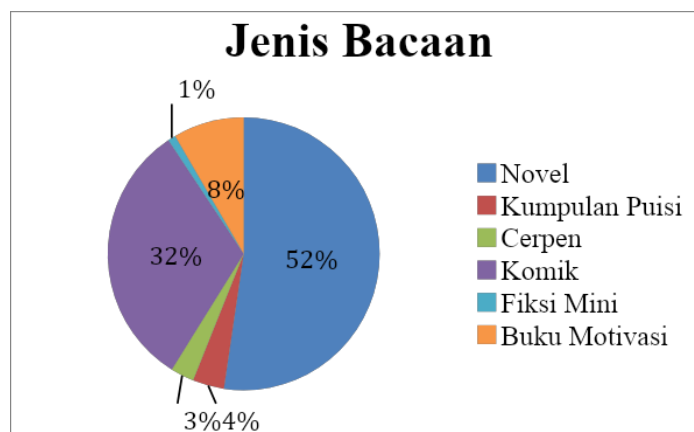


Diagram 1. Types of Student Reading

Novel

Novel literary works dominate student reading, from the results of the analysis carried out, to be precise, around 52% of students have read novels. According to research by Stiawan et al. [12] and Nariratri [10], novels are the most popular non-lesson reading material among students.

However, if we examine the daily reading journal at the beginning of lectures and the results of interviews, the tendency for students to read novels is actually due to course assignments which require students to read novels. In fact, if we refer to students' reading at the beginning of the semester, not many students who read have ever read a novel.

Poetry Group

Poetry is often interpreted as the art of arranging words. Noor [13] believes that poetry is an art of language that creates magic through words. According to Simanjuntak [14], poetry is often used as literacy reading material in schools.

As a literary work that is quite popular among students and the general public, it turns out that the percentage of poetry reading by students is only 4%. From the results of the research analysis conducted, it turns out that students who like reading poetry books are quite low. In fact, if analyzed from a need's perspective, poetry reading is a good medium for developing a person's interest in reading [15].

Short story

Short stories are a type of literary work that represents many social problems and tend to be shorter than novels [16]. According to Herlina's research [16], students' interest in appreciating short stories tends to be balanced between what they like and what they don't like.

Even though it is classified as a literary work that does not require a lot of time to enjoy, this type of short story reading is also not very popular among students. Diagram 1 shows that

only 3% of students have read short stories. In fact, short stories are popular reading and are often found in literary columns in magazines and online portals.

Comic

Comics are a medium used for writers to express their ideas not only in the form of words, but also images [17]. Recently, comics have become increasingly popular because they are not only presented in paper media, but also digitally. According to Nurjanah et al [18], digital comics usually make it easier for readers to understand the story in the comic.

This type of comic reading is quite popular among students, 32% to be precise. In fact, from the results of a study of students' daily reading journals at the start of their studies, the average student's reading experience was only reading comics, especially digital comics.

Mini Fiction

Mini fiction is a type of literary reading that is no more than words long and is usually found on social media [19], [20]. Mini fiction is usually structured syntactically but not semantically.

If we examine the phenomenon of literary reading in the digital era, mini-fiction reading is actually quite popular among literary readers. Mini fiction reading also includes new reading that is often found on social media such as Twitter, Facebook and websites. However, from the results of research analysis, only 1% of students have read mini fiction. Looking at these numbers, reading mini fiction is still less popular among students.

Motivational Books

Motivational books are the best-selling books sold in bookstores compared to other genres [21]. Motivational books are usually widely used as material for reflection or as strength for someone to achieve life goals [22].

Referring to diagram 1, motivational books are the third most frequently read type of reading by students, at 8% to be precise. Even though they are not classified as literary reading, motivational books are quite popular among students. This can be in line with Rumhadi's statement which emphasizes motivation as strength, the age of students who are in the phase of finding their identity is relevant if they read motivational books.

3.2 Student Reading Media

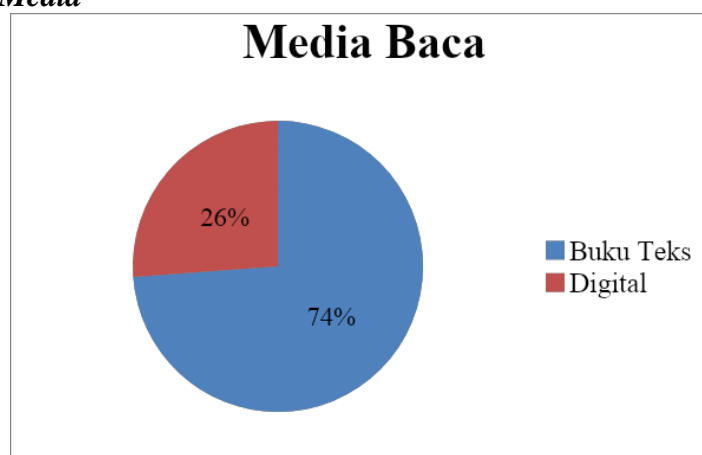


Diagram 2. Student Reading Media

Diagram 2 shows the reading media that students often use to access reading books, especially non-study books. From this diagram, more students read through two media, namely physical books and digital, namely 83%. Only 3% of students only read through digital media, and the percentage of students who read only through physical books is 14%.

Referring to the results of this diagram, in this era of technological progress, physical books can be said to be less popular than electronic books, websites and the like. The existence of digital reading has indeed influenced students' reading interest in this era [10], [23].

reading through digital media means that libraries that only provide physical books should start expanding to digital books [24]. Apart from increasing students' interest in reading, the existence of a digital library is expected to be able to increase the existence of the library so that it is not left behind by the times.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the description in the discussion, there are two general conclusions that can be drawn according to the research objectives. First, related to the type of student reading. From the research that has been conducted, the reading that students read most often is novels and the least is mini-fiction. Second, student reading media. In this technological era, the average student not only reads through physical books, but also through digital media. Even though digital media is starting to dominate many aspects, there are still many students who read not only through digital media, but also physical books.

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