



## The Effectivity of Himmati to Improve the Arabic Reading Skills Through the Online ATQ Program

فاعلية همتي في تحسين مهارات القراءة العربية من خلال برنامج ATQ عبر الإنترنت

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### ABSTRACT

This article aimed to verify the effectivity of Himmati to improve the Arabic reading skills of beginners. The target population here was all of the beginners in Indonesia as well as some other countries in Southeast Asia. While the accessible population was the beginners in MAN 4 Banyuwangi, Indonesia among the new students of 2020/2021. Based on the experiment results on 21 samples who participated in the online ATQ program using Himmati, which were analyzed with the paired-sample t-test, it was found a value of sig. (2-tailed)  $0,000 < P\text{-value} < 0,50$ , while the value of  $t_{count} 5,901 > t_{table} 2,086$ . It showed that there was difference in the Arabic reading skills for beginners between pretest and post-test scores. Because the post-test score  $87,19 > \text{pretest score } 80,38$ . So it can be concluded that Himmati is effective as a textbook to improve the Arabic reading skills for beginners in MAN 4 Banyuwangi. Thus, Himmati can be recommended as a textbook to be used by more beginners to improve the Arabic reading skills.

**KEYWORDS:** Himmati; Arabic Reading Skills; Beginners; Online ATQ Program.

### مستخلص البحث

تهدف هذه المقالة إلى التحقق من فاعلية همتي (Himmati) في تحسين مهارات القراءة العربية للمبتدئين. كان السكان المستهدفون هنا من المبتدئين في إندونيسيا وكذلك بعض البلدان الأخرى في جنوب شرق آسيا. بينما كان السكان الذين يمكن الوصول إليهم هم المبتدئين في MAN 4 Banyuwangi ، إندونيسيا من بين الطلاب الجدد لعام 2021/2020. بناءً على نتائج التجربة على 21 عينة من الذين شاركوا في برنامج ATQ عبر الإنترنت باستخدام Himmati ، والتي تم تحليلها باستخدام اختبار t للعينة المزدوجة ، تم العثور على قيمة sig. (2-الطرف)  $0,000 < P\text{-value} < 0,50$  ، بينما قيمة  $t_{count} 5,901 > t_{table} 2,086$ . وأظهرت أن هناك اختلافًا في مهارات القراءة باللغة العربية للمبتدئين بين درجات الاختبار القبلي والبعدي. لأن درجة ما بعد الاختبار  $87,19 >$

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درجة الاختبار القبلي 80,38. لذلك يمكن أن نستنتج أن Himmati فعال ككتاب مدرسي لتحسين مهارات القراءة العربية للمبتدئين في MAN 4 Banyuwangi. وبالتالي، يمكن التوصية بـ Himmati ككتاب مدرسي لاستخدامه من قبل المزيد من المبتدئين لتحسين مهارات القراءة باللغة العربية.

الكلمات الرئيسية: همتي (Himmati)؛ مهارات القراءة العربية؛ مبتدئين؛ برنامج ATQ عبر الإنترنت.

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## Introduction

Arabic has been designated as an international language since 1973 by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) (JSA-UM, 2016). Since then, the teaching of Arabic as a second language has two main objectives, namely as a manifestation of the language of Islam and as a language of international communication (Al-Rajih, 1995, p. 117). The first main objectives are to recognize the words of God written in the Qur'an, to read it, understand, realize, then to broadcast its contents.

Based on the result of previous studies, it was found that many students in several Islamic universities in Indonesia had low reading skills of the Qur'an (Alhamuddin, Hamdani, Tandika, & Adwiyah, 2018, p. 96; Otaya, Anwar, & Husain, 2019, pp. 78–79). It shows that learning to read the Qur'an is still incomplete at the high school level (SMA/equivalent). The Qur'an literacy index of high school students at the national level in 2016 was in the medium category (Bas/Wan, 2017). It was found that many high school students were not skilled at reading the Qur'an correctly and fluently (Supriyadi & Julia, 2019, p. 312).

A similar case also occurred in MAN 4 Banyuwangi. There were some additional classes conducted to improve the skills of reading the Qur'an for beginners who are shaded by the religious field. Previously, the program was called Matriculation. However, this year the name was changed to the ATQ (Al-'Arabiyah li Ta'allum al-Qur'an) program which was implemented using the textbook *Himmati: Modifikasi Pembelajaran Dasar Mengenali al-Qur'an*.

Initially, the ATQ program was designed the same as Matriculation. It would be held face-to-face twice a week within one hour for each meeting. However, due to the government's new regulation of teaching and learning activity during the Covid-

19 pandemic, all the activities must be carried out online. So, the ATQ program design was shifted into the online setting. In response to the situation, this study aimed to present the description of the effectivity of Himmati to improve the Qur'an Reading skills for beginners in MAN 4 Banyuwangi through the online ATQ program.

The result of this research can be useful to add the type of textbook for reading the Qur'an as well as introducing Himmati and taking it as a recommended textbook that can be published officially not only for internal use but also global use.

## Methods

This research employed quantitative research design, i.e., quasi-experimental research. The population targeted for this study was all of the beginners in Indonesia as well some other countries in Southeast Asia. While the accessible population was the beginners in MAN 4 Banyuwangi among the new students at the school year 2020/2021.

The accessible population was determined based on the result of the pretest, by asking the students to read three verses of surah al-Mujadilah 11-13. These verses were chosen deliberately because it contained the information about suggestions for seeking knowledge (Taufik, 2019).

Through this process, it was obtained, 41 people. Based on the Slovin formula with a margin of error of 15%, the sample obtained was 21 people shown in the following formula.

$$n = N : (N \times (e)^2 + 1)$$

$$n = N : (N \times (15\%)^2 + 1)$$

$$n = 41 : (41 \times 0,0225 + 1)$$

$$n = 41 : 1,9225$$

$$n = 21$$

While the posttest was done by reading three verses of surah al-Nahl 95-97. These verses were chosen deliberately because it contained the information about suggestions for doing good behavior (Al-Mawardi, 2019).

The instrument to collect the data was a rubric assessment filled by a professional teacher of the Qur'an in MAN 4 Banyuwangi. There were four points focused on the assessment that was adopted from the previous studies: tartil, reading sign, fashahah, and tajweed Zarif, etc. (Beddu, 2018, pp. 44–46; Zarif, Mohamad, & Bakar, 2014, p. 4).

The data in this research was numeric. It was tested by the normality and homogeneity test and showed it was normal and homogenous. So, it belonged to parametric statistics, and it could be analyzed by a paired sample t-test with a probability value of 5%. The setting used here is one group pretest-posttest design presented in the following figure.

Figure 1: Research Design



## Result and Discussion

### *Online ATQ*

*Al-'Arabiyah li Ta'allum al-Qur'an* or ATQ is the special program for teaching the reading skills of the Qur'an for beginners. They were learners who have low skills in reading the Qur'an. This program has been planned and implemented at MAN 4 Banyuwangi under the idea of Himatul Istiqomah binti Nur Rohim in the school year 2019/2020.

Previously, there has been a program implemented for improving the reading skills of the Qur'an in the past few years called Matrikulasi. It is one of the programs in religion field at MAN 4 Banyuwangi. The subjects who are responsible as the supervisor here are the religion teachers having qualification in teaching the Qur'an. While the subjects who are responsible as the mentor here are the high proficient students who have the best qualification in reading skills of the Qur'an and also have the highest inclinations and desire to teach the Qur'an.

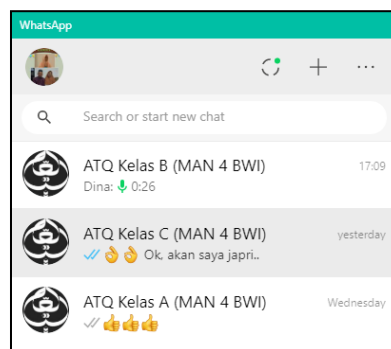
The focus of Matrikulasi is only to improve reading the Qur'an with some addition of a few Qur'anic materials which are still insufficient. While the ATQ program focuses on improving the reading skills of the Qur'an by adding the knowledge of Qur'anic materials through the use of "Himmat" textbook which was compiled in the year 2017 (Istiqomah, 2019; Istiqomah & Al-Badrani, 2020).

"Himmat" was compiled by adopting inductive approach. There is one topic on one page. It presented some examples first then the explanation of the materials was delivered at the end of each page. This approach was chosen because several previous studies proved that inductive approach was considered effective for teaching the second language (Benitez-Correa, Gonzalez-Torres, Ochoa-Cueva, & Vargas-Saritama, 2019; Mallia, 2014), including Arabic language in the Qur'an.

The implementation of the ATQ program has been designed directly by the students and the qualified mentors. Since the program was set to online due to the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, this program was conducted through the online learning facility Google Meet by making the use of "Himmati" textbook in the form of a PDF and employing the short materials in the form of Power Point (PPT).

An extra discussion was also fulfilled via WhatsApp, by setting one WhatsApp group for each class. Each group consists of 9 members (7 students, 1 qualified mentor, 1 head of the religion department), and the researchers team (Istiqomah, Murtadho, & Mahliatussikah, 2020).

Figure 2: Documentation of Online ATQ Group



The time required for the program implementation were 16 meetings and it took one hour for each meeting. The documentation of the online ATQ program can be accessed on Youtube with the caption "Program ATQ dengan Buku Himmati Supported by Markaz CDC Al Sharq," as seen in the following figure.

Figure 3: Documentation of Online ATQ



### ***Himmati Effectiveness***

Descriptive analysis of the results of the pretest and posttest regarding the reading skills of the Qur'an using the Himmati book can be seen in the following table.

Table 1: Description of Pretest and Posttest

<u>Descriptives</u>	Pretest		Post-test	
	Statistic	Std. Error	Statistic	Std. Error
Mean	80.38	.846	87.19	1.360
95% Confidence Interval for Mean	Lower Bound	78.62	84.35	
	Upper Bound	82.15	90.03	
5% Trimmed Mean	80.53		87.28	
Median	80.00		88.00	
Variance	15.048		38.862	
Std. Deviation	3.879		6.234	
Minimum	73		75	
Maximum	85		98	
Range	12		23	
Interquartile Range	7		9	
Skewness	-.268	.501	-.482	.501
Kurtosis	-1.002	.972	-.260	.972

The inferential statistical analysis was carried out by using a paired t-test with the results as in table 2 below.

Table 2: Result of Paired t-Test 1

**T-Test**

Paired Samples Statistics					
		Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Pair 1	Pretest	80.38	21	3.879	.846
	Posttest	87.19	21	6.234	1.360

Paired Samples Correlations					
		N	Correlation	Sig.	
Pair 1	Pretest & Posttest	21	.537	.012	

The output in the table above shows that the correlation value between the pretest and posttest is 0.537 with a significance value of 0.012. Because the significance value is 0.012 < the probability value of 0.05, it can be said that there is a relationship between pretest and posttest.

The hypothesis in this study reads, "Himmati is effective as a textbook to improve reading skills of the al-Qur'an for beginners." Santoso (2014) explains that the decision-making guidelines for the paired-sample t-test are based on the significance value (sig. (2-tailed)) in the output of the SPSS program, namely:

- a. If the significance value (sig. (2-tailed)) < probability value (P), then Ho is rejected, while Ha is accepted.
- b. If the significance value (sig. (2-tailed)) > the probability value (P), then Ho is accepted, while Ha is rejected.

Table 3: Paired t Test Results 2

Paired Samples Test					
Paired Differences					
		Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence ...
					Lower
Pair 1	Pretest - Posttest	-6.810	5.288	1.154	-9.217

Paired Samples Test					
Paired ...					
95% Confidence Interval of the ...					
		Upper	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
Pair 1	Pretest - Posttest	-4.402	-5.901	20	.000

Based on the output in the table above, the significance value (sig. (2-tailed)) is 0,000. That is, the significance value (sig. (2-tailed))  $0.000 < P\text{-value} < 0.05$ . Thus,  $H_0$  is rejected, while  $H_a$  is accepted. So, it can be said that Himmati is effective as a textbook to improve the reading skills of the al-Qur'an for beginners.

Santoso (2014) also explains that the decision making guidelines in the paired-sample t-test are based on the comparison between the  $t_{count}$  and  $t_{table}$ , namely:

- a. If the value of  $t_{count} > t_{table}$ , then  $H_0$  is rejected, while  $H_a$  is accepted.
- b. If the value of  $t_{count} < t_{table}$ , then  $H_0$  is accepted, while  $H_a$  is rejected.

Based on the output in table 2 above, the  $t_{count}$  value is -5.901. The value of  $t_{count}$  is negative because the pretest score is lower than the posttest value. However, the  $t_{count}$  which is marked negative can be positive. Thus, the value of  $t_{count}$  is 5.901.

The value of  $t_{table}$  can be seen in the distribution of  $t_{table}$  value based on the  $df$  (degree of freedom) value in table 1, which is 20, and the sig value, which is divided into two ( $\alpha/2$ ), namely  $0.05/2 = 0.025$ . Thus, the value of  $t_{table}$  is 2.086 as shown in the following table.

Table 4: Distribution of ttable Values

d.f	$t_{0,10}$	$t_{0,05}$	$t_{0,025}$	$t_{0,01}$	$t_{0,005}$
1	3.078	6.314	12.71	31.82	63.66
5	1.476	2.015	2.571	3.365	4.032
10	1.372	1.812	2.228	2.764	3.169
15	1.341	1.753	2.131	2.602	2.947
20	1.325	1.725	2.086	2.528	2.845

That is, the value of  $t_{\text{count}} 5.901 > t_{\text{table}} 2.086$ . Thus,  $H_0$  is rejected, while  $H_a$  is accepted. So, it can be said that Himmati is effective as a textbook to improve reading skills of the al-Qur'an for beginners.

## Conclusion

Online ATQ is a special program for learning the basic skills of reading the Qur'an for beginners in MAN 4 Banyuwangi during the 2020 pandemic using Himmati textbooks. Based on the result of paired-sample t-test, there was obtained the significance value (sig. (2-tailed))  $0.000 < P \text{ value } 0.05$  and  $t_{\text{count}}$  value of 2.86 and  $t_{\text{table}} 5.901$ . This means that  $t_{\text{count}} > t_{\text{table}}$ , so that  $H_0$  is rejected and  $H_a$  is accepted. It showed that there was difference in the Arabic reading skills for beginners between pretest and post-test scores. Because the post-test score  $87,19 >$  pretest score  $80,38$ . So it can be concluded that Himmati is effective as a textbook to improve the Arabic reading skills for beginners in MAN 4 Banyuwangi. Thus, Himmati can be recommended as a textbook to be used by more beginners to improve the Arabic reading skills.

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