# STUDENTS' HABIT IN READING NEWSPAPERS AND THEIR VOCABUARY MASTERY: A CORRELATIONAL STUDY

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**Abstract:** This study is aimed to know the correlation between students' habit in reading newspapers and their vocabulary mastery, and also to discovery the profile of students' habit in reading newspaper and their vocabulary mastery. This research used correlation design with quantitative approach. The participant of this study are 15 students of intermediate level of FLDI Nurul Jadid Islamic Institute. A questionnaire that consist of 22 items was used to collect the data of students' habit in reading newspaper and a test to know their vocabulary mastery. The first finding of this study shows there is a correlation between students' habit in reading newspaper and their vocabulary mastery, and it is correlates at 0.59 which means the correlation is in moderate correlation category. This study also shows the students' habit in reading newspapers has high level with mean value at 4.00. Furthemore, the students' vocabulary mastery is in the very high category.

Key words: Correlation, Reading Habit, Vocabulary Mastery, Newspapers

## **INTRODUCTION**

Reading is the process of obtaining information from written text, from author to reader (Rahayuningsih, 2020). To understand more about the reading text, students have to think and feel the meaning of each word they read in the text. According to Husnaini (2021) stated that a habit means an activity which people do without thinking. Besides, Inderjit (2014) stated that reading habit can help English as a Foreign Language (EFL) students increase their vocabulary. When students read a lot, they will get much knowledge and information from what they read. Furthermore, according to Cheyney (1982), a newspaper is a text book that provides current information on local, provincial, national, and international

issues. Reading due to the rich and colorful nature of English newspapers'

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contents, students can gain a lot of vocabulary, improve their reading comprehension, and read faster (Ahmmed, 2016). By reading newspaper, students can acquire information from various sources, news, advertising, or education in a piece of paper every day, every time, and everywhere they want.

Vocabulary is the most important aspect of learning English that students must master. Students should have and understand the use of a large vocabulary to properly communicate in a second language. This is important component in gaining and understanding the language. The greater a person's vocabulary, the easier it is for him or her to understand the passage (Nofia, Nargis and Anggraini, 2019). Therefore, it will sound good if students understand vocabulary when they read text. According to Hornby (2019), there are two types of vocabulary. First, active vocabulary is defined as words that are challenging to practice but that the learner can use effectively in listening and writing. It means that, students have to know how to pronounce things clearly and understand words used in sentences in order they can use the vocabulary.

Foreign Language Development Institute (FLDI) of Nurul Jadid has many activities that require the students to know the latest news, such speech and discussion. Because FLDI is an institution based on dormitory and sheltered by a boarding school which prohibits students from bringing advanced tools, such smartphone, laptop, and computer, students usually read newspaper to obtain the new news about what happened to world. Besides, there are many activities that use newspaper, such as reading day on Tuesday afternoon, translation activity, and news reading or news anchor activity. However, many students looked bored, confused when they read newspaper and they found it challenging to comprehend the text's meaning as well. That might happen because they have small size of vocabulary.

Based on the background above, the researcher conducts the research in FLDI Nurul Jadid Islamic Institute, entitled "Students' Habit in Reading Newspapers and Their Vocabulary Mastery: A Correlational Study".

## METHOD

#### **Research Design**

The researcher used correlational research as research design. Correlational research is one way to describe a quantitative terms the degree to which the variables

are related. In correlation method, the researcher uses the correlation statistical test to describe and measure between two or more variable. The independent variable of this study is students' habit in reading newspapers and the dependent variable is vocabulary mastery.

## **Population and Sample**

In this study the researcher chooses intermediate level of FLDI Nurul Jadid Islamic Institute. There are three levels in FLDI Nurul Jadid Islamic Institute, those are elementary level that consists of 18 students, intermediate level consists of 15 students, and 14 students for advanced level. advanced level. The researcher only chooses intermediate level as the sample according to the English teacher, because only intermediate level who are still active in reading newspaper activity on Tuesday.

## **Research Instruments**

In this study, the researcher used two instruments to collect the data that were questionnaire and test. The questionnaire used in this study was modified from Husnaini (2021) that consist of 22 items and it is divided into four classifications, these are students' obligation factors, students' interest factors, teacher factors, and students' willingness factor. The questionnaire was validated to reading lecture and this research used a Likert scale to know about students' habit in reading newspapers. The second instrument was used to measure students' vocabulary mastery. The test consists of 24 items of multiple choice type tests with four options (A, B, C, and D). The test adapted from Muzammil (2019) because it has the same purpose to size the students' vocabulary master.

## **Data Collection Procedure**

To gather data for procedures, the researcher conducted questionnaire and test to collect the data and answer the research problems. The researcher asked permission to the teacher before doing the research and to students to become respondents in this research. The researcher gave questionnaire and vocabulary test to 15 intermediate students of FLDI Nurul Jadid Islamic Institute. The respondents were told that this survey was just for academic research and all the results of the questionnaires would be confidential. Then, the researcher demonstrated how to complete the questionnaire and vocabulary test. After that, the researcher analyzed the data obtained from the distributed questionnaire and vocabulary test using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20.

## **Data Analysis Procedure**

To find out whether there is a significant correlation between students' habit in reading newspaper and their vocabulary mastery, the data were analyzed by using statistical formula. The researcher used Pearson product moment correlation coefficient using SPSS version 20. To interpret the profile of students' habit in reading newspapers, the level of students' habit in reading newspapers of this research presents in the following table.

No.	Value	Level
1.	4.01-5.00	Very High
2.	3.01-4.00	High
3.	2.01-3.00	Average
4.	1.01-2.00	Low
5.	0.01-1.00	Very Low
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Table 1 The Level of Students' Habit in Reading Newspapers

Adopted from (Alimi cited in Iswanti, 2019)

Moreover, the categories of vocabulary mastery were divided into five. The category of vocabulary mastery is in the table below.

## Table 2 The Category of Vocabulary Mastery

No.	Score	Category
1.	86-100	Very good
2.	76-85	Good
3.	61-75	Moderate
4.	46-60	Less
5.	0-45	Fail

Adopted from (FLDI Curriculum, 2015)

Thus, the researcher analyzed the data using SPSS ver. 20 to reveal the correlation between these two variables. Sugiyono (2011) classified correlations into five categories: very low, low, moderate, strong, and very strong. The category of correlation is presenting in the following table.

No.	<b>Coefficient interval</b>	Correlation category
1.	0.80-1.00	Very strong
2.	0.60-0.79	Strong
3.	0.40-0.59	Moderate
4. 5	0.20-0.39	Low
5.	0.00-0.19	Very low

 Table 3 The Correlation Category

Adopted from (Sugiyono, 2011)

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

## **Research Findings**

#### The Profile of Students' Habit in Reading Newspapers

In this point, the researcher used a questionnaire to know the students' habit in reading newspaper. The questionnaire was administered before the test. The students' habit in reading newspapers classifications scores presents in the following:

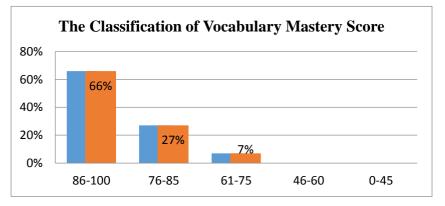
<b>Classification Item</b>	Mean	Interpretation		
Classification 1	3.93	High		
Classification 2	4.40	Very High		
Classification 3	3.86	High		
Classification 4	4.06	Very High		
Overall	4.00	High		

 Table 4 The Level of Students' Habit in Reading Newspaper

Table 4 shows the interpretation of students' habit in reading newspapers. Among 4 classifications, most of students used classification 2 (students' interest factor) with very high level mean 4.40, followed by classification 4 (students' willingness factor) with very high level means 4.06, then classification 1(students' obligations factor) with level mean 3.93, and classification 3 (teacher factor) with level mean 3.86. Overall level of students' habit in reading newspapers was at high level. It means that students' habit "often" in reading newspaper.

## The Students' Vocabulary Mastery

To find out the level of students' vocabulary, the researcher used vocabulary test. This test is used to measure the students' vocabulary mastery after reading newspaper. The students are assigned to answer the questions based on their knowledge. FLDI courses have set assessments to assess student grades. It was used to clarify the level of students' vocabulary based on its scores. The table of students' score classification on vocabulary mastery can be seen below.



The graph shows that 7% students are in moderate score, 27% students are in good, and 66% students are in very good. The score of students' vocabulary mastery was in moderate, good and very good categories. It can be concluded that vocabulary mastery level of intermediate students in FLDI Nurul Jadid Islamic Institute is very good.

# The Correlation between Students' Habit in Reading Newspapers and their Vocabulary Mastery

After calculating the total score of the variables, students' habit in reading newspapers (X) and students' vocabulary mastery (Y), the data of this study needs to be analyzed in order to find out the correlation between the two variables that are students' habit in reading newspapers and their vocabulary mastery.

Correlations			
		Reading	Vocabulary
		Habit	v ocabulal y
Reading Habit	Pearson Correlation	1	.599*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.018
	Ν	15	15
Vocabulary	Pearson Correlation	$.599^{*}$	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.018	
	Ν	15	15

Table 5 Correlation between Students' Habit in Reading Newspapers andVocabulary Mastery

\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Table 5 show that the Pearson Correlation was 0.59 with the probability (p) value was 0.018. According to Sugiyono (2011) there are five categories of correlation. The result of the Pearson Correlation is 0.59. It means that the result included to moderate because the coefficient interval between value 0.40-0.59. Thus, the result of probability (p) value in this research is 0.018, means that it is smaller than <0.05. It can be concluded that there is significant correlation between students' habit in reading newspapers and their vocabulary mastery at FLDI Nurul Jadid Islamic Institute.

## Discussions

The researcher conducted the research to get the result of the students' habit in reading newspapers and their vocabulary mastery. Furthermore, after collecting the data, the researcher analyzed it before explaining the calculation. Based on the findings of the profile of students' habit in reading newspapers, there are four classifications. The result of that almost students used classification 2 namely students' interest factor with mean 4.40, followed by classification 4 or students' willingness factor with mean 4.06, then students' obligation factor as classification 1 with mean 3.93, and the last is teacher factor as classification 3 with mean 3.86. The average means is 4.00 which included to high level. It indicated that students' habit "often" in reading newspaper.

In addition, from the data that has been analyzed by the researcher, students' habit in reading newspaper can be improve because the students' interest factors. Thanuskodi (2011) When an activity is done frequently, repeatedly, and consistently, it becomes a habit. From the statements above, habit in reading is an activity that is repeated over an extended period of time. It is supported the result of this questionnaire which explained students' habit in reading newspapers. However, there are some students did not read newspapers at least one hour every day but they believed that reading newspapers increase their vocabulary mastery and knowledge. It is in line with the theory of Ahmmed (2016) who stated that reading due to the rich and colorful nature of English newspapers' contents, students can gain a lot of vocabulary.

Next, the researcher described about how the students' vocabulary mastery. This study used vocabulary test to size the students' vocabulary mastery. Based on the data obtain from that, there were 66% students who included in very good category with score around 86-100, 27% students who included in good category with score around 76-85 and 7% student with moderate score. These results indicate that students who like to read newspapers are able to master a lot of vocabulary, so their scores are very good. It can be concluded that the vocabulary mastery of intermediate students of FLDI Nurul Jadid Islamic Institute is splendiferous. It is supported by the theory of Munawir and Ramli (2021) stated that the students' reading habit contributes to their vocabulary mastery. Moreover, Lusiana (2017) stated that when students read a lot, it can be measuring how well the students master the words and how far they can comprehend the text.

For this part, the researcher clarified more about the correlation between the students' habit in reading newspapers and their vocabulary mastery. The result showed that the probability value is 0.018. It means that the result of (p) value is

<0.05, Ha (Alternative hypothesis) is accepted and Ho (Null hypothesis) is rejected. However, the correlation between the students' habit in reading newspapers and their vocabulary mastery is moderate category. The result of the Pearson is 0.599, it included to the moderate correlation because the coefficient interval between value 0.40-0.59. From the probability value and Pearson correlation, it is possible to deduced that there is significant correlation between the students' habit in reading newspapers and their vocabulary mastery at FLDI Nurul Jadid Islamic Institute. Furthermore, students' habit in reading newspapers can be one of factors for students' vocabulary mastery. According to Munawir and Ramli (2021) stated that the more frequently students read, the better their vocabulary mastery. In addition, the researcher stated that reading habits help them develop their vocabulary. The higher the students' reading habits, the higher the vocabulary because both of variable are strongly related (Fitria and Syahrul, 2021).

## **CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS**

To conclude, 15 students of intermediate level in FLDI Nurul Jadid Islamic Institute are students who have good vocabulary score which are influenced by their habit in reading newspapers. By the factor of students' interest and the use of newspapers as the media, students can more easily improve their reading skill, especially in vocabulary mastery. The researcher found that the students' habit in reading newspapers indicated to the high category. With that, habit in reading newspapers is one of the most effective learning media because it greatly influences students' vocabulary mastery. In proving the hypothesis, the relationship between students' habit in reading newspapers and their vocabulary mastery can bring positive results. It can be seen from the results of the data analyzed, the Ha (Alternative hypothesis) was accepted and the Ho (Null hypothesis) was rejected. This was because the significant value calculated 0.18 is smaller than 0,05 (p-value = 0,18 < 0.05). This means that there is significant correlation between students' habit in reading newspapers and their vocabulary mastery.

Based on the findings of this study, it is addressed to English teacher to be a source of motivation and encourage students to read newspapers and assist students in mastering vocabulary by selecting appropriate reading materials based on the students' characteristics. It is also suggested for students to upgrade and broaden their habit in

reading newspapers, because habit in reading has some effects in developing skills, such us getting some new vocabularies, spelling and grammar skill. For Future Researcher, it is suggested to use other way to increase vocabulary mastery, such as song, movie, and video. Also, the next researcher can conduct interview as additional instrument in collecting the data needed.

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