INCREASING STUDENTS' READING SKILL BY USING WATTPAD APPLICATION IN EIGHTH-GRADE STUDENTS OF SMPN 3 WATAMPONE

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to know the impacts of using Wattpad Application in order to increase students' reading skill in Eighth-grade at SMPN 3 Watampone. And this research focused on pre-experimental method with one group in pre-test and post-test. The treatment was conducted after the pre-test and before post-test. The population in this research were students of Eight-Grade at SMPN 3 Watampone in 2022/2023 academic year. The writer took 176 students as the population with random sampling technique was used to take one class as the research sample, totaling 23 students. Data obtained from reading test in form of multiple-chooses. The results of this study revealed that there is increasing students reading skill using Wattpad Application based on students' scores between the pre-test and post-test. The mean score of the students' reading skill increase from 54,34 in the pre-test to 78,47 in the post-test. Meanwhile the analysis of students' increasing score from both test (pre-test, post-test) was 30%. So, based on that analysis, it can be concluded that the using Wattpad Application can greatly increase students' reading skill.
Keyword: increase, reading skill, Wattpad Application

INTRODUCTION

Since English become an international language, many people around the world are uses English as a first language. Especially in Indonesia, English is foreign language that has 4 essential skills that we usually encounter in school subjects, that is: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In order to achieve a successful process in English subject, one of the most important skills that students must be mastered is reading. Because most of the information, articles, journals, and magazines on the internet, magazines, is written in English.

Reading is a process that is a process of the reader to get the message conveyed by the author through the medium of words/written language (Tarigan, 2008: 7). Meanwhile, Thorndike in Nurhadi (2003: 13) argues that reading is a process in thinking and reasoning. It means that when people read a text, he uses his brain to think and find the reason out.

In reading, people often find some problems. Such as difficulty to understanding the meaning of the word, reading slowly, identifying the main idea, and summarizing the contents. That is what causes the reading skills in Indonesia are still lack, based on the data from progress in International Reading Literacy

Study (PIRLS) (2011), Indonesia is in 45th place out of 48 participating countries. And **PISA** (Programmed for International Student Assessment, 2009) shows that Indonesian students' scores are below average and on the 58th rank out of 65 countries with the score 402. It means that Indonesia students' reading skill should be increased.

Even though many techniques have been encouraged to solve this problem. The teachers have been using various methods to increase students' reading skills in Indonesia, like inviting students to the library and creating a positive environment in the classroom. or use reading techniques like skimming, scanning, or reading aloud. But these are not enough to increase students' reading skill. The students still need another strategy and interesting media to get their attention and attract students to more focus on the reading content.

As stated previously, so that is the main goal of education is to increase the reading literacy of students. Reading has been introduced and taught to students, especially at school. It is as a practice of acquiring new knowledge, and getting a lot of useful information. It can taught us about different cultures, customs, traditions, and what happened in the past or places on earth that you can't go or reach. It can also increase your vocabulary and foreign term. These statements implicitly state that reading is very important to students to be aware of their reading through different kinds of materials.

The writer wants to take advancement of technology development to increase students reading skill by using Wattpad Application among the many applications available for download on mobiles and on computers. Wattpad Application is the world's largest social storytelling platform. This application became popular in Indonesia around 2016 until now. This application provides a million literary works in 50 languages from various countries, and there are many genre variants. Just downloading it via Google Play on a gadget or laptop, you can be entertained by various stories or save them offline to read anywhere. Not only that, but Wattpad can give an opportunity to the users to write stories and publish them on their accounts.

The writer thinks that This application is the most suitable media for teaching reading and students can find an interesting book to read. And, Wattpad can be a place for students to read accordingly to their own tastes. Students can easily access almost every kind of book. Students do not have to buy, borrow, or pay for anything. Only need smartphones, because almost students now have their smartphones. Besides being able to read books, and novels, but also a medium for learning literature such as writing short stories, poems, dramas, and reading poetry. Overall, the great success of Wattpad is due to the editorial possibilities that it has unveiled to the general.

Based on the explanation above, the writer decided to focus on using Wattpad Application in teaching reading to students especially in eighth-grade. It was hoped that reading learning process can be more exciting and their reading skill would be increased toward the story they read in this Application. The research will take place at SMP Negeri 3 Watampone. therefore, the writer would

like to conduct research entitled "Increasing Students' Reading Skill by Using Wattpad Application in Eighth-Grade students of SMP Negeri 3 Watampone ".

METHOD OF THE RESEARCH

The aimed of this research is to find out the using of Wattpad Application can increasing students' reading skill. To achieve these goals, the writer used pre-experimental. (Sugiyono, 2014: 109), says that pre-experimental design is a design that includes only one group or class that is given pre and post-tests. This design is also called the before-after design. The first step is Pre-test, this test was aim to measure the scores of students' reading test before the writer applied treatment. Then the final step is Post-test, this test was given to measure the scores of students reading test after being given treatment by using Wattpad Application. This research was in SMP Negeri 3 Watampone in the academic year 2021/2022. The researcher took a month to complete the data collection. The population in this research was the eighth-grade students of SMP Negeri 3 Watampone, in the academic year 2022/2023. And the total of population is 176 students. The researcher took sample from students of Class VIII B which is consisted 23 students. After collecting data, the next step is analysed the data to discovery the impact of using Wattpad Application to increase students reading skill. This analysed will compare students' scores both in Pre-test and Post-test.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS
Findings

The test was done twice namely Pre-test and Post-test. The writer conducted a Pre-test to measure the scores of students' reading test before treatment and conducted the Post-test after given the treatment. The students' scores in Pre-test and Post-test can be seen as below.

Table 1 : The score of students' Pre-test and Post-test in Reading Test

No.	Students' Initial	Pre-test	Classification	Post-test	Classification
1.	MAA	35	Very Poor	75	Enough
2.	RTA	40	Very Poor	80	Good
3.	RA	45	Very Poor	80	Good
4.	MAR	45	Very Poor	75	Enough
5.	AP	45	Very Poor	80	Good
6.	NA	45	Very Poor	85	Good
7.	EE	45	Very Poor	75	Enough
8.	ADP	50	Very Poor	85	Good

9.	TWP	50	Very Poor	75	Enough
10.	NTM	50	Very Poor	70	Enough
11.	AL	55	Poor	70	Enough
12.	ARM	55	Poor	80	Good
13.	SP	60	Poor	85	Good
14.	MA	60	Poor	75	Enough
15.	AR	60	Poor	80	Good
16.	SA	60	Poor	70	Enough
17.	MIQ	60	Poor	85	Good
18.	AS	60	Poor	85	Good
19.	AW	60	Poor	75	Enough
20.	SU	65	Enough	75	Enough
21.	MAN	65	Enough	80	Good
22.	ASD	65	Enough	80	Good
23.	ARZ	75	Enough	85	Good
Total Score		**1.250**		**1.805**	
Mean		**54,34**		**78,47**	

Source: Students scores in Reading Test

In the table 1, it can be seen from 23 students as sample of this research there was 10 students classified as very poor, 9 students were classified as poor, and 4 students were classified as enough. There are no students who belongs to good and very good classification. And the total score of students reading test in Pre-test was 1.250 with the mean score of students reading test in Pre-test was 54,34 which is classified as poor.

In the Post-test, from 23 students there was 10 students classified as enough, and 13 students classified as good. There were no students classified as very good, poor, and very poor. Therefore, the total score of students reading test in Post-test was 1.805 with the mean score of reading test in Post-test was 78,47 which is classified as good. It means that there is significant difference between the result of students' reading test in Pre-test and Post-test.

Table 2 : The Percentage of Students' Pre-test and Post-test

Classification	Score	Pre-test		Post-test	
		F	%	F	%
Very Good	91 - 100	0	0 %	0	0%
Good	76 – 90	0	0 %	13	56%
Enough	61 – 75	4	17 %	10	44%
Poor	51 – 60	9	40 %	0	0%
Very Poor	< 50	10	43 %	0	0%
Total		23	100%	23	100%

From the table 2 above, the Pre-test indicates that there from 23 students', there was 4 students (17%) got enough classification, 9 students (40%) got poor classification, and 10 students (43%) got very poor classification, and none students was classified as good and excellent. It can be concluded that the students' reading skill before applied treatment was poor. And after applied treatment by using Wattpad Application, in Post-test there were 13 students (56%) got good classification, 10 students (44%) got enough classification. And none of students got classification as Excellent, Poor, and Very poor.

In the Pre-test no one the students could get the excellent and good classification. But in the Post-test, most of the students can get good and enough classification. The writer concludes that in the Post-test students no longer had difficulty to answering the mean idea, plot, the meaning of the word and able to referring the words well. Therefore the result found that the using of Wattpad Application can greatly increase students reading skill in eighth- grader students of SMPN 3 Watampone.

After conducting the score of students in Pre-test and Post-test, the writer used a t-test for the hypothesis test. T-test is a test to measure whether there is a significant difference between the result of students mean score in Pre-test and Post-test. By using inferential analysis of t-test or test of significance run by SPSS Version 16.0, The significant differences can be easier to analyze.

In this research the Null hypothesis H^0 stated that there is no increasing in students' reading skill after using Wattpad Application at Eighth-grader students of SMPN 3 Watampone. While the Alternative Hypothesis H^1 stated that there is an increasing in students reading skill after using Wattpad Application at Eighth-grader students of SMPN 3 Watampone. If the value of significance 2 or sig.(2-tailed) lower than 0,05 it means that Alternative Hypothesis H^1 was accepted and the Null hypothesis H^0 was rejected. The t-test of the students' reading skill can be seen in the following table:

Table 3: The Result t-test

		Paired Differences					t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
		Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
					Lower	Upper			
Pair 1	Pre-test - Post-test	-2.41304E1	10.07384	2.10054	-28.48669	-19.77418	-11.488	22	.000

The result of t-test stated that Sig. (2-tailed) was 0,000. The result provided that the Sig. (2-tailed) table was lower than level of significance. So, the Alternative Hypothesis H^1 was accepted and the Null hypothesis H^0 was rejected. It means that there is an increasing in students reading skill after using Wattpad Application.

Based on description above, the students increasing score analysis for reading test could be presented by following table:

Table 4 : The score analysis in Pre-test and Post-test

Pre-test (X1)	Post-test (X2)	Increasing
54,34	78,47	30 %

Based on the table 4.7 above, the student's increasing score analysis for reading test was 30%. It is mean that there was improvement of reading skill by using Wattpad application in eighth-grade. In other words, Using Wattpad Application to increase students reading skill was success. It was proved from the students' scores in Pre-test (XI) which is have the increase into the higher score in Post-test (X2).

Discussion

The writer discussed the result of the data analysis of the Pre-test and Post-test in accordance with the scope of this research. In the first steps, the writer found that there were 4 students classified as enough, 9 students classified as poor and 10 students classified as very poor. There is no students got a good and very good classification. The total scores of the students based on the Pre-test is 1.250 with the mean score is 54,34. It was approved by the result of the Pre-test that no one students classified as excellent, and good. It shows that students' reading skill was poor. Second, the writer conducted the treatment, The treatment done in third meetings.

After all the treatment conducted in this research, the writer conducted the Post-test. the writer got the data based on students' score. The writer found that there were 13 students classified as good, and 10 students classified as

enough. Even though there are no students classified as excellent, but there are no more students classified as poor and very poor. The total score of students based on the Post-test is 1.805 with the mean score is 78,47.

In the table of percentage. The students reading skill shows that in the Pre-test, from 23 students' none students were classified as very good, good, 4 students (17%) got enough, 9 students (40%) got poor classification, and 10 students (43%) got very poor classification. Meanwhile, in the Post-test there were 13 students (56%) got good classification, 10 students (44%) got enough classification. And none of students got classification as very good, Poor, and Very poor. The writer concluded that in Pre-test, most of students got low scores. But in the Post-test, most of students can get higher score.

The result of the t-test analysis shows that there is a significant increased between the result of students reading test in Pre-test and Post-test. The mean score of students reading test in Pre-test is 54,34 is classified as Poor. Then, the mean score of students reading test in Post-test was 78,47 is classified as Good. It means that the using Wattpad Application can increase students reading skill. It proved by Sig. (2-tailed) was 0,000. The table was lower than the level of significance.

In addition, after doing research the writer found that the hypothesis H^1 that stated before means there is an increasing in students' reading skill after using Wattpad Application based on the table 4. It indicates that the students' improvement of eighth-grade who tough through Wattpad application at SMPN 3 Watampone was 30%..

The using Wattpad application in eighth-grade in SMPN 3 Watampone definitely have several obstacles, but all of them can be solved in better ways, starting from some of students do not have a phone, full memory, and limited internet quota access to download the application, interference from other classes. However, all of them did not become a barrier to stop the running of this research process.

CONCLUSION

The writer concluded that the using of Wattpad Application can increase students' reading skill. It could be seen on the classification students' score in Pre-test and Post-test. in the Pre-test; there was 4 students (17%) got enough classification, 9 students (40%) got poor classification, and 10 students (43%) got very poor classification. Meanwhile in the Post-test; there were 13 students (56%) got good classification, 10 students (44%) got enough classification. With the mean score in Pre-test was 54,34 and in Post-test was 78,47. It can be concluded that score of students reading test in Post-test was higher than in the Pre-test. Also, the result of the t-test stated that Sig. (2-tailed) was 0,000. Provided that the Sig. (2-tailed) the table was lower than the level of significance. Therefore, the alternative hypothesis (H1) was accepted and the null hypothesis (Ho) was rejected

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