

The Influence of Curiosity on the Quality of Students' Reading MTs YP KH Syamsuddin Ponorogo

Fauzani Nur Imani Tuzahro¹, Fitriana Kholifatul Azizah², Ilfatul Dwika Nabila³, Kuni Dzawil Hija⁴, Linda Amelia Putri⁵, Mar'atul Muniroh⁶, Aristiawan⁷
¹²³⁴⁵⁶⁷Institut Agama Islam Negeri Ponorogo, Indonesia

ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Keywords: Curiosity; Quality; Reading; Simple linear regression	This study examines the influence of curiosity on the reading quality of seventh-grade students at MTs YP KH Syamsuddin Ponorogo. Good reading skills are essential for academic success, yet the reading quality of students often remains inadequate. This research aims to determine whether an increase in curiosity can improve students' reading quality. The study employs a causal approach with data collection through questionnaires. The sample consists of seventh-grade students at MTs YP KH Syamsuddin Ponorogo. Data were analyzed using simple linear regression to determine the effect of the independent variable (curiosity) on the dependent variable (reading quality). Results indicate that curiosity significantly affects reading quality, with curiosity influencing 28% of the reading quality. F-tests and T-tests confirm a significant influence both simultaneously and partially. This study implies that enhancing students' curiosity can improve their reading quality and support better academic achievement. However, the research is limited to one madrasah, so the results may not be generalizable to all student populations. Further research is needed to explore other variables contributing to reading quality.
Corresponding Author. Fauzani Nur Imani Tuzahro Email: fnur06768@gmail.com	

INTRODUCTION

Improving the quality of student reading is one of the main goals in education, especially at the junior high school level. Good reading skills are the foundation for students' academic success and self-development. However, in reality, the quality of

students' reading is often still below the expected standard. This can be caused by various factors, one of which is students' curiosity about the material they read. Curiosity, as one of the important aspects of the learning process, can influence how students interact with the texts they read. High curiosity encourages students to explore and understand information in depth, while low curiosity can lead to a lack of interest and attention in reading.¹

For grade VII students of MTs YP KH Syamsudin, Durisawo Ponorogo, it is important to know the extent to which curiosity affects the quality of their reading. Given that at this age, students are at a critical stage of cognitive and emotional development, the role of curiosity in learning to read is becoming increasingly relevant. In this context, research on the influence of curiosity on the quality of reading of female students can provide useful insights for educators in designing more effective learning strategies². MTs YP KH Syamsudin, Durisawo Ponorogo, as one of the educational institutions, has an important role in shaping students' reading skills. By knowing the influence of curiosity on reading quality, schools can develop programs that stimulate students' curiosity, thereby improving their reading abilities and, in turn, their academic achievement.

Therefore, this study focuses on the influence of curiosity on the reading quality of grade VII students of MTs YP KH Syamsudin, Durisawo Ponorogo with the hope of contributing to efforts to improve the quality of education through a better understanding of the factors that affect students' reading skills.

Curiosity will always motivate oneself to continue to look for and know new things so that it will increase knowledge and experience in learning activities. This is also supported according to Samani, et al. "curiosity is "the desire to investigate and seek understanding of the secrets of nature"³. Meanwhile, according to Mustari, "curiosity is an attitude and action that always seeks to know more deeply and extensively from what

¹ Listya Marmita, 'MENINGKATKAN MINAT BACA, KEMAMPUAN MEMAHAMI BACAAN, DAN BERPIKIR KRITIS SISWA MELALUI PENERAPAN SUSTAINED SILENT READING (SSR) DAN READING RESPONSE [IMPROVING STUDENTS'READING INTEREST, READING COMPREHENSION, AND CRITICAL THINKING THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINED SILENT READING (SSR) AND READING RESPONSE]', *Jurnal Teropong Pendidikan*, 1.2 (2021), 126–36.

² Noviyanti Rianti Putri and Sri Langgeng Ratnasari, 'Pengaruh Tingkat Pendidikan, Pelatihan, Dan Pengembangan Karir Terhadap Kinerja Karyawan PT. Asuransi Takaful Batam', *Jurnal Akuntansi, Ekonomi Dan Manajemen Bisnis*, 7.1 (2019), 48–55.

³ D R Muchlas Samani, 'Konsep Dan Model Pendidikan Karakter', 2019.

it learns, sees and hears". This is related to obligations to oneself and the environment. Exercise the heart in relation to feelings, attitudes and beliefs or faith as well as in relation to the process of reasoning in order to seek and use knowledge in a critical, creative and innovative manner. This is in line with the definition of curiosity according to Mustari "curiosity is an emotion that is associated with natural digging behaviors such as exploration, investigation and learning"⁴.

According to Samani, et al. "individual character is psychologically interpreted as the result of the integration of four parts, namely heart training, thinking training, sports, taste training and karsa". Taste and karsa are related to willpower, motivation and creativity which are reflected in care, image and the creation of novelty. Curiosity is a character that comes from the process of thinking. curiosity makes students more sensitive in observing various phenomena or events around them and will open up new worlds that are challenging and attract students to learn more deeply. There are a lot of interesting things in this world, but often because of low curiosity, they miss out on those interesting things to learn. With curiosity, it can overcome students' boredom to learn. If students' souls are filled with curiosity about something, then they will willingly and enthusiastically learn about it. So, making curiosity in students needs to be built and developed. The definition of curiosity from some of the opinions of the experts above can be concluded that curiosity is a feeling or will that exists in humans that encourages or motivates the human being to want to know new things, deepen and expand the knowledge they have with natural digging behaviors such as exploration, investigation and learning.⁵

Reading is an activity that can encourage a person's cognition and find various information contained in a writing in the form of reading. This means that reading is a person's thought process to find out the content of the text being read. Therefore, reading is not only looking at the writing but also understanding and digesting each sentence so that what is written by the author can be conveyed and well received by the reader. Although not everyone likes reading activities, reading is one of the skills that everyone must have. Reading activities are very good to be taught to children from an early age so

⁴ Muhamad Mustari and M Taufiq Rahman, 'Nilai Karakter: Refleksi Untuk Pendidikan Karakter' (Laksbang Pressindo, 2011).

⁵ Samani.

that it becomes a habit because reading can open up a wider space of insight, thinking and will make it easier for them, especially when they are of school age. A child will be able to learn because he already has the ability to read. If the habit of reading has been embedded in the child's soul, he will take time every day to read so that it becomes a daily necessity and food.

Reading interest is an encouragement to understand word by word and the content contained in the reading text so that the reader knows the meaning of the reading. According to Darmono, *minat abaca* is a tendency of the soul that encourages a person to do something about reading. Interest in reading is very influential on reading skills and will be manifested in their willingness to get reading materials and then read them on self-awareness.⁶ A child's interest in reading will not grow naturally, so there needs to be positive coaching so that it can grow by presenting adequate reading materials that are in demand by readers. Students who have the habit of reading will grow the ability to think critically by learning from what they have read (reflection based on past experiences) and be skilled in using logical reasoning in solving a problem.⁷ Reading comprehension is one of the four language skills, namely speaking, reading, listening, and writing. Research that can be carried out to be able to find out the ability of reading interest that can affect a student's reading quality is by giving a questionnaire about reading interest according to the rikert scale.⁸ Data collection using a questionnaire instrument with a rikert scale of four answer options, namely STS (Strongly Disagree) with a score of 1, TS (Disagree) with a score of 2, S (Agree) with a score of 3, SS (Strongly Agree) with a score of 4.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses a causal approach and is carried out on grade VII students at MTs YP KH Syamsuddin, Durisawo, Ponorogo in May 2024. To collect data related to the variables of curiosity and reading quality, a questionnaire containing statements with choice of answers was used. Alternative answers for positive statements as shown in table 1.

⁶ Besa Nasri Elgini, 'Pengaruh Minat Baca Terhadap Prestasi Belajar Peserta Didik Di SMA Negeri 1 Salang Kabupaten Simeulue' (UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh, 2023).

⁷ Marmita.

⁸ Waode Rasdiansastra, Gusti Adi Wibawa, and Bahriddin Abapihi, 'Analisis Faktor-Faktor Yang Mempengaruhi Kemampuan Membaca Siswa Dengan Metode Regresi Probit Ordinal (Studi Kasus Siswa SD Se-Sulawesi Tenggara)', *Jurnal Matematika Komputasi Dan Statistika*, 2.2 (2022), 102–9.

Table 1. Likert Scale

It	Indicator Answer	Value
1.	Strongly disagree	1
2.	Disagree	2
3.	Agree	3
4.	Strongly disagree	4

This study involved two variables, namely curiosity as an independent variable (X) and reading quality as a dependent variable (Y). Data was collected through quantitative techniques, including questionnaires and measurements. The main method used is a questionnaire, where respondents are asked to answer a written statement.

Data Analysis Techniques

Regression analysis is a statistical method used to test how close the relationship between variables is. A simple regression analysis aims to see how one variable affects another. In regression analysis, the influencing variable is called the independent variable, while the influenced variable is called the dependent variable (Sarbanai, 2022). The analysis technique used was a simple linear regression to measure the influence of curiosity on the reading quality of grade VII MTs students YP KH Syamsuddin Ponorogo.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Simple linear regression analysis is an analysis to measure the magnitude of the influence of variable X (curiosity) on variable Y (reading quality)

Kolmogorov Smirnov normality test

Table 2. Kolmogorov Smirnov normality test

		Unstandardized Residual
N		100
Normal Parameters	Mean	0,0000000
	Std Deviation	1,74414017
Most Extreme Differences	Absolute	0,071
	Positive	0,071
	Negative	-,067

Test Statistic	0,071
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	0,200

Data normality tests need to be carried out to determine what type of statistics are used. The Kolmogorov Smirnov normality test is a data matching test for the distribution of data in general. The basis for decision-making in this normality test is that if the significance obtained is > 0.05 , then the sample data from the population is normally distributed, on the other hand, if the significance obtained is < 0.05 , then the sample data from the population is not normally distributed. In table 1 we can see the Asymp value. Sig. (2-tailed) by 0.200. The requirement for passing the normality test is the Asymp value. Sig. (2-tailed) > 0.05 . So that the data this time is said to be normal because of the Asymp value. Sig. (2-tailed) > 0.05 .

Linearity Test

Table 2. Linearity Test

			ANOVA Table				
			Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Kualitas bacaan* Minat baca	Between Groups	(Combined)	171,592	14	12,257	4,144	0,000
		Linearity	121,840	1	121,840	41,193	0,000
		Deviation from Linearity	49,753	13	3,827	1,294	0,233
	Within Groups		251,408	85	2,958		
	Total		423,000	99			

The linearity test aims to find out whether the two or more variables tested have a linear relationship or not significantly.⁹ If the significance value in table 2 is $>$ of 0.05, then there is a linear relationship between the free variable and the bound variable. Based on table 2, after the linearity test, the significance value of the Deviation from linearity showed a value of 0.233. Therefore, it can be concluded that the value of Deviation from

⁹ Cruisietta Kaylana Setiawan and Sri Yanthy Yosepha, 'Pengaruh Green Marketing Dan Brand Image Terhadap Keputusan Pembelian Produk the Body Shop Indonesia (Studi Kasus Pada Followers Account Twitter@ Thebodyshopindo)', *Jurnal Ilmiah M-Progress*, 10.1 (2020).

linenearity is greater than 0.005 and there is a linear relationship between reading interest and student reading quality.

Simple Linnear Analysis

a. Determination coefficient test

Table 3. Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	0,537a	0,288	0,281	1,753

a. Predictors: (Constant), minat baca

The determination coefficient is used to find out how much influence the independent variable has on the dependent variable in the form of a percentage. In its use, the determination coefficient is expressed in the form of a percentage (%).¹⁰ The value of the determination coefficient is seen in the *Adjusted R Square column*. Based on table 4, the *value of the Adjusted R Square* is 0.28. Thus, it can be concluded that the influence of independent variables on dependent variables simultaneously (together) is 28%.

b. Test F

Table 4. ANOVA

ANOVA ^a						
Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	294,751	1	294,751	39,648	0,000 ^b
	Residual	728,559	98	7,434		
	Total	1023,310	99			

a. Dependent Variable: minat baca

b. Predictors: (Constant), kualitas bacaan

The F test is used to measure the influence of independent variables (curiosity) simultaneously on dependent variables (reading quality) (Puspa, 2021). Based on the ANOVA output table, the significance value (Sig.) in Test F is 0.000. Because the significance value (0.000) is less than 0.05, it can be concluded that

¹⁰ Putri and Ratnasari.

the curiosity variables together have a significant influence on the quality of students' reading.

c. The City of T (Hipotesis)

This test aims to determine how much influence each independent variable individually or partially has in explaining the variation in the dependent variable. The decision-making criteria in this test are as follows: If the significance value (Sig.) < 0.05 , then the independent variable partially has a significant influence on the dependent variable. Conversely, if the significance value (Sig.) > 0.05 , then the independent variable partially does not have a significant influence on the dependent variable.¹¹

Table 5. Test T Coefficients^a

Coefficients ^a					
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		Sig
	B	Std Error	Beta	t	
1 (Constant)	6,974	1,334		5,228	0,000
Rasa ingin tahu	0,345	0,055	0,537	6,297	0,000

a. **Dependent Variable: kualitas bacaan**

Furthermore, below is the basis for decision-making from independent variables (curiosity) with the t-test: H0: There was no significant effect between the curiosity variables on reading quality. H1: There is a significant influence between the curiosity variable on reading quality. Based on the output in Table 7, the significance value (Sig.) for Curiosity (X) is 0.000, which is less than 0.05. Therefore, it can be said that curiosity has a significant influence on the quality of reading, so the hypothesis obtained is H1.

According to Sugiyono, Simple regression is based on the functional or causal relationship of one independent variable with one dependent variable,

¹¹ Sofia Debi Puspa, Joko Riyono, and Fani Puspitasari, 'Analisis Faktor-Faktor Yang Mempengaruhi Pemahaman Konsep Matematis Mahasiswa Dalam Pembelajaran Jarak Jauh Pada Masa Pandemi Covid-19', *Jurnal Cendekia: Jurnal Pendidikan Matematika*, 5.1 (2021), 302–20.

generally having the equation $Y = a + bX$.¹² Based on table 3, it can be seen that the constant value in Unstandardized Coefficient B shows a value of 0.345 and the reading interest value shows a value of 0.345. Then the value is included in the simple regression equation $Y = 6.974 + 0.345X$ which means that every addition to the variable X (reading interest), then the variable Y (student reading quality) the value increases by 0.345, so that it can be concluded that there is an influence of reading interest on the quality of student reading.

Based on the results of data collection carried out through a questionnaire instrument to find out students' reading interest in reading quality. Data from this study was obtained from MTS YP KH Syamsudin Durisawo Ponorogo with a sample of 100 students.

Interest in reading is a strong desire for a person to read and is accompanied by effort.¹³ The desire to read will encourage students to look for reading materials that they find interesting. Based on the data obtained, as many as 3 students said they strongly disagree with the percentage of 3%, 18 people with a percentage of 18% said they disagreed, a percentage of 52% agreed, and as many as 27% of students said they strongly agreed. if viewed based on these percentages and if included in the 4 assessment categories, it can be concluded that students at MTs YP KH Syamsuddin, Durisawo, Ponorogo agree if there is an influence of curiosity on the quality of students' reading.

Interest in reading is one of the factors that plays an important role in reading activities. Reading activities in the community tend to be smaller when compared to reading activities in the school environment.¹⁴ The importance of reading interest in students to support students' understanding of learning. In addition, students who have a high interest in reading will have a different intellectual level than their peers because reading culture affects the progress of a nation.¹⁵

¹² Pendidikan Pendekatan Kuantitatif, 'Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif Kualitatif Dan R&D', *Alfabeta, Bandung*, 2016.

¹³ N Najamiah, 'The Influence of Reading Interest on the Ability to Understand the Reading of Grade IV Students at Gunung Sari I Elementary School', *Rappocini District, Makassar City (Doctoral Dissertation, Alauddin State Islamic University Makassar)*, 2017.

¹⁴ Rima Aviana, Rien Anitra, and Dina Anika Marhayani, 'Analisis Kemampuan Membaca Pemahaman Siswa Ditinjau Dari Minat Baca Siswa Kelas V SD', *Journal of Elementary School (JOES)*, 5.2 (2022), 174–83 <<https://doi.org/10.31539/joes.v5i2.4596>>.

¹⁵ Evi Rosdiana, 'IMPLIKASI GERAKAN LITERASI SEKOLAH DENGAN MEDIA BUKU CERITA BERGAMBAR TERHADAP KARAKTER (AKHLAK) SISWA'.

One of the factors that encourages reading interest is reading ability, and is a driver to be able to grow a reading culture. Early reading ability can be capital for students to support their intellectual growth. If the intellectual growth of students increases periodically, then this can be an indicator of the success of an education. Quality education can be supported by increasing students' desire/interest in reading. Meanwhile, the quality indicators of a nation can be assessed based on individual behavior. Good individual behavior can be formed from quality education.¹⁶

Reading is an intellectual activity to dig up information, add insight, and be able to solve problems. Reading is a strengthening of the foundation of education, because by reading science books, important theories and information can be found, then new thoughts will appear. Reading activities must not only be carried out when a person takes the level of education but a lifelong activity.¹⁷ Thus, reading the science books obtained can be passed on to the next generation and used as an intermediary in raising civilization to a higher level.

CONCLUSION

So in this study, it is explained that curiosity has a significant influence on the reading quality of grade VII MTs students YP KH Syamsuddin Ponorogo. The results of a simple regression analysis showed that the increase in curiosity was directly proportional to the improvement in reading quality. The normality test and linearity test showed that the data were normally distributed and there was a linear relationship between the curiosity variable and the quality of reading. The determination coefficient showed that curiosity affected the quality of reading by 28%. In addition, the results of the F test and the T test showed that the simultaneous and partial curiosity variables had a significant effect on the quality of students' reading. Thus, building and developing curiosity among students can improve the reading ability and academic achievement of grade VII MTs students YP KH Syamsuddin Ponorogo.

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¹⁶ Tika Evi, 'Manfaat Bimbingan Dan Konseling Bagi Siswa SD', *Jurnal Pendidikan Dan Konseling (JPDK)*, 2.1 (2020), 72–75.

¹⁷ Efri Yoni, 'PENTINGNYA MINAT BACA DALAM MENDORONG KEMAJUAN DUNIA PENDIDIKAN', 7.1 (2020).

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