

Advantages of Reading English Novels in Acquiring English as Second Language: Basis in Designing a Guide to Enhance English Proficiency

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Abstract: Acquiring English as a second language and engaging children in reading novels have some effects on how they acquire new language. The improvement of a child is not only about himself but also there are some factors concerning it thus this paper aims to describe the different genre of English novels, as well as its advantages, how it strengthens English as a second language, the problems encountered and solutions. The researcher employs descriptive method and utilizes four higher institution of learning in South East Asia. It is found out that reading is central to the concepts of modernization as it provides a means for the reader to obtain ideas that contribute to widening one's mental horizon and multiplying opportunities for experience. However problems arises in reading English novels such as unfamiliarity with words, challenges of comprehension due to complexity and language barrier, and difficulty understanding the author's message.

Keywords: Acquiring English, English novels, macro skills.

1. INTRODUCTION

The use of language in every country is their way to understand and link with each other. Language varies from different countries because of their own lingua franca; languages that will make everyone to communicate. English is said to be the universal language. It serves as the language of all languages.

English has been the means of communication throughout the world. It has been the way to link every people around the world. Be it in Europe, Asia or in America, English language is their way of understanding each other. The language may vary on how the language is being read or spoken. Nowadays, people are all engaging to the modernization wherein they focused more on the technology. The fact that they're indulge with it sometimes, it's now their way to survive for living. Despite of the language barriers that every country has to face every day, through English language they can communicate with each other.

Reading is one of the basic skills that a child should have. It is one of the five (5) macro skills (reading, writing, listening, speaking, and thinking) a child could master. Reading is recognized to be one of the most essential skills that an individual can possess. It is a vehicle for obtaining ideas. Through reading an individual has his command as a means for widening his mental horizons and multiplying his opportunities for experiences.

The Modern Teacher, (2013) "In the home where the vocabulary is extensive and the use of language patterns is good, there are many different kinds of books, and reading is an everyday occurrence."

Learning a second language is one thing. Learning a second language through reading a text is another thing. This study aims to show the acquisition of English as Second Language of the respondents who are reading novels. Those respondents who are fond of reading such novels will acquire something. Reading is an important tool for learning whether students are poor, average or good reader's at all educational levels for as long as they acquire second language.

Engaging children in reading novels have some effects on how they acquire new language. The improvement of a child is not only about himself but also there are some factors concerning it. Whatever this study may give you, the researcher will be expecting that this will help students, parents and teachers to know how they're child/student/himself acquire English language by means of reading and enhance their intellectual and linguistic competence.

2. PARADIGM

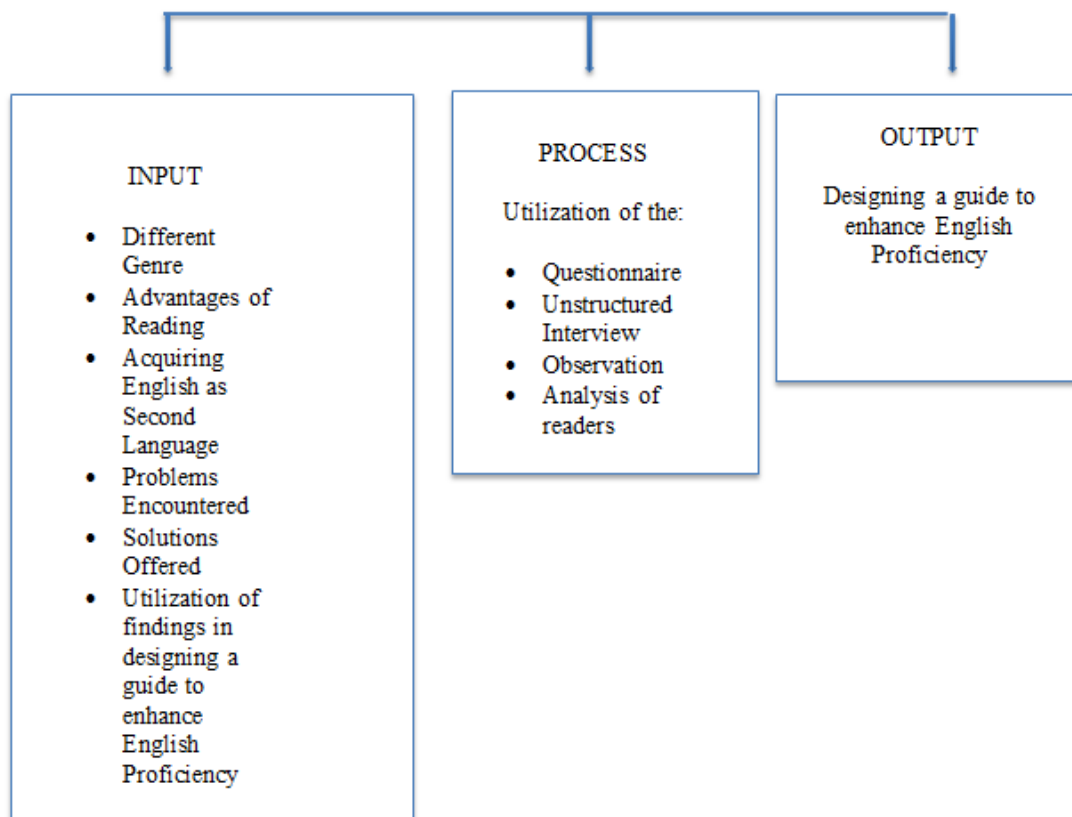
The forgoing theoretical concepts are illustrated in the paradigm that follows using the input – process – output scheme.

INPUT, reveals the different genre; advantages of reading; acquiring English as second language; problems encountered in reading English novels; solutions to the problem.

PROCESS, which deals with the ways and methods to produce good results, Using questionnaire, an unstructured interview and observation to determine the advantages of English Novels. Acquiring of English as a second language. Applying into practice the spoken English. Because it is a process, acquisition of language is something that is achieved over time and not overnight.

OUTPUT, which is the result of the outcomes of the input and process at is believed that the application of these theories which determines in crafting a guide to enhance English proficiency.

PARADIGM FIGURE



STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

This study aims to identify the Advantages of Reading English Novels in Acquiring English as Second Language; Basis in Designing a Guide to Enhance English Proficiency

Specifically, this study aims to answer the following questions:

1. What genre of English novels are usually read by the respondents?
2. What are the advantages of reading English novels?
3. How may reading English Novels acquire English as a second language in terms of
 - 3.1 Vocabulary;
 - 3.2 Comprehension; and
 - 3.3 Spoken English?
4. What are the problems encountered by the respondents when reading English novels?
5. What solutions can be made on the problems encountered by the respondents in reading English Novels?

3. RESEARCH DESIGN

The researcher utilized the Descriptive Method of research with the questionnaire as the main data-gathering instrument since this study focused on the Advantages of Reading English Novels in Acquiring English as Second Language; Basis in Designing a Guide to Enhance English Proficiency. This method describes and interprets “what is”. It is concerned with conditions or relationships that exist, practices that prevails, beliefs, points of view, process that are going on effects that are being felt, or trends that are developing. The process of descriptive goes beyond mere gathering and tabulating data. It involves an element of interpretation of the meaning or significance of what is described. The survey gathers data from relatively large number of cases at a particular time. It is concerned with the generalized statistics that result when data are abstracted from the number of individual

RESPONDENTS:

The researcher utilized four South East Asian Higher Education Institutions with English as a second language policy and a respondents of 50 college students each and who are enrolled in Academic Year 2015- 2016 taking different programs from different colleges.

SAMPLING TECHNIQUES:

The researcher used the Random Sampling technique an example of probability sampling. This is when a list containing all of the population is created and used to obtain participants by random selection. This random selection guarantees that each individual has an independent and equal chance of being selected.

4. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

From the gathered data, the researcher has formulated the following findings;

1. On the Genre of English Novels preferred to read by the respondents the first three in ranks are
 - 1.1 Romance with 98%
 - 1.2 Fiction with 92%
 - 1.3 Fantasy with 88%
2. On the Advantages of reading English Novels the first three in ranks are
 - 2.1 Vehicle of obtaining ideas with 92%
 - 2.2 Widening mental horizon with 90%
 - 2.3 Multiplying opportunities for experience 72%
3. On the contribution of reading English novels to acquire English as a second language
 - 3.1 On Vocabulary the first 3 in ranks are
 - 3.1.1 Dictionary Skills 98%

3.1.2 Vocabulary Development 95%

3.1.3 Sight Word 90%

3.2 On Comprehension the first 3 in ranks are

3.2.1 Creative Imagination 93%

3.2.2 World Analysis Skills 88%

3.2.3 Under Sight Words 80%

3.3 On Spoken words the first 3 in ranks are

3.3.1 Linguistic Performance 95%

3.3.2 Practice 94%

3.3.3 Retention 90%

4. On the Problems encountered when reading English novels

a. Unfamiliarity and difficulty of some words in the text with 99%

b. Language barrier with 97%

c. Understanding the message with 95%

5. On the Solution on the Problems encountered

a. Obtain comprehensible input with 96%

b. Reading for pleasure with 95%

c. Deployment of available abstract structure with 90%

6. A guide is crafted to enhance students English proficiency by reading English Novels

1. Librarians should formulate programs that will encourage more students to read English novels and should offer an array of different genre of English Novels.

2. School-Based students organization should formulate projects that will promote English as a second language.

3. English teachers should incorporate into the course the different ways to ensure continues reading of different English Novel and proper assessment of comprehension.

4. The different school stakeholders should ensure to develop English proficiency development programs using English novels.

5. An Institutional school policy that will reinforce English proficiency to the grassroots.

5. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, the researcher has arrived at the following conclusions.

1. Students are usually reading English novels most particularly romance genre as they can relate to the different situations and scenarios.

2. The advantages of reading English novels are central to the concept of modernization as it provides a means for the readers to obtain ideas that contribute to widening one's mental horizon and multiplying opportunities for experience.

3. That English as second language can be acquired by reading English Novels particularly in Vocabulary, Comprehension and Spoken English

4. That problem arises in reading English novels such as unfamiliarity with words, challenges of comprehension due to complexity and language barrier and difficulty understanding the author's message is common justifications and is given solutions.

5. A guide was crafted to enhance English proficiency by using English Novel as to acquire English as a second language.

6. RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings and the conclusions the researcher has arrived at the following recommendations;

1. Students should engage themselves early in reading texts English texts to develop especially their Vocabulary Skills to acquire the second language.
2. Approaches to Second Language Teaching like extensive reading should be given more time to enhance the learners' ability to acquire the second language.
3. Reading extensively English novels not only in school or at home but also everywhere for the learner to be able to acquire the second language.
4. Teachers should engage also themselves in extensive reading to serve as a role model to their students in acquiring English as a second language.
5. Parents at home should encourage not discouraging their children to read books especially novels because it really helps them in acquiring new language.

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