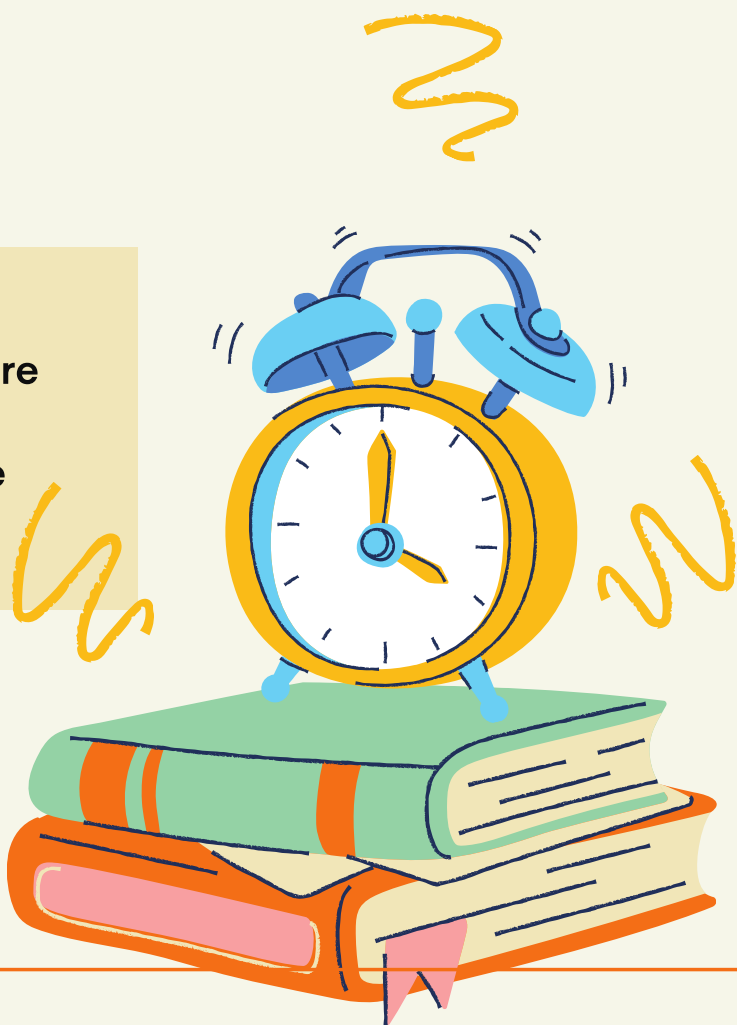


INCORPORATING EXTENSIVE READING IN AN ENGLISH PROGRAM AT THE OFM POSTULANT COMMUNITY YOGYAKARTA

Order of Friar Minors postulants community in Yogyakarta has an English program aims to prepare the postulants to use English for both academic and daily purposes. The extensive reading program was implemented in the 2020-2021 academic year in order to expose students to more English. It aims to expand students' vocabulary mastery as well as train students to get used to English written utterances.



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INTRODUCTION

Extensive reading has been proven beneficial language learners in improving their language knowledge. It allows students to choose books which are suitable with their level of proficiency and interest. It also provides opportunity for the learners to have an incidental learning opportunity. This program fitted the OFM postulants community which consisted of learners with different English language proficiency. Students came from all over Indonesia with a huge gap of English proficiency. The extensive reading program would benefit them as they had the opportunity to choose the reading materials which match their interests and level of proficiency.

OBJECTIVE

The study aimed to look at how the extensive reading program influenced students' English knowledge and proficiency. It also looked what needs to be done in the next program to help students benefit from the program even more.

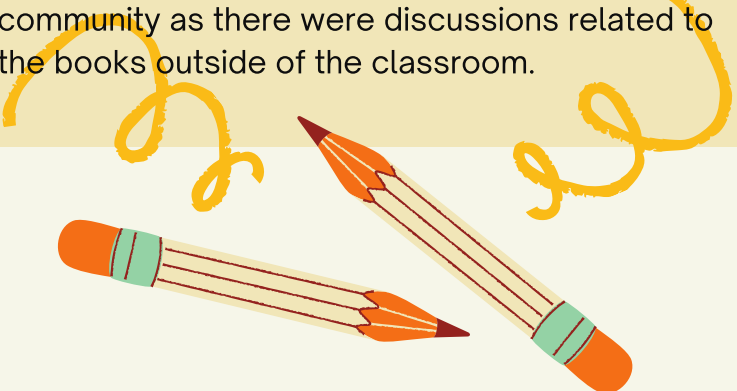
METHODOLOGY

At the beginning of the English program, all fifteen students in the class were given two sets of books box. One set was the Usborne reading collection and the other set was 20 Shakespeare Children's Stories. In total, there were 60 books. Those two sets were chosen because the instructor used her own book collection. Students read the books from the set from November 2020-February 2021 and wrote journals. Each week there was presentation on how much they read and what they got. Data were taken from students' presentation, journals, and interview.

RESULTS

Through students' presentation, there are several things that can be learned from the program:

- 1.Students would like to read more various topics.
2. There should be more discussion in the class about the books read by the students.
- 3.Students found the program useful in getting used to long reading and expanding their vocabulary mastery.
4. Several students mentioned that they started to enjoy reading even more.
5. The program enabled students to learn as a community as there were discussions related to the books outside of the classroom.



ANALYSIS

The program was a trial program. Similar program was also conducted two years prior. Nevertheless, without weekly presentation, students did not feel the necessities to read the books. As a result, only some students read. Meanwhile, n the 2020-2021 program, students were required to write journals and presented what they have read. This method was proven worked better than what was done two years prior.

- At the end of the program there were:
1. one student who read more than 10 books
 2. five students who read 5-10 books
 3. nine students who read 1-4 books

One student who showed difficulties in understanding instructions and responding to utterances showed progress in responding to utterances. He used to rely on friends' translation in understanding instruction and utterances.

One student mentioned that the difficult vocabulary he found in the books he read motivated him to learn more. Another student also mentioned a similar thing, that the reading activity encouraged him to learn more vocabulary.

Meanwhile, the student who read more than ten books found the reading activity exciting. He wrote the summary of every book that he read as well as words he learned.

Other than the benefit in improving English proficiency, students also mentioned about life lessons that they learned from the book. At the end of the program, students created an art work based on their reading experience or the books they read. Most of them chose to create poems about love. It might be because most of the books were about love. It might also be because they prepare themselves to be Catholic religious men so than anything related to worldly love interests them more. Nevertheless, during the presentation, they also mentioned that it did not stop in a romantic love. They learned that love would help anyone to fight in life. Regarding this, one student pointed out that there should be more various topics of reading materials.

CONCLUSION

The incorporation of extensive reading in the English program at OFM Postulant community showed positive results. Nevethless, there were several things that need to be taken into consideration if the program would be done again in the future. Those considerations are:

1. There should be more books or reading materials with wider topics used in the class.
2. There should be more discussions about the reading and the experience of reading conducted.
3. The next program should be better both prepared and structured.
4. A pre and post assessment are needed to see how far students progress through extensive reading.

Related literature

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STUDENTS' ART WORKS

