UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

A STUDY OF STUDENTS' INTERESTS IN READING IN A SECOND LANGUAGE

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Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of

Master of Education
(TESL)

Faculty of Education

June 2012
CANDIDATE’S DECLARATION

I declare the work in this thesis was carried out in accordance with regulation of University Teknologi MARA (UiTM). It is original and is the result of my own work. This thesis has not been submitted to other academic institution for other degree or qualification.

In the event that my thesis is found to violate the conditions mentioned above, I voluntarily waive my right of conferment of my degree and be subjected to the disciplinary rules by the UiTM.

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I am very fortunate to have had a great deal of help, advice and feedback from a number of people in completing my study. Firstly, I would like to express my appreciation to my supervisor, Puan Mawarni Mohamed, for her continuous guidance, endless support, understanding and patience in making my study a success.

I am also grateful to my two best friends whom I have met during my two years of studies, Wan Raihan binti Wan Shaaidi and Asliza binti Ahmad. They have helped me with all the challenges and doubts I have throughout my study and I am very grateful for their cooperation, advice and support throughout the duration of my study at Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM).

I would also like to thank the principal of Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Belara, Kuala Terengganu, and all the teachers and students in the school for their cooperation and support.

Finally, my greatest gratitude goes to every member of my family, my parents and sisters, Zulida, Zulaikha and Zuriati. Special thanks go to both of my beloved parents, Tuan Haji Khairuddin bin Abdul Ghani and Puan Hajjah Zainun binti Muhamad, who have been very patient and understanding throughout my study. They have also helped me go through challenges I had to face and clear doubts I had in completing my study. They have given me all the motivation, love and encouragement that I need throughout these two years. Thank you very much for everything.
Reading interests is important in enhancing students’ success in school and out of it. Hence, students need to have high reading interests. The purposes of this study were to identify students’ reading interests in reading second language materials, to examine the differences in students’ reading interests based on genders, academic streams and household monthly income as well as to investigate the relationship between parents’ involvement in reading with students’ reading interest. This study was carried out among 86 Form Four students in Kuala Terengganu with simple random sampling using a 29-item questionnaire adapted and adopted from Marrero (2009). Data were analysed as well as presented in the form of frequency, means, standard deviation, independent t-test, ANOVA, Post Hoc Tests and correlations. From this study, it is found that students have relatively low interests in reading English materials. Furthermore, there is significant difference between male and female students and meanwhile there is no significant difference between pure science and arts students as well as among the household monthly income groups with regards to their reading interests. Finally, this study revealed that there is moderate relationship between parents’ involvement in reading and students’ reading interests in reading second language materials. From these findings, it can be suggested that stakeholders should take action with regards to developing and enhancing male students’ reading interests. Furthermore, although parents’ involvement in reading moderately influences students’ reading interests, it still affects students’ interests. Hence, parents should get involved with students’ reading. It is hoped that the finding of this study would enlighten the relevant literature of the area.
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