

**AN INVESTIGATION OF THE READING HABITS
OF YEAR SIX PUPILS AT SEKOLAH KEBANGSAAN
STAPOK, JALAN BATU KAWA, KUCHING, SARAWAK**

By

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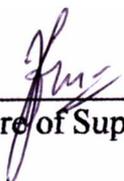
**Final Year Project Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Education with
Honours (TESL), Faculty of Education, Universiti Teknologi
Mara, Samarahan Campus, Sarawak**

**FACULTY OF EDUCATION
MARA UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
SAMARAHAN CAMPUS, SARAWAK**

2004

A project entitled “An Investigation of the Reading Habits of Year 6 pupils” was written by Margaret Marmaid Kalong and submitted to the Faculty of Education, Universiti Teknologi Mara, Samarahan Campus, in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Education with Honours (TESL)

It is hereby confirmed that the student has done all the necessary amendments of the project for acceptance.



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ABSTRACT

An Investigation of the Reading Habits of Year Six Pupils

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Reading is a very important and useful language skill which is basic to an acquisition of any language. This project was conducted for the purpose of investigating student's reading habits through a discovery of their frequency in reading, types of reading materials they like and also the problems that hinder their reading habits.

The study involved 20 pupils who were chosen at random from the three classes of Year Six in Sekolah Kebangsaan Stapok, Batu Kawa, Kuching. The method used for data collection was a questionnaire survey conducted on the 20 pupils as respondents. The responses were analyzed through descriptive analysis using the SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Science) program. The results of the findings and analysis revealed that family, economic status, parental roles, society, pupils' attitudes and teachers' role-play a significant part in influencing the students' reading habits.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Background to the study

Presently, the role of English in the Malaysian school of curriculum is that of a second language. Since the change of medium of instructions in schools, English language is studied only as a subject. It is a compulsory subject in all primary and secondary schools in line with its status as a second language in Malaysia. (Pusat Perkembangan Kurikulum, 2000). The Malaysian Ministry of Education has clearly clarified that the prime goal of English Language Teaching in the Curriculum Specification is to increase the students' skills in using the language so as to prepare students to face real life situation. (Pusat Perkembangan Kurikulum, 2000). In consequence to this, it is envisaged that students would be better equipped in dealing with their social and educational life, after they have completed the English Language Curriculum in their higher learning.

For these aims to be achieved, all schools are required to teach the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing for the reason that Malaysian students who have gone through the national education system will acquire a proficiency in English Language. Besides other skills, reading is one of the skills taught and it is the most useful language skill that learners need to master. The ability to read academic texts is considered one of the most important skills that students, especially university students of English as a Second Language or Foreign Language need to acquire. Abraham (1983) agrees that if a person desires to become highly educated he needs to gain more