

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**THE IMPACT OF METACOGNITIVE
STRATEGY USE ON ARABIC TEXT
COMPREHENSION AMONG
SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

MOHD SHAM BIN KAMIS

PhD

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AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this thesis was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the results of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any degree or qualification.

I, hereby, acknowledge that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for Post Graduate, Universiti Teknologi MARA, regulating the conduct of my study and research.

Name of Student : Mohd Sham bin Kamis

Student I.D. No. : 2013161997

Programme : Doctor of Philosophy (Applied Language Studies) –
LG950

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Signature of Student : 

Date : July 2021

ABSTRACT

This thesis aimed to investigate the impact of utilizing the Metacognitive Strategy (MCS) in reading Arabic texts among students in Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Agama (SMKA) in Seremban, Negeri Sembilan. Specifically, this study was designed to; a) identify the use of planning, monitoring, and evaluating strategies in reading Arabic texts; b) identify the impact of MCS use on Arabic reading comprehension and vocabulary acquisition; and c) identify the problems in reading Arabic texts during the planning, monitoring, and evaluating strategies after receiving treatment. Generally, students who lack effective reading strategies might face difficulties in dealing with vocabulary and comprehension skills such as distinguishing different text structures and making inferences. Consequently, this may hinder students from mastering reading comprehension skills. In this study, the data were gathered using questionnaires, tests, and interviews. Specifically, 60 participants took part in answering the questionnaires, 30 participants for the tests, and six participants for the interviews. A mixed method design was applied to investigate the main variables. The analysis of data in the quantitative part that dominantly involved SPSS Version 26 was conducted to elicit information from the descriptive statistics and inferential statistics. In the qualitative part, thematic analysis was carried out based on the transcriptions gathered from the interviews. Data collected from descriptive statistics, inferential statistics, and thematic analysis were then triangulated to provide answers based on the three main objectives. The analysis of the data gathered revealed the following results. Firstly, the participants were found to be high users of the planning and monitoring strategies, while for the evaluating strategy, they were found to be moderate users. Secondly, the results showed a significant difference between the experimental group and the control group in the post-test score of the comprehension test and vocabulary test after controlling the extraneous variable. The results from the experimental group were higher than the control group because they former was exposed to the metacognitive strategies in the MCS Training as a treatment. Thirdly, the result showed that the participants faced a total of four problems in the planning strategy, two problems in the monitoring strategy, and two problems in the evaluating strategy. This study has theoretical and practical implications on classroom practice, specifically in the teaching and learning of the Arabic language. The findings demonstrated that MCS is an important factor to be considered when reading as this factor may affect the comprehension and vocabulary in reading Arabic texts. In addition, the findings showed that MCS training helped less successful learners to improve their comprehension and vocabulary learning in reading Arabic texts. The findings also suggested the importance of instilling awareness about metacognitive learning strategies among students and teaching metacognitive strategies explicitly through strategy trainings which can generate positive results among learners in reading comprehension.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
CONFIRMATION BY PANEL OF EXAMINERS	ii
AUTHOR'S DECLARATION	iii
ABSTRACT	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	v
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vi
LIST OF TABLES	xii
LIST OF FIGURES	xiii
LIST OF SYMBOLS	xvii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xviii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Background of Study	1
1.3 Statement of the Problem	3
1.4 Objectives of the Study	6
1.5 Research Questions	7
1.6 Significance of the Study	10
1.7 Limitations of the Study	11
1.8 Operational Definitions	13
1.8.1 Metacognitive Strategies	13
1.8.2 Planning Strategies	13
1.8.3 Monitoring Strategies	14
1.8.4 Evaluating Strategies	14
1.8.5 Reading Skills	14
1.8.6 Reading Strategies	14
1.8.7 Comprehension	15
1.8.8 Vocabulary	15
1.8.9 Metacognitive Strategy (MCS) Training	15
1.9 Summary	16