
Silent Dialogues: The Reader's Experience and Interpretation

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Article History:

Received: 14 Juni 2024

Revised: 28 Juni 2024

Accepted: 30 Juni 2024

Keywords: *Silent, dialogues, reading, interpretation*

Abstract: *This article discusses silent reading for readers with the aim of investigating silent dialogues: the reader's experience and interpretation influence the reader. In addition, this article uses a qualitative open-ended question method with the aim of digging deeper information from the participants. Participants are randomly selected in order to get different results from each participant. The results obtained from silent reading, according to the participants, are very useful for the level of effectiveness in reading, especially studying texts that are difficult to understand. So, understanding the text with the silent reading method is very effective for learning to understand the text.*

INTRODUCTION

In a world dominated by rapid information exchange and fleeting digital interactions, the act of reading remains a profoundly intimate and transformative experience. Unlike the noise of spoken communication, reading engages a silent dialogue between the text and the reader, a conversation that unfolds in the quiet spaces of the mind. This article delves into the multifaceted nature of reading, exploring how it shapes our understanding, emotions, and perceptions (Bruggink et al., 2022).

When we read, we engage in a unique form of communication. The author's voice, though unspoken, resonates through the text, sparking a conversation with the reader's inner world. This silent dialogue is complex and deeply personal. It is where words on a page are not just passively absorbed but actively interpreted, questioned, and reimagined. The reader's background, beliefs, and experiences color this interaction, making each reading experience distinct and uniquely significant (Oles et al., 2020).

Reading is not merely a cognitive task of decoding symbols; it is an immersive experience that activates a myriad of cognitive and emotional processes. As we read, we navigate through layers of meaning, empathize with characters, and envision worlds beyond our own. The silent dialogue between text and reader stimulates imagination, enhances empathy, and fosters critical thinking. Research shows that deep reading can alter brain structure and function, suggesting that the act of reading itself transforms us (Nazamud-din et al., 2020).

Interpretation is at the heart of the reading experience. Each reader brings their own perspective to a text, creating a unique understanding that can differ widely from others. This interpretative process is influenced by various factors, including cultural context, personal history, and even the reader's current mood. Understanding how readers construct meaning from texts is crucial for educators, writers, and psychologists who seek to foster effective communication and comprehension (da Silva, 2020).

In the digital era, the landscape of reading is rapidly evolving. E-books, audiobooks, and online articles offer new ways of engaging with text. These technological advancements have transformed how we read and what we read. The rise of social media and digital platforms has also changed the nature of our silent dialogues, often shortening attention spans and altering the depth of our engagement with longer texts. This journal examines how these shifts impact our reading habits and the silent dialogues we cherish (Erstad et al., 2023).

"Silent Dialogues: The Reader's Experience and Interpretation" is dedicated to exploring the diverse ways in which reading influences and is influenced by our lives. From the psychological and neurological effects of reading to the cultural and social contexts that shape our interpretations, this journal seeks to illuminate the profound impact of reading on our world. By bringing together insights from scholars, educators, and readers, we aim to deepen our understanding of the silent dialogues that connect us to the vast universe of words (Szczyrba et al., 2022).

In the following pages, the researcher tries to embark on a journey through the rich and varied experiences of reading. Let us explore how our silent dialogues with texts not only reflect our inner selves but also shape the way we see and interact with the world around us. In understanding texts that use silent reading methods usually have weaknesses such as readers will find it difficult to express the content of the reading aloud. In addition, to express the story again will be more difficult to describe clearly and most will experience failure in writing when the surrounding situation is noisy. Therefore, researchers try to dig deeper into the information and provide the latest research results from previous studies.

LITERARY REVIEW

Perusing comprehension is how to urge data within the perusing understudies have understand or comprehend the substance of the subject that understudies studied. Concurring to (Ngabut, 2015) has expressed that perusing comprehension is the method to induce an exact understanding of the writer's message through at the same time extricating and building meaning by collaborating reader's foundation information and interaction and association.

Scanning is a reading strategy that is read carefully exactly in the reader's read-detail but it does not have to read every line (Aritonang et al., 2019). Then, skimming have to read the full text in a paragraph so that know about the topic and detailed information (Nufus & Ifadloh, 2021).

Silent reading is a way for students to understand reading in order to understand the implied meaning and intent of the reading. This theory is only reading and is not done for test writing. So that silent reading is really carried out with the ability of the students themselves, without being monitored, guided or given directions and they choose stories based on their respective interests (Erbeli & Rice, 2021).

METHODE

The method used is qualitative with an open-ended question system with the aim of the researcher wanting to find out more information about the effect of silent reading and selecting participants randomly. In addition, the data collection is based on interviews and documentation from previous research.

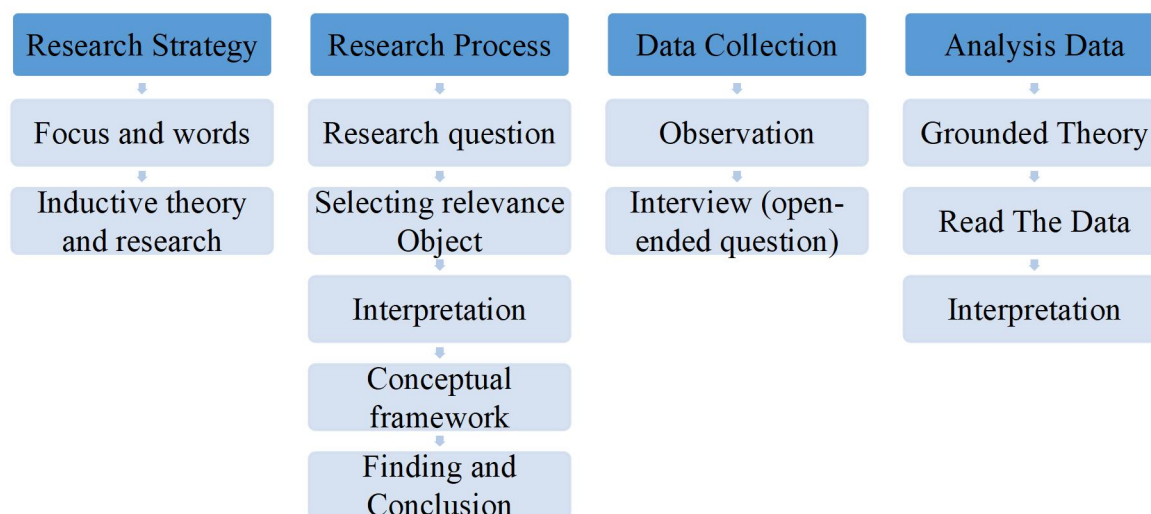


Figure 1. Qualitative Diagram

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The results of the study were obtained from random participants. Participants were randomly selected starting from educational background, occupation, age and gender. From each participant, they were given a text consisting of 3 paragraphs and gave 3 minutes to read and understand, then retold and given the opportunity to choose a text according to their own desires so that they got different results from those who were given a text with 3 paragraphs and favorite texts.

The results of reading for 3 minutes with the silent reading method with different educational backgrounds, the participants revealed that by using the silent reading method in reading texts, they can be more focused, can apply skimming and scanning. In addition, the readings they read can be more focused and stable and easy to remember over a long period of time. Educational background ranges from elementary school, junior high school, senior high school and university. Then, as a result of reading the text of their own choice, they get the benefit of reading that is more attached to the brain and easier to process quickly than before reading using the silent reading technique.

In terms of work, the participants were selected from those who were still in school, working in offices, those who did not have jobs and odd jobs. From the results obtained, they are one step ahead in completing their work, meaning they are faster in reading the rules, directions of the road and translating the documents in their work.

In terms of age and gender, the most dominant ones faster understand the implied meaning of the reading text, namely adolescent girls and school-age boys. However, for those over 40 years old, they are no less quick to absorb the information they read. For example, a 43-year-old man reads a text with the silent reading method within 3 minutes, he can remember the

entire content of the text and parts of the text. In fact, with the age of over 40 years old, they will usually experience problems in remembering readings even though they have just been read and told. This time, using the silent reading method has an impact and benefits on readers in understanding the reading text. In addition, reading using silent reading will increase the ability and fluency in communicating.

So that the researcher obtained the results of research that the silent reading method provides very significant changes for readers such as increasing focus and concentration, developing language skills, improving reading skills, developing critical thinking and analysis, emotional mastery and creating a lifelong reading culture.

CONCLUSION

It has been explained that the effect of silent reading provides benefits to readers, in addition to being more focused and faster to understand the content from readings and stories to books. Readers will be more intense in reading quickly by using skimming and scanning methods so that no important things from the text are left behind. If silent reading is applied in the world of education, it can create a conducive learning atmosphere.

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