

**EXPLORING EFL LEARNERS INTEREST AND  
PREFERENCES IN READING ENGLISH TEXT**

**A THESIS**

Submitted to the English Language Teaching Department of *Tarbiyah* and  
Teacher Training Faculty of The State Cyber Islamic University of *Syekh Nurjati*  
Cirebon in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements of an Undergraduate Degree



**ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING DEPARTEMENT  
TARBIYAH AND TEACHER TRAINING FACULTY  
THE STATE CYBER ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SYEKH  
NURJATI CIREBON**

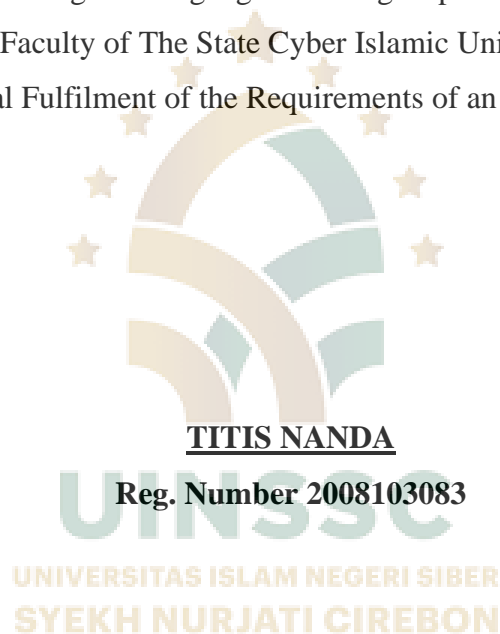
**2024**

**SUBCOVER**

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**2024**

## ABSTRACT

*Titis Nanda. 2008103083. "EXPLORING EFL LEARNERS INTEREST AND PREFERENCE IN READING ENGLISH TEXT".*

Students in Indonesia face challenges with low literacy levels, making it crucial to align reading materials with their interests. This study uses qualitative methods and in-depth interviews to explore how students select English texts, aiming to make reading more enjoyable and engaging. The findings reveal that students' reading preferences are closely tied to their daily lives and developmental stages. Popular genres include romance, comedy, fantasy, self-help, and psychology books. Additionally, graphic narratives with illustrated stories are gaining traction in fostering interest. The study identifies internal factors like reading purpose, emotional connection, real-world relevance, personal interpretation, and relatable characters as key influences. External factors, such as engaging plots, social recommendations, and visual appeal, also play significant roles in shaping preferences. By understanding these factors, educators and parents can develop more effective reading materials that related with students life. This approach not only strengthens literacy but also enhances cognitive skills, making reading a meaningful and enjoyable activity. Ultimately, addressing both internal and external influences can help regenerate students literacy levels and build a stronger reading culture. rating students' literacy and comprehension skills.

**Keywords:** *adolescence, reading interest, reading preference, English text*

**APPROVAL**

**EXPLORING EFL LEARNERS INTEREST AND PREFERENCES IN  
READING ENGLISH TEXT**

**Submitted by:**

**TITIS NANDA**

**Reg. Number 2008103083**

Submitted to English Language Teaching Department of *Tarbiyah* and Teacher Training Faculty of The State Cyber Islamic University of *Syekh Nurjati* Cirebon in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Undergraduate Degree



**Approved by:**

**The First Supervisor,**

**Wakhid Nashruddin, Ph. D.**  
NIP. 19810308 201101 1 003

**The Second Supervisor,**

**Prof. Dr. H. Ilman Nafi'a, M.Ag.**  
NIP. 197212 20199803 1 004

## OFFICIAL NOTE

The Head of English Language Teaching Department  
*Tarbiyah* and Teacher Training Faculty of  
The State Cyber Islamic University of *Syekh Nurjati* Cirebon  
In  
Cirebon

*Assalamu 'alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh*

After guiding, analyzing, briefing, and correcting the writing of Titis Nanda with register number 2008103083 entitled “**EXPLORING EFL LEARNERS INTEREST AND PREFERENCES IN READING ENGLISH TEXT**”, we are of the opinion that her thesis can be offered to be presented to the English Language Teaching Department, *Tarbiyah* and Training Faculty, The State Cyber Islamic University of *Syekh Nurjati* Cirebon

*Wassalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh*



**The First Supervisor,**

**Wakhid Nashruddin, Ph. D.**

NIP. 19810308 201101 1 003

**The Second Supervisor,**

**Prof. Dr. H. Ilman Nafi'a, M.Ag.**

NIP. 197212 20199803 1 004

## LETTER OF AUNTHENTICITY

*Bismillahirrahmanirrahim*

I acknowledge that this thesis entitled “**EXPLORING EFL LEARNERS INTEREST AND PREFERENCES IN READING ENGLISH TEXT**” is really my own writing with quotations from trusted sources and references by using acceptable scientific method of writing.

Honestly, I have written this letter of authenticity according to the truth. I will be sincerely responsible for any risk that will happen in the future if it is proven to offend the ethics of scientific writing.



Cirebon, September 2024

The researcher,

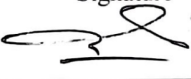



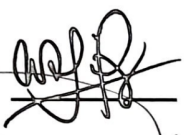



**Titis Nanda**

Reg. Number 2008103083

## RATIFICATION

The thesis which is entitled “**EXPLORING EFL LEARNERS INTEREST AND PREFERENCES IN READING ENGLISH TEXT**”, written by Titis Nanda, with the registered number 2008103083, has been examined on September 2024. It has been accepted by examiners as one of the requirements for an undergraduate degree in English Language Teaching Department of *Tarbiyah* and Teacher Training Faculty of The State Cyber Islamic University of *Syekh Nurjati* Cirebon.

	Date	Signature
The Head of English Language Teaching Department <u>Dra. Hj. Amroh Umaemah, M.Pd</u> NIP. 19661214 199303 2 003	06/11 - 24	
The Secretary of English Language Teaching Department <u>Hendi Hidayat, M.Pd</u> NIP. 19860113 201503 1 002	06/11 - 24	
Examiner 1 <u>Dr. Nana Priajana, M.Pd</u> NIP. 19820407 201503 1 002	06/11 - 24	
Examiner 2 <u>Ahmad Rifai, M.Pd</u> NIP. 19840507 201503 1 003	06/11 - 24	
Supervisor 1 <u>Wakhid Nashruddin, M. Pd., Ph. D.</u> NIP. 19810308 201101 1 003	06/11 - 24	
Supervisor 2 <u>Prof. Dr. H. Ilman Nafi'a, M.Ag.</u> NIP. 197212 20199803 1 004	06/11 - 24	

Acknowledged by  
The Dean of *Tarbiyah* and Teacher Training Faculty of  
The State Cyber Islamic University of *Syekh Nurjati* Cirebon



## **DEDICATION**

Praise be to Allah SWT, who has granted me health, grace, and guidance, allowing me to complete this thesis, a requirement for reaching this point, and to finish it on time, even though it is far from perfect. It is an honor to present this work as a dedication to myself, my beloved parents (Mr. Muhammad Fadillah S.T. and Mrs. Iin Indahwati S. Sos). Thank you for your prayers and encouragement. I am deeply grateful for the continuous support and prayers that have accompanied me throughout this learning process. I dedicate this thesis to all of them.





## AUTOBIOGRAPHY

### 1. Personal Details

Writer's name : Titis Nanda  
Place & Date of birth : Cirebon, 23 April 2002  
Address : Jalan Kalijaga Pegambiran  
Kecamatan Lemahwungkuk  
Kota Cirebon 45113  
Gender : Female  
Email : [titis.nanda8899@gmail.com](mailto:titis.nanda8899@gmail.com)



### 2. Education Details

1. 2007-2013 : SDN Api-Api Kota Cirebon
2. 2013-2016 : SMP Negeri 7 Kota Cirebon
3. 2016-2019 : SMA Negeri 3 Kota Cirebon
4. 2020-2024 : English Language Teaching Department of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training Faculty of The State Cyber Islamic University of Syekh Nurjati Cirebon.

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## MOTTO

*The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet. — Aristotle*

*Leave your country in search of lofliness and travel! for in travel there are five benefits: Reliefe of adversity, earning of livelihood, knowledge, etiquettes, and noble companionship.*

*— Imam Syafi'i*

*But unfortunately, you can't win the battle outside when the war is within you*

*— Will Smith*



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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. All praise be to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds, who has continuously blessed me with the strength and guidance to complete this thesis, titled *Exploring EFL Learners Interest and Preference in Reading English Text*. May peace and blessings be upon the Prophet Muhammad SAW, his family, his companions, and his followers.

I am profoundly grateful and would like to express my deepest gratitude to my thesis supervisors Wakhid Nashruddin, Ph.D., and Prof. Dr. H. Ilman Nafi'a, M.Ag. Thank you for your patience in guiding me, for shaping my thinking, and for providing corrections, valuable comments, suggestions, and supportive critiques throughout this research work. Each of you has shown me my potential in different ways and in different classes, helping me to explore it deeply. Thank you for guiding me to become the scholar I am today.

Thank you to all the professors and staff at English Language Teaching Department of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training Faculty of The State Cyber Islamic University of Syekh Nurjati Cirebon for helping, supporting, and providing facilities during this study process

In addition, I would like to thank the Principal for giving me the opportunity and permission to conduct this research at the school, the English teachers who gave their time and helped me during this research, and the students who participated in completing this research.

In the process of composing this thesis, many people have participated, helped, and advised me, both directly and indirectly. My ultimate thanks to my mom and dad, thank you for your prayers without them, I wouldn't be where I am today. Thank you to my siblings and all my family members who have supported me and helped me throughout this thesis process.

All TBI B researcher classmates have provided great friendship, support, and motivation during my learning process. My friends Annisa Azzhara, Cempaka

Arum, Alvia Ayu Febriani, Indah Nurjanah, Widiya, Tsalisa Raodhatul Jannah and all my classmates, thank you for the struggled together from the beginning. Without you, this journey would not have been as exciting and meaningful. I really fortune become part of our TBI B 2020 families.

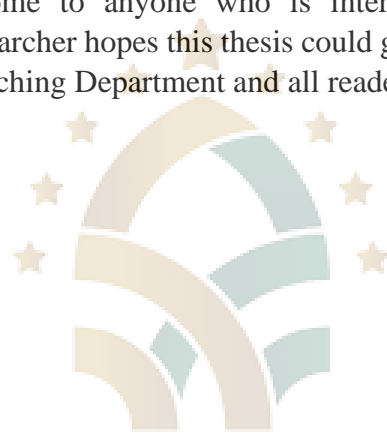
Big thanks to my close friends and my human diary. Yulia Tiara Putri, Ryma Arievanda, Ika Purnamasari. Thank you for listening and not judging me when I'm just tired of everything. Who have helped in the process of working on this thesis You all have a special place in my life, and you mean a lot to me. Thanks for all the support.

Last but not least. I want to thank myself for making it this far and for choosing not to give up. After four years of saying, "I'm going to drop out this semester" whenever the smallest inconvenience happened, and for this thesis, I'd bleed myself dry. The researcher expresses deep gratitude for all the assistance provided in the preparation of this thesis, including those who cannot be mentioned individually. May Allah SWT reward the kindness and sincerity that has been given. The researcher acknowledges that this thesis is far from perfect. Therefore, the researcher welcomes any criticism and suggestions from readers for future improvements. May Allah SWT bless everyone for their kindness and sincerity.

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## PREFACE

In the name of Allah SWT, the most Gracious and Merciful all praises and thanks belong to Allah, the Lord of the universe can be finished on time. May invocation to the prophet Muhammad SAW (peace is upon time), his family, and followers up to end of the world. The research is entitled **EXPLORING EFL LEARNERS INTEREST AND PREFERENCES IN READING ENGLISH TEXT**. Which is submitted to the English Language Teaching Department Tarbiyah and Teacher Training Faculty IAIN *Syekh Nurjati* Cirebon in partial fulfillment of the requirement of Undergraduate Degree. The researcher is sure that this thesis is still far from being perfect, so all mistakes and errors in this thesis will be her responsibility and every suggestion or idea of any kind to make it perfect will be gladly welcome to anyone who is interested in studying materials development. The researcher hopes this thesis could give some contributions to the English Language Teaching Department and all readers in general.



Cirebon, September 2024

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The Researcher

## TABLE OF CONTENT

<b>EXPLORING EFL LEARNERS INTEREST AND PREFERENCES IN READING ENGLISH TEXT.....</b>	
<b>ABSTRACT .....</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>APPROVAL .....</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>OFFICIAL NOTE.....</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>LETTER OF AUNTHENTICITY .....</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>RATIFICATION.....</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>DEDICATION.....</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>AUTOBIOGRAPHY .....</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>MOTTO .....</b>	<b>viii</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....</b>	<b>ix</b>
<b>PREFACE.....</b>	<b>xi</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENT .....</b>	<b>xii</b>
<b>LIST OF TABLES .....</b>	<b>xv</b>
<b>LIST OF FIGURES .....</b>	<b>xvi</b>
<b>LIST OF APPENDICES .....</b>	<b>xix</b>
<b>CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.1 Background of The Phenomena .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.2 Identification of The Phenomena .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>1.3 Delimitation and Focus of The Research.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>1.4 Research Question .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>1.5 Aims of The Research.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>1.6 Significance of The Research.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>1.6.1 Theoretical Significance .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>1.6.2 Practically Significance .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>1.7 Theoretical Foundation .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>1.7.1 Definition of Exploring .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>1.7.2 Definition of EFL .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>1.7.3 Definition of Learners.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>1.7.4 Definition of Interest.....</b>	<b>15</b>

1.7.5	Definition of Preference.....	20
1.7.6	Definition of Reading.....	21
1.7.7	Definition of English Text .....	22
1.8	Previous Studies .....	24
1.9	Frame of Thought.....	27
1.10	Research Method .....	28
1.10.1	Research Design and Steps of The Research.....	28
1.10.2	Source and Type of Data .....	29
1.10.3	Technique of Data Collection.....	29
1.10.4	Technique of Data Analysis .....	30
1.10.5	Research Timeline.....	32
<b>CHAPTER II TYPES OF TEXT THAT GENERATE THE INTEREST AMONG JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.....</b>		<b>33</b>
2.1	Fiction .....	34
2.1.1	Romance.....	35
2.1.2	Comedy .....	39
2.1.3	Fantasy .....	40
2.1.4	Fable.....	42
2.1.5	Adventure .....	43
2.1.6	Detective.....	44
2.1.7	Family.....	45
2.1.8	Horror .....	46
2.1.9	Drama.....	47
2.1.10	Mystery .....	48
2.1.11	Thriller .....	49
2.1.12	Action .....	50
2.1.13	Poetry .....	51
2.2	Non-Fiction.....	52
2.2.1	Self-help / Self Development .....	53
2.2.2	Encyclopedia.....	54
2.2.3	Psychology .....	54
2.2.4	Science.....	56

2.3	Graphic Narrative .....	57
<b>CHAPTER III FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTING TO READING PREFERENCES FOR SPECIFIC TEXTS IN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.....</b>		
3.1	Factor Internal .....	61
3.1.1	Reading Purpose of Readers .....	62
3.1.2	Emotional Connection .....	64
3.1.3	Real World Relevance .....	65
3.1.4	Personal Interpretation .....	67
3.1.5	Relatable Characters .....	68
3.1.6	Situational Interest.....	69
3.2	External Factor .....	71
3.2.1	Engaging Plot .....	72
3.2.2	Social Influence .....	72
3.2.3	Recommendation.....	74
3.2.4	Visual Appeal .....	75
3.2.5	Accessibility .....	77
<b>CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION .....</b>		
4.1	Conclusion .....	80
4.2	Suggestion.....	82
4.2.1	Material Developers.....	82
4.2.2	The Teachers .....	83
4.2.3	Future Research .....	83
<b>REFERENCES.....</b>		
<b>APPENDICES .....</b>		
		110



## LIST OF TABLES

<i>Table 1.1 The Four Phase of Interest Development .....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Table 3.1 Factors that contribute to students' preference for choosing reading texts .....</i>	<i>58</i>
<i>Table 3.2 Categories for reading purposes.....</i>	<i>60</i>



## LIST OF FIGURES

<i>Figure 1.9 Frame of Thought .....</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>Figure 2. 1 Recapitulations of text types that students interested in .....</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>Figure 2. 2 Recapitulations of text types that students interested in fiction .....</i>	<i>31</i>
<i>Figure 2. 3 Recapitulations of text types that students interested in non-fiction..</i>	<i>50</i>



## LIST OF APPENDICES

<i>Appendices 1 List of Interview Questioner .....</i>	<i>108</i>
<i>Appendices 2 Interview Data .....</i>	<i>109</i>
<i>Appendices 3 Surat Izin Penelitian .....</i>	<i>139</i>
<i>Appendices 4 Surat Balasan Izin Penelitian .....</i>	<i>140</i>
<i>Appendices 5 Surat Selesai Penelitian .....</i>	<i>141</i>
<i>Appendices 6 Kertas Bimbingan .....</i>	<i>142</i>
<i>Appendices 7 Dokumentasi Penelitian .....</i>	<i>144</i>

