

Islamic Reading Website as Authentic Material to Improve Reading Skills and Islamic Values

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ABSTRAK

Di era disrupsi saat ini, teknologi mempengaruhi semua aspek kehidupan manusia, khususnya dalam pendidikan. "Islamic Reading Website" merupakan salah satu materi online yang dapat memotivasi dan membantu mahasiswa dan dosen dalam proses belajar-mengajar. "Islamic reading Website" dapat meningkatkan keterampilan pemahaman bacaan siswa dan meningkatkan pengetahuan nilai nilai islam siswa. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui penggunaan "islamic reading website" sebagai bahan otentik dalam pengajaran pemahaman membaca pada mahasiswa semester tiga di STIT Madani Yogyakarta. Pada penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian kualitatif Penelitian ini dilakukan pada mahasiswa semester tiga STIT Madani Yogyakarta. Pengumpulan data diperoleh melalui observasi dan wawancara. Berdasarkan hasil penelitian, situs web Islami bermanfaat sebagai sumber informasi siswa dan dapat membantu siswa untuk meningkatkan kemampuan bahasa Inggris mereka. Selain itu, situs web islami dapat meningkatkan pemahaman nilai-nilai keislaman siswa.

ABSTRACT

In this disrupted era, technology affects all aspects of human life, particularly education. Reading website is one of the online materials that can motivate and assist students and lecturers in the teaching-learning process. Islamic reading websites improve students' reading comprehension skills and encouragement of students' Islamic values. The purpose of this study is to investigate the use of Islamic reading websites articles as authentic material in teaching reading comprehension of the third-semester students at STIT Madani Yogyakarta. The qualitative research method was used in this study. This study was carried out on the third-semester students. The collecting of data was obtained through observations and interviews. Based on the research, using Islamic websites as useful sources of information can help students improve their English skills. Furthermore, students' reading performance and Islamic values were constantly improved by their use of Islamic websites.

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Introduction

The basic reason that academic students learn English is to encourage them to gain knowledge in their field of study through textbooks, articles, and lectures which require to be presented as well as other sources. Many students would like to be able to read texts in English, whether for work, school, or merely for fun (Harmer, 2002:45). Juniardi via Faizal (2019) explains that Online resource materials can improve the student's comprehension skills. It could help the students to improve their vocabulary, reciting motion, and comprehension. Guo (2012) proves that accurate internet materials are immensely important because they stimulate the interest of teachers and students further than traditionally structured components in the classroom. Ortega-Moran et al., 2020 via (Syakur et al., 2020) add that aspects of learning innovation, students obtain new learning models based on information and communication technology so that students do not stutter about technology and can be more creative.

The students could receive support from quick access to a wide variety of reading materials through the use of Internet-sourced materials. On the contrary, second-language learners believe their opinions and desires are not expressed in English language literature, which explains their decreasing interest in reading, particularly in English. Since (Rahmawati, 2018) reminds us that English language resources often reflect an Americano-Eurocentric perspective that is unsuitable to or contrary to Islamic religious values (1996, as cited in Adam & Lallmamode, 2009). In addition, dismissing the students' cultures could be a challenge if the principles in the texts contradict Islamic beliefs which would be a problem for Islamic students. Hameed (2009) defines Islamic values are a collection of rules and instructions that distinguish between what is proper and incorrect conduct, or what one should or should not do." This is governed by a strong conviction in God's integrity and the ultimate purpose of man's creation and values that differ from secular or Christian-based ideologies, (McKay, 2003).

STIT Madani is an Islamic college-based *pesantren* that all the students should take English as one of the compulsory subjects. Based on the Islamic students' background, integrated Islamic values through English teaching materials should be implemented in learning the language. It's to anticipate the negative effect of some cultures that contradict Islamic values. However, the students still find it difficult in describing and representing Islam and Muslims in literature. Nowadays, English Muslim students already can read about Islam and address topics from the Islamic worldview on Islamic websites where a large majority of English-speaking Muslim writers, academics, and Islamic organizations are writing about Islam and addressing topics from the Islamic worldview. It is hardly challenging to teach English to Islamic learners who should integrate Islamic beliefs and also English skills. Teaching English cannot be

separated from Islamic beliefs because utilizing an article from Islamic websites to teach reading comprehension is suitable and applicable. Choosing Islamic reading websites articles can improve students' reading comprehension and enhance their religious values of the students. However, selecting appropriate Islamic website articles is required in teaching English.

Teachers and students play a crucial role in maintaining Islamic values through their classroom activities and the implementation of Islamic beliefs into all lessons (Rohmah, 2012). The linguistic considerations suggest that teachers make these efforts in their classrooms, as Johnston (2003) remarked that the fundamental of language education, such as the substance of all teaching, involves values." It indicates that the educational purpose of teaching is attained when foreign language acquisition is integrated with religious principles. In this study, the researcher is expected to investigate using articles on Islamic reading websites as authentic material in teaching reading comprehension at STIT Madani Yogyakarta.

Various studies have been conducted on the use and reading of website articles. However, the use of Islamic websites in improving student's reading comprehension and improving their Islamic values has received limited attention. Furthermore, there hasn't been much study on how to integrate reading skills with Islamic values. Reading comprehension in Ecuador is poor, according to Jaramillo et al. (2019), in particular since students generally read when they have academic tasks, and they have no skills to read correctly. The INEC reading data report shows that 27% of Ecuadorians do not read regularly. Furthermore, according to the report, 56.8% of the population does not find reading learning more interesting and consequently avoided it. In addition, the report included data on the number of hours Ecuadorians spend reading. 50.3 percent of the population reads for one to two hours per week (Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas y Censos, 2012).

Grabe and Stoller (2002) argued clearly that students' reading comprehension ability may be influenced by their understanding of reading strategies. Another factor that affects students' reading ability is the materials they use. Reading comprehension teachers are unable to provide contemporary resources for usage in the classroom. Munir (2013) shows that English lecturers' ability to provide reading resources is crucial to the success of reading comprehension instruction. To get solutions to the problem provided, the lecturer can use Islamic website articles as an alternative material while teaching reading comprehension. The usage of Islamic website articles is not just to improve students' reading comprehension but also to increase their Islamic values. Rohmah (2012) implies that utilizing authentic materials in the classroom helps students by improving motivation, providing authentic cultural

information about the target culture, providing exposure to real language, becoming acceptable for students' needs, and assisting a more creative approach to teaching.

Islamic website articles

An Islamic website is usually considered an Internet-based site built for and dedicated to the service of Islam as a religion and Islamic way of life. It is "widely regarded as an Internet-based site created for and devoted to the service of Islam as a religion and a way of life whose main objective is to portray the commandments of Allah (SWT) through the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (SAW)." In a study that compared the similarities of several Islamic websites, (Aliyu et al., 2013) states that Islamic websites shared the following criteria: beliefs, morality, assistance, and principles.

McKay (2003) states that ELT teaching resources have always been sourced from the Inner Circle cultures of the United Kingdom, United States, Australia, New Zealand, and Ireland. However, cutting out and rejecting the learners' cultures might be concerning for Muslim pupils if the ideals in the books contradict Islamic principles. Hameed (2009) adds that Islamic ideals are a system of moral rules and a guideline that distinguishes between what is acceptable and improper conduct, or what one should or should not do." This is led by a firm conviction in God's oneness and the ultimate purpose of man's creation; ideas that differ from the norm that is different from the secular or Christian-based worldview. Cyber Islamic Environment can modify parts of religious knowledge and expression inside Muslim settings, as well as the power to enable components within Muslim populations in minority and majority arenas to engage with each other" Bunt (2003).

Using Islamic Website articles as Reading material

Utilizing material from Islamic websites as reading material websites and online users' increasing engagement in the classroom, the appears to be a lack of full description of specific website qualities that impact website utilization. Readers may have lost trust in the usage of Islamic websites because of this probable inadequacy. Learning materials are frequently the most apparent and recognizable component of teaching (Rochmawati, Pryla: 2019:149). They determine the quality of language intake and language exercise in the classroom during the learning process. Richard (2001), material in language instruction serve as a resource for the presentation of content, whether spoken or written, as well as supply of task for learners' practice. The usage of Islamic-based material has a good impact on students' character development. It means that English education lecturers are encouraged to employ Islamic text while teaching reading comprehension.

Procedures for teaching Islamic website articles in reading comprehension

During one semester, the researcher has carefully selected articles from Islamic websites

to use as teaching resources in reading comprehension. The topics chosen from the website articles were focused on the needs of the student. The website covers the following topics: (1) Islamic studies: belief, Qur'an and prophet tradition, religion addict, supplication and prayer, Tayammum (dry ablution), and so on; (2) motivation: success based on surah Al Mukminoon the miracle of giving, and so on; and (3) reflection: the day of judgment, life after death, and so on.

The researchers briefly examine the reading student's planning and teaching approach. They are listed below:

Planning Reading Class

Teaching Procedures:

(1) Warm-up Activities in the Classroom

The researcher explained the issue to the pupils at this point. Students then shared their knowledge on the subject. This is a method of broadening students' prior knowledge. The text would then be used to generate vocabulary development. He also linked the activity to reading abilities.

(2) Reading articles on the internet

Students read articles from websites. They then completed the various tasks. Activities could include matching questions with answers, completing the chart and table, writing a summary, and answering questions. The kids also stated why they chose the responses they did.

(3) Following Activities

Students debated the importance of character in the reading selections. Based on their reading selections, the researcher allowed students to express their opinions from several perspectives.

Research Methods

The qualitative research design was applied in this study. This study was carried out on third-semester students. These data collecting techniques were obtained through observation and interviews.

Finding and Discussion

1. Islamic Reading Websites Create Appositive Atmosphere in Reading Comprehension Lesson

After observing and interviewing the students, it was revealed that: Islamic Website Article creates a positive mood in the reading comprehension lesson.

- a. "It is a very simple text to read. I am overjoyed to have discovered this intriguing reading material."
- b. This is my first time confronting an Islamic reading text. After reading these articles, I learned a lot of new things."
- c. "The topic presented in this reading book is always current in light of current Islamic issues.

Islamic reading websites bring many benefits for the learners to learn reading website content. It is strongly proved by Mutawa (2017) via (Dirgantari & Susantiningdyah, 2021), students will take benefit from learning from an online source and then receiving further teaching in facial expression classes.

2. Islamic Website Articles Rise The Students' Motivation In The Reading Comprehension Class

- a. "I and my friends are more motivated to study Islamic websites than the prior reading text assigned by the lecturer."
- b. "I'm curious to read all of the text supplied in reading internet articles."
- c. "The articles on the Islamic reading website make students more passionate about reading in class."
- d. "I am inspired to always read the information on this page because it is simple to understand and highly intriguing."

Having students with reading Islamic websites in reading comprehension class is not only guiding their reading skills but also attracts them to be more motivated in learning. (Khairuddin et al., 2014) is strongly proved that Islamic website articles increase the willingness to read more than while improving English proficiency and that students were self-motivated to study the materials to gain spiritual

understanding and use the knowledge to deal with personal issues. These statements relate to the learners' perceptions while they are learning by reading website articles.

3. Islamic Website Articles Elevate Students' Comprehension Skill

- a. "With the use of an Islamic reading website, it will be easier to understand the material."
- b. "The use of Islamic website articles in the classroom immediately helps us enhance our reading skills."
- c. "I am sure that Islamic website content would improve my reading skills."
- d. "This reading text could be adopted in all Indonesian colleges."

The internet allows for the teaching of reading in a variety of methods, which is an advantage over paper-based tasks. Juniardi (2019) demonstrated that using online reading materials to improve students' reading comprehension can be helpful. It can help kids improve their vocabulary, reading speed, and comprehension. Guo (2012) implies that authentic internet materials are extremely beneficial since they significantly enhance the interest of teachers and students more than schematic form materials sources.

4. Reading Islamic Website Articles Improve Students' Knowledge

- a. An article on the Islamic reading website provides relevant text that is acceptable for STIT Madani students' needs.
- b. In my viewpoint, the Islamic reading website provides us with not only new vocabulary but also Islamic understanding.

Based on students' perceptions in the learning process by using an Islamic website article. There are significant benefits to establishing an Islamic reading website for the learner. It can help students enhance their vocabulary, reading ability, and understanding (Erwinda et al., 2020).

5. Reading Islamic Website Articles Can Build The Students' Islamic Values

- a. reading website articles allowed me to improve, particularly in my attitudes and behavior.
- b. "It offered me a lot of ideas for incorporating Islamic beliefs with Reading Comprehension in the classroom."

- c. "These Islamic websites enrich my Islamic knowledge and strengthen my faith in Islam."
- d. "It can change my perspective, attitude, and behavior unconsciously."
- e. "I take a lesson from these reading websites."

Reading website articles allows you to learn spiritual knowledge to apply it to deal with personal issues. The assets are used for educational reasons in English language acquisition. Khairuddin (2014) stated that reading website articles would provide satisfaction, inspiration, spiritual knowledge, and self-improvement that should be utilized as reading materials for Muslim Students. This might increase motivation to read more whilst still strengthening English skills.

6. Longer Passages Reading Articles

- a. "I might not want to read longer texts."
- b. "Longer passages are hard to understand."
- c. "Longer passages are much more difficult to understand."
- d. "I require simple reading text passages."

It couldn't be denied that reading longer passages would take boring learning reading skills. It lines with Wang (2011) via (Munir & Hartono, 2016) examined the impact of duration on reading comprehension. The findings of the study experimentally proved that text duration could have no statistically significant effect on students' reading achievement.

7. Reading Text Statements Proved By Qur'an and Hadith

- a. "To be realistic, these reading website articles provide Islamic elements, which are then supported by Qur'an and hadith. It is possible to argue that my Islamic knowledge will not improve on its own."
- b. "I enjoy reading Islamic website articles that are supported by Hadith."

Every part of reading text material on Islamic website article is always proved by Qur'an and Hadith explanation. In line with the study conducted by Rohmana (2020), Islamic English online resources can create a list of activities that reflect Islamic principles and will be carried out during the learning process. The integration is accomplished by conveying relevant Qur'an verses or hadith.

Conclusion

This investigation establishes that Islamic website articles are authentic materials that provide major sources of information for STIT Madani Yogyakarta students. Islamic websites can be inspirational since of their basic content clarity of knowledge and accessibility for students. The knowledge provided in reading website articles proved by Qur'an and Hadith might develop learners' reading abilities as well as improve their Islamic values. The research findings indicate that the Reading Comprehension lecturer should be able to provide interesting materials to avoid students feeling bored while reading and the material given should be suitable for the student's needs.

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