

**INCREASING JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS' MOTIVATION  
TO READ THROUGH ENGLISH SHORT STORIES**

PAPER

*Submitted as Partial Fulfillment of  
The Requirement to Obtain Strata One (S1) Degree*



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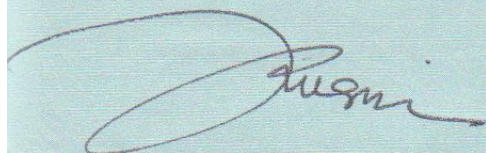
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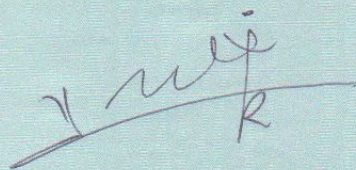
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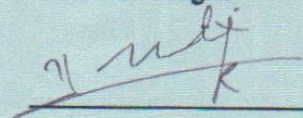
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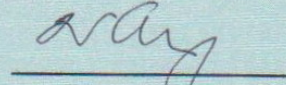
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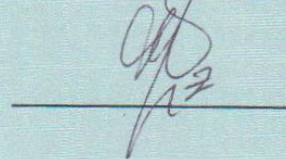
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## ABSTRAK

**Eliza.** 2008. *Increasing Junior High School Students' Motivation to Read through English Short Stories. Makalah. Jurusan Bahasa Inggris. Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni. Universitas Negeri Padang.*

Penulisan makalah ini bertujuan untuk membahas mengenai meningkatkan motivasi siswa Sekolah Menengah Pertama (SMP) untuk membaca melalui *short stories* (cerita-cerita pendek dalam bahasa Inggris). Membaca merupakan salah satu dari empat keterampilan berbahasa yang sangat penting dalam belajar bahasa Inggris, namun banyak kendala ditemui dalam proses belajar dan mengajar di kelas, diantaranya siswa malas dan kelihatan bosan dalam membaca.

Agar siswa lebih termotivasi untuk membaca, maka guru sebaiknya menggunakan teknik mengajar yang menarik bagi siswa yaitu dengan menggunakan *English short stories* (cerita-cerita pendek dalam bahasa Inggris). *Short stories* bisa memotivasi siswa untuk membaca karena cerita yang diberikan kepada siswa adalah cerita yang sederhana dan menarik. Disamping itu adanya ilustrasi cerita dalam bentuk gambar – gambar yang menarik juga bisa meningkatkan motivasi siswa untuk membaca.

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The writer would like to dedicate the deepest love to her beloved husband and her beloved daughter who always give the writer support, love, and prayer. Last but not least, for the writer's lovely friends in English Department 08. Keep our friendship forever.

Padang, January 2011

The writer

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# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Problem

Reading is one of important skills in learning English. It is stated clearly in the KTSP curriculum (Kurikulum Tingkat satuan Pendidikan), that there are four skills that have to be mastered by junior high school students, and one of them is reading skill. Besides, reading is one of ways for students to enrich their knowledge because through reading students can get many information from textbook, newspaper, magazine, articles, and others written knowledge sources.

Although reading is very important, it does mean all students can read well. Based on the writer's experience as an English teacher, it was found that students still have many problems in reading. One of problems in reading which is faced by students is lack of motivation to read. Many students are not interested and motivated to read. When the the teacher asks them to read the textbook, they look unenthusiastic to read and sometimes they tend to ignore the teacher's instruction in reading. Motivation in instructional process is very important for students. It is as a determining factor to see how the instructional process take place in the classroom. According to Rost (2006) students' motivation can control the flow of the classroom, without students' motivation there is no pulse and there is no life in the class.

Lack of students' motivation to read as stated above can be caused by some factors, first is not all of students are good in reading. Each of students will have different view and ability in learning the four skills in English include



reading. Perhaps student A can listen, speak, read, and write well, but from the all of skills there are only two or three skills that he or she can master well, such as can listen and speak fluently but lack in reading or writing. The second factor is there is no enough interesting media that can motivate or stimulate students to read. Many teachers only asks students to see pictures in textbook, but he or she seldom or sometimes never bring media in the classroom. Media is an important factor in instructional process. Besides, it can attract students attention, the use of medial also can give a clear illustartion about the subject which is taught. The last factor is the technique which is used by teacher cannot motivate and attract students' attention. In teaching reading, many teachers only asks students to read the text and then answer some questions related to the text or sometimes translate the text into bahasa Indonesia. These activities can make students feel bored because there is no challenging or activity that can involve them actively in instructional process.

Based on the problem above, the teacher has to be able to create activities in reading which can attract and motivate students. The teacher has to be creative and can make the process of teaching and learning reading are enjoyable for students. Therefore, some interesting materials are needed to cover those problems. One alternative that can be taken to overcome the problems above is using short stories in teaching reading in order to increase students' motivation. A short story is a piece of prose fiction which can be read at a single sitting, and a short story has a limited set of characters, one single action, and a simple plot. Through short stories, it is hoped that students will be motivated to read. So, this

paper will explain about using short stories as a meaningful and motivating teaching material to increase student's motivation in reading.

## **1.2 Identification of the Problem**

Based on the background above, the problem which is faced by students in reading is lack of motivation. It is happen because of some factors: first is not all of students can master reading well, the second factor is there is no enough interesting media which is used by the teacher, and the last factor is the technique in teaching reading cannot motivate and attract students' attention to read.

## **1.3 Limitation of the Problem**

Based on the identification of the problem above, this paper is limited onusing English short stories to increase junior high school students' motivation to read.

## **1.4 Formulation of the Problem**

The problem is formulated into the following question:  
“How does an English teacher use short stories to increase junior high school students' motivation to read?”

## **1.5 The Purpose of the Paper**

The purpose of this paper is to explain about using short stories to increase junior high school students' motivation to read.