READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS IN MANDIRI: ENGLISH ON TARGET

A THESIS

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, the writer worships God for His grace that strengthens and leads the writer to finish this thesis in time. In this opportunity, the writer also wants to express her gratitude to:

- Dr. V. Luluk Prijambodo, M.Pd. the writer's advisor who has spent his valuable time to guide the writer during the process of finishing this thesis.
- 2. Her family who have always strengthened and supported the writer during the process of finishing this thesis.
- 3. Her friends who have always supported the writer during the process of finishing this thesis.

Without all these people's support and advice, this thesis would have never been finished.

Surabaya, July 2015

Dian Cicilia Prastica

TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPROVAL SHEET (1)	 i
APPROVAL SHEET (2)	 ii
APPROVAL SHEET OF THESIS	
PUBLICATION	 iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	 iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS	 v
LISTS OF TABLES	 viii
LISTS OF FIGURES	 ix
ABSTRACT	 X
CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION	 1
1.1 Background of the Study	 1
1.2 Statements of the Problems	 5
1.3 The Objective of the Study	 5
1.4 Theoretical Framework	 5
1.5 The Assumption	 6
1.6 The Significance of the Study	 6
1.7 The Scope and Limitation of the	
Study	 7
1.8 Definition of Key Terms	 7
1.9 Organization of the Thesis	 8
CHAPTER II: REVIEW OF	
RELATED LITERATURE	 10
2.1 The Nature of Reading	
Comprehension	 10
2.1.1 Reading Comprehension	 10
2.1.2 Critical Thinking	 11
2.2 The Cognitive Domain of	
Bloom's Digital Taxonomy	 13
2.3 The English Syllabus of	
Curriculum 2013 for a Textbook	 16
2.3.1 The English Syllabus of	

	Curriculum 2013 for		
	Senior High School		16
	2.3.2 The Characteristics of a		
	Good English Textbook		18
2.4	Previous Studies		21
СНАР	TER III: RESEARCH METHOD		23
3.1	Research Design		23
	The Research Data		24
3.3	The Instrument		28
3.4	Data Collection Procedure		30
3.5	Data Analysis Techniques		30
	Triangulation		35
СНАР	TER IV: FINDINGS AND		
	USSION		36
	Findings		36
	4.1.1 Types of Comprehension	•••••	50
	Questions in Chapter 1		
	and Its Recurrence		38
	4.1.2 Types of Comprehension		
	Questions in Chapter 2		
	and Its Recurrence		39
	4.1.3 Types of Comprehension		
	Questions in Chapter 3		
	and Its Recurrence		40
	4.1.4 Types of Comprehension		
	Questions in Chapter 4		
	and Its Recurrence		41
	4.1.5 Types of Comprehension		
	Questions in Chapter 5		
	and Its Recurrence		42
	4.1.6 Types of Comprehension		
	Questions in Chapter 7		
	and Its Recurrence		43

4.1./ Types of Comprehension	
Questions in Chapter 8	
and Its Recurrence	 44
4.1.8 Types of Comprehension	
Questions in Chapter 9	
and Its Recurrence	 46
4.1.9 Types of Comprehension	
Questions in Chapter 10	
and Its Recurrence	 47
4.2 Discussion	 49
CHAPTER V: SUMMARY AND	
RECOMMENDATION	 57
5.1 Summary	 57
5.2 Recommendation	 59
BIBLIOGRAPHY	 61
APPENDICES	 64

LISTS OF TABLES

Table 3.2. Lists of Chapters and Numbers of	
Questions	 25
Table 3.5.1. The Question Types Found in	
Reading Text 1	 33
Table 3.5.2. The Total Numbers of Questions	
in Each Level	 34
Table 4.1. The Types of Reading	
Comprehension Questions and Their	
Proportion	 37

LISTS OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1.5.1. The Difference between Old	
Version and New Version	 14
Figure 2.1.5.2. Bloom's Digital Taxonomy	 15
Figure 3.1. The Structure of the Research Design	 24
Figure 4.2. The Proportion of Reading	
Comprehension Question Types in	
the Course Book	 54

ABSTRACT

Prastica, Dian Cicilia. 2015. **Reading Comprehension Questions in** *Mandiri: English on Target*, S-1 thesis, English Department Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Widya Mandala Catholic University, Surabaya.

Advisor: Dr. V. Luluk Prijambodo, M.Pd.

Key Words: Reading comprehension questions, cognitive domain,

Bloom's Digital Taxonomy

Reading is an English skill that is essential for students' academic success because reading provides knowledge for students. Students' comprehension of a text can be measured through their answers to the reading questions. Comprehension questions can also be tools to help students develop their critical thinking. As demanded in Curriculum 2013, students need to be critical, creative, innovative, and productive. To fulfill the demand, the reading materials presented in a textbook should encourage students to develop their critical thinking.

Realizing the importance of developing reading skill, the writer conducted a study which focused on analyzing reading comprehension questions presented in Mandiri: English on Target. This study attempts to answer two research questions. They are: (1) what types of reading comprehension questions are found in Mandiri: English on Target? (2) what is the proportion of reading comprehension questions found in the course book? The writer categorizes reading comprehension questions of the reading texts contained in Mandiri: English on Target published by Erlangga Press. There are 225 reading comprehension questions found in 81 texts contained in the course book. All of the questions are categorized using the cognitive domain of Bloom's Digital Taxonomy, namely remembering, understanding, applying, analyzing, evaluating, and creating.

To answer the first research question about the question types, the writer used a checklist table to help categorize each comprehension question. The writer read each passage three times. The first reading process was done to get a general knowledge about the reading comprehension text. The second reading process was done to get a deeper understanding about the text. Before doing the

third reading, the writer needs to categorize the comprehension question. The third reading process was done to confirm if the question had been categorized correctly. After categorizing all the comprehension questions, the writer tallied the frequency of the recurrence of each reading comprehension question type to find the proportion of each question type.

The result of this study finds that the comprehension questions in the course book are mostly at remembering level. There are 44.44% questions at remembering level, 33.33% questions at understanding level, 20.44% questions at analyzing level, 1.78% questions at evaluating level, and 0% question at applying and creating level. Based on the findings of the study, it can be concluded that the reading comprehension questions presented in the course book do not cover all the thinking levels in Bloom's Digital Taxonomy. It can be said that the reading materials presented in the course book may not help students to develop their critical thinking because of the low frequency of the use of high cognitive skill question types. In other words, the course book has not met the demand of Curriculum 2013 yet.