

**THE CORRELATION AMONG THE GRIT, EFL LEARNERS'  
INTEREST, AND READING FOR GENERAL COMMUNICATION  
FOR EFL LEARNERS**

**ARTICLE**



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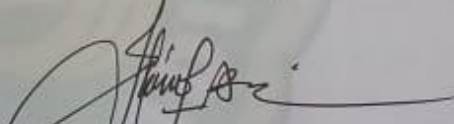
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# THE CORRELATION AMONG THE GRIT, EFL LEARNERS' INTEREST, AND READING FOR GENERAL COMMUNICATION FOR EFL LEARNERS

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## Abstract:

The purpose of this study was to examine and determine the correlation among grit, EFL Learners' interest and reading for general communication for EFL learners. This research was conducted at Hamzanwadi University for the second semester students of English study program. This research was conducted quantitatively, with a correlational design. The instruments used to collect data were grit and interest questionnaires, and reading test. Data analysis used correlational, data was collected through questionnaires and tests to obtain information on students' Grit, EFL interests, and reading skills. The research hypothesis is test by looking for the coefficient of the relationship among the variables Grit on Reading, Interest on Reading, and Grit, Interest on Reading. This research revealed the students' English ability in Reading for General Communication by using Reading TOEFL section test and giving the questioner of grit and interest EFL Learners' in English language education study program of Hamzanwadi University. This means that using the online grit questionnaire, researchers can see that students are very enthusiastic about grit in English, particularly in Reading. This study aims to test "The Correlation among the Grit and EFL Learners" Interest to Reading for General Communication.

**Keyword:** *EFL Learners, Grit, Interest, Reading.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

English is the language used internationally in communication, both in the fields of education, economy, health, religion, entertainment, and so on. (Maysuroh et al., 2024) People who have the ability to speak English more than those who do not have the ability to speak English.

According to (Maysuroh et al., 2025) It is the official language of many countries and is commonly used as a second language in many others (Dwimaulani et al., 2025). English is very important for people especially Indonesian to face this

globalization era for well. The study of English encompasses a wide range of topics, including grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, writing, and literature. It is also closely linked to language acquisition and language learning theory (Suherman et al., 2025).

The history of the English language is also a significant area of study. According to (Wati et al., 2024) The study of the history of English can provide insights into how languages change and how they are shaped by social, cultural, and political factors. According to (Fikni et al., 2023). The study of English in this context can shed light on the ways in which language is used to convey meaning, build relationships, and negotiate power.

Overall, the study of English is a complex and multifaceted field that encompasses a range of disciplines and approaches. It is essential for understanding the role of language in society and for effective communication in an increasingly interconnected world. English as a foreign language (EFL) refers to the teaching and learning of English in countries or regions where English is not the primary language. In EFL contexts, English is taught as a subject with the goal of developing communicative competence in English for various purposes, such as academic study, professional communication, or social interaction with English speakers.

According to (Agustina et al., 2023). Reading involves interpreting symbols (letters, words, and sentences) to understand meaning, and is a crucial skill for communication, education, and personal development. Reading is also a valuable tool for entertainment and relaxation, providing an escape from everyday life and a means of accessing new worlds and experiences through literature, fiction, and poetry.

According to (Suherman & Kertawijaya, 2023) It is characterized by a combination of resilience, determination, and a strong work ethic. (Nazri et al., 2024) People who possess grit are able to overcome challenges and setbacks, and to stay focused and motivated in the pursuit of their goals. Research has shown that grit is a

predictor of success in a variety of domains, including academic achievement, career success, and personal well-being. Individuals with high levels of grit are more likely to achieve their goals, to persist in the face of obstacles, and to bounce back from failures and setbacks.

According to (Prasetyaningrum, n.d.). Interest refers to the learners' personal preferences and the subjects that engage and motivate them to learn and use English. (Deslauriers et al., 2019). Their curiosity and enthusiasm can drive them to explore and learn more, leading to deeper comprehension and better language acquisition. By incorporating learners' interests into English lessons and activities, educators can create a more meaningful and engaging learning environment. (Pranoto, 2021). By tapping into learners' interests, educators can foster a positive learning experience, enhance motivation, and facilitate language learning and proficiency development.

## **1. METHOD**

### **2.1 Participant**

The subject of this research was second grade students majoring in English education in *Hamzanwadi University for the 2023/2024 academic year*.

### **2.2 Data collection**

In collecting the data, the present research used questionnaire and test.

#### **2.2.1 Instrument of collecting the data**

In this research, the present researcher use questionnaire and test. The researcher used questionnaire to collect the information about grit and students' interest in reading to EFL learners. And used test to collect the information about students' Reading abilities.

#### **2.2.2 Technique for collecting the data**

##### **a. Questionnaire**

Before giving test, the researcher did the questionnaire. In this research, the researcher gave questionnaire by using google form to collect the information about grit and students' interest in reading to EFL learners.

##### **b. Test**

After giving the questionnaire, the researcher gave the students a test to determine students' reading abilities, this study used an objective multiple choice test. The researcher took the TOEFL multiple choice test to gather information on reading skill. And the result of this test show the students' reading skills in Hamzanwadi University.

### **2.3 Data Analysis**

#### **1. Descriptive Analysis**

The data analysis technique in this study was descriptive statistics. This section was to find out the mean score of students' achievement in Reading TOEFL section. To know the classification of students' score, the present research made the classification of a group achievement with scoring scale of the Reading for General Communication by using Reading TOEFL using the SPSS 22 for windows program.

#### **2. Statistics Required for Testing Hypothesis**

##### **a. Normality Testing**

The normality test was used to determine whether the research data is normally distributed or not. Before testing the hypothesis, the normality test was first performed on the data. To find out the normal distribution, the researcher entered the data and then analyzed the data. As a result, the output of one Shapiro-wilk sample was displayed in the SPSS statistics viewer. If the significant level value of the investigated variable was greater than 0.05, then the data distribution is normal.

#### **3. Testing Hypothesis**

Hypothesis testing was used to analyze the hypothesis testing manually which aimed at knowing whether the alternative hypothesis was accepted or not. The researcher used Paired-Sample T-Test and F-Test in SPSS 22 to know the correlation among the grit, EFL learners' interest and reading for general communication for EFL learners.

### 3. RESULT

After calculating the data, the present researcher found that the lowest score of grit was 28 and the highest score was 60 the mean score of grit was 42.48. Meanwhile, the lowest score of interest was 27 and the highest score was 54, the mean score of interest was 44.74.

Based on the data gained of students' reading skill, they were indicated that there was a tendency of mean score after having the questionnaire. It means that grit, EFL learners' interest has a correlation between reading to EFL learners.

According to the result of one sample Shapiro-Wilk test, it was found that the significance value of one sample Shapiro-Wilk in the questionnaire grit was 0.52, and for the questionnaire of EFL Learners' interest was 0.65, while value of sig in reading test was 0.59. It means that the significance value more than  $p = 0.05$ . It proved that the data was normal.

Based on the calculation of the analysis Anova, the value of significance level was 0.65, it is more than the significance value of  $P = 0.05$ . It proved that  $H_0$  was accepted and  $H_a$  was rejected.

After conducting a paired t test, the current researchers found a significance level for grit data of 0.382 and interest of 0.295, higher than the significance value of  $p = 0.05$ . This means that  $H_0$  is accepted and  $H_a$  is rejected. The research results found that the grit and interest questionnaires had a correlation with reading skills.

### 4. DISCUSSION

After collecting the data, the researcher found that the mean score of grit 42.48 was lower than interest its 44.74. In addition, the data was normal because the value of significance level is greater than  $p = 0.05$ . In this study, the null hypothesis was rejected while the alternative was accepted because the value of significance grit was  $P = 0.382$ . It is higher than  $P = 0.05$ . The result of this study discovered that grit and interest questionnaire has a correlation between reading for general communication for EFL learners in the second grades of English education in Hamzanwadi University.

This study is supported by two previous studies. The first study was conducted by (Dewi Fatima Nur Alfatihah 2022), entitled "THE CORRELATION BETWEEN UNDERGRADUATE-STUDENTS' READING INTEREST AND THEIR READING COMPREHENSION". The second

research was from (Selamet Riadi Jaelani and Suprapti Handini 2022), entitled “THE CORRELATION AMONG GRIT, EFL LEARNERS’ MOTIVATION AND APPLIED LINGUISTICS ON SYNTAX FOR EFL LEARNERS”.

In the first study, positive results were obtained the correlation between undergraduate-students reading interest and their reading comprehension. The results of the second study show that there is a significant relationship between students’ grit, motivation and applied linguistics on syntax for EFL learners.

The difference is seen in the instruments and the results. The instruments used in previous studies were questionnaires, and test. There are several new things in this study compared with previous research. The novelty of this research from previous research, this study used questionnaire and test.

Based on the result of this study, Using questionnaire of grit, interest and reading test. It can be shown of the students’ grit and their interest in reading for EFL Learners. In the questionnaire some students’ found it difficult to answer the test, its shown their ability like us become good in reading, and they are able to express their ideas clearly. Thus, it can be concluded that Using grit, interest questionnaire and reading test was effective, and that three variable has the correlation among them.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

Based on the results and discussion of previous findings, researchers concluded that grit, interest are effective and have a correlation between reading for EFL Learners. Using grit, interest questionnaire and reading test in second grade of English education, as evidenced by see the average value of students’ reading skills using questionnaire and also test. The grit average value (44.48) was less than interest mean score (44.74), and reading test mean score was (55.85). Then, there was a significant effect and the correlation of the grit, interest and reading test. This score indicates that this questionnaire and test has worked well and is useful.

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