

## ABSTRACT

Nadeak, Ave Lucia. (2023). *The roles of motivation and symbolic meanings in reading texts*. Yogyakarta: English Education Master's Program, Department of Language and Art Language Education, Faculty of Language Teachers Training and Education, Sanata Dharma University.

This thesis is classified as a thesis by publication, incorporating two studies published in journals. This study investigates the strategies utilized by undergraduate students in Indonesia to manage their motivation in academic reading while also analyzing the symbolic meanings present in religious texts. This thesis seeks to offer insights into students' motivation-regulation strategies in reading through a comparative, critical, and reflective synthesis while exploring their implications for critical thinking and engagement.

The first article is *Motivation-Regulation Strategies for English Academic Reading Among Undergraduate Students at a Private University*, featured in Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Undiksha, examines the motivation-regulation strategies employed by EFL undergraduate students while interacting with academic texts. The findings suggest that students primarily depend on extrinsic motivators, like attaining high grades, whereas intrinsic motivation appears to be relatively less robust. Students tend to favor obtaining assistance from their peers instead of their instructors and frequently employ self-regulation strategies such as skimming and selective reading. The study highlights the necessity for educational interventions to harmonize intrinsic and extrinsic motivations and enhance teacher-student interactions to foster deeper academic engagement.

The second article is *Symbolic Meanings of 'Water' and 'Path' in the Book of Proverbs*, published in Language Circle: Journal of Language and Literature, explores the symbolic meanings and contextual applications of 'Water' and 'Path' within the Book of Proverbs. The analysis reveals that 'Water' frequently represents purification, life, and wisdom, whereas 'Path' signifies moral direction and the journey toward righteousness. The findings offer a more profound understanding of the use of these metaphors within spiritual and ethical frameworks.

This thesis highlights the importance of motivation regulation within academic settings and the role of symbolic interpretation in literature, thereby enhancing our understanding of EFL learning and cultural-religious factors. This emphasizes the influence of motivational strategies on academic reading engagement and critical thinking and how symbolic meanings strengthen the interpretation of religious texts. The study's limitations are primarily centered on its emphasis on academic reading and religious texts.

**Keywords:** academic reading, EFL students, motivation-regulation, Proverbs, symbolic meanings

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Tesis ini diklasifikasikan sebagai tesis berbasis publikasi, yang mencakup dua studi yang diterbitkan dalam jurnal. Penelitian ini menyelidiki strategi yang digunakan oleh mahasiswa sarjana di Indonesia untuk mengatur motivasi mereka dalam membaca akademik, sekaligus menganalisis makna simbolis yang terdapat dalam teks-teks religius. Tesis ini bertujuan memberikan wawasan tentang strategi pengaturan motivasi mahasiswa dalam membaca melalui sintesis komparatif, kritis, dan reflektif, sambil mengeksplorasi implikasinya terhadap pemikiran kritis dan keterlibatan akademik.

Artikel pertama, berjudul "*Motivation-Regulation Strategies for English Academic Reading Among Undergraduate Students at a Private University*," yang diterbitkan di *Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Undiksha*, meneliti strategi pengaturan motivasi yang digunakan oleh mahasiswa EFL saat berinteraksi dengan teks akademik. Temuan menunjukkan bahwa mahasiswa terutama bergantung pada motivator ekstrinsik, seperti mendapatkan nilai tinggi, sedangkan motivasi intrinsik tampak kurang kuat. Mahasiswa cenderung lebih suka meminta bantuan dari teman sejawat daripada instruktur mereka dan sering menggunakan strategi regulasi diri seperti membaca cepat (skimming) dan membaca selektif. Penelitian ini menyoroti perlunya intervensi pendidikan untuk menyelaraskan motivasi intrinsik dan ekstrinsik serta meningkatkan interaksi antara guru dan siswa guna mendorong keterlibatan akademik yang lebih mendalam.

Artikel kedua, berjudul "*Symbolic Meanings of 'Water' and 'Path' in the Book of Proverbs*," yang diterbitkan di *Language Circle: Journal of Language and Literature*, mengeksplorasi makna simbolis dan aplikasi kontekstual dari istilah 'Air' dan 'Jalan' dalam Kitab Amsal. Analisis mengungkapkan bahwa 'Air' sering kali mewakili penyucian, kehidupan, dan kebijaksanaan, sedangkan 'Jalan' melambangkan arah moral dan perjalanan menuju kebenaran. Temuan ini memberikan pemahaman yang lebih mendalam tentang penggunaan metafora ini dalam kerangka spiritual dan etika.

Tesis ini menyoroti pentingnya pengaturan motivasi dalam lingkungan akademik dan peran interpretasi simbolis dalam sastra, sehingga memperkaya pemahaman tentang pembelajaran EFL dan faktor budaya-religius. Hal ini menekankan pengaruh strategi motivasi terhadap keterlibatan membaca akademik dan pemikiran kritis, serta bagaimana makna simbolis memperkuat interpretasi teks religius. Keterbatasan penelitian ini terutama terletak pada fokusnya pada membaca akademik dan teks religius.

**Kata Kunci:** academic reading, EFL students, motivation-regulation, Proverbs, symbolic meanings