



Designing Reading Material Based On Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni

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ABSTRACT

Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni is a spiritual tourist attraction where researchers carry out observations or research to obtain accurate information regarding the description of the building. This research at Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni aims to attract the reading interest of every reader, especially students, in terms of reading and understanding a text. This unique building object was used as a descriptive reading text that describes the unique shape, color or motif of the Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni building. The research method used in this research is qualitative descriptive, the aim is for readers to focus on observations made directly at Mother Annai Velangkanni's house. This research was carried out for three days and went through three stages, namely going around looking at the building, observing details of the shape of the building, and finally conducting interviews with sources, in order to get information about the building. Researchers found that the Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni building is a unique and large building. The design combines Hinduism and Islam. In total there are two main floors of this building. Initially the purpose of this building was as a place for Catholics to pray in peace, but it turns out that all groups from various religions and languages can visit this building while still upholding a sense of tolerance between religious communities. From the results of research conducted by researchers, it can be concluded that reading materials based on Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni can increase interest in reading for many people, especially students

INTRODUCTION

Reading is an activity of interpreting written discourse, Thanuskodi (2011) defined reading as a process of understanding the real meaning of what authors delivered in written form by using over eyes and mind. This means that reading is an activity which need synchronic between eyes and mind to get the meaning of reading text. According to Tampubolon (1987) reading is one of four main skills, and one of element from written communication. Reading can be meant an activity which is done by reader to get and interpret the message through written form. Meanwhile, Lone (2011) says that reading as the ability to recognize and examine words or sentences and understand the information within. In short, reading gives benefits for the readers because readers can get knowledge or information.

According to a journal entitled literacy issues for reading in the 21st century (2022), 3 authors, Wigura, Oktari, and all, from Indonesian educational universities, revealed the fact that the literacy abilities of first-born children in Indonesia are in the low category. This is in accordance with the literacy and open culture of Indonesia's reading ability of 46.83% in the poor category, 6.06% in the good category, and 47.11% in the sufficient category. People from countries with good reading habits will reach a high level of civilization.

To obtain accurate data regarding how low students' reading abilities are at this time, researchers conducted an observation at one of the private schools, namely the Pangeran Antasari Private School. Researchers who are students at Prima University carried out internships at the school for students who are in high school. Before conducting the research, the researchers first discussed with one of the English teachers at that school the reading abilities of students at the high school level. After getting sufficient information from the English teacher, the researchers immediately took up a plan for research, or what could be said to be research, to find out much more accurate information based on real evidence.

Researchers also decided to carry out the research on students in class 11 of senior high school. There are 2 majors in the high schools, namely students who major in natural sciences and students who major in social sciences, and researchers enter classes from both majors, but the researchers only took research samples from 3 classes, namely 1 class from the 11th grade nature sciences major and other classes from the 11th grade social sciences major.

The researchers began when they entered the classroom and asked the students to discuss a little about what reading texts they had studied before, and most of the students answered that the students had learned about reading text in the form of descriptive text. Descriptive text is writing that is used to describe something that the reader can see, hear, or feel directly. The researchers carried out the research in three classes of students in the same way, namely by explaining to them about descriptive text and by providing two examples of descriptive texts for students to identify together with the aim of finding out whether the students really understand the descriptive text and even the parts of the descriptive text. Most of the students had enough ability to understand the descriptive text that the researchers also explained, and even when the

researchers gave them an exercise in identifying two descriptive texts that the researchers gave to the students, the students enthusiastically worked on it

After the researchers examined the result of the student's work in identifying the descriptive text, the researchers found that many students do not really understand how to retell those texts using the student's own explanation without having to rewrite or copy all of it from those original texts. Then also, the researchers found many errors or mistakes in using third-person identifying descriptive texts that the students had worked on, for example, in texts where the writer of the text used the subject "I," which is telling or describing something about the author, and the students do not really understand how to change the point of view of the text correctly by changing the subject "I," to, for example, "He or She," because in identifying the descriptive text, the readers need to retell the story of the text without copying it. However, the researchers can really understand the shortcomings of those students because, as they explained, their ability to understand English texts is still relatively low.

From the description above, the researchers found that the level of students' willingness to read was very low, so they had to have ways and ideas how to make students interested and like reading. Based on the observation done the school, the students' low comprehension of reading shown in the following data:

Table 1. The Classification of the Students' Reading Comprehension Score

No	Student's Initial	Score/Range	Ability Level	Total Number
1	Student 1	80 - 100	Excellent	5
2	Student 2	70 - 79	Good	8
3	Student 3	60 - 69	Fairly Good	7
4	Student 4	50 - 59	Weak	18
5	Student 5	0 - 49	Poor	22

The researchers begin to discuss what reading topics will raise as reading topics that may attract students' curiosity to read. Researchers will examine the building of Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni in the province of North Sumatra, to be precise in the city of Medan. This research journal will complete is about research and seeking as much information as possible about Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni building.

There are 5 research references texts that we will write in comparison with this research :

The researchers have been conducted by several researchers first written by 3 researchers are Rombot, Boeriswati, and all (2020). The title of this research is Improving Reading Comprehension Skills of International Elementary School Students Through Blended Learning. The similarity of this research is that this journal contains research on how to improve students' reading skills, especially in adding to every foreign language vocabulary students have by giving exams in the form of pre and post test to find out students abilities. The differences between the contents of this journal, it is quite different, where the journal is made specifically for students who are not Indonesian but are currently studying

at an international school in Indonesia. The journal aims to increase students' vocabulary in Indonesian, not English.

The second research written by a researcher is Hastuti and Pratama from English Department/Universitas Bina Sarana Informatika, Indonesia (2021). The title of this research is Influence Of Reading Ability And Vocabulary Mastery On Writing Skills Descriptive Text. The similarity of this study is that the contents of this study are about ways to encourage reading, writing, and increasing students' vocabulary, especially English texts in the form of descriptive text, as well as the contents in this journal which have the same goal. The differences between this study only in their main research topic, namely they encourage students to compose a story on their own, and turn it into a text in English by trying to increase their vocabulary, while in this journal the researchers have to research a story first then can write reading text.

The third research written by 4 researchers are Sitompul, Situmorang and all from Prima University (2021). The title of this research is Designing Reading Material Based on Bataknese Foklor. The similarity of this research is in the contents of the journal, where the contents of the journal are made for students who feel bored reading because the reading material is considered uninteresting. Therefore, the authors are looking for a discovery, namely research on folklore circulating in society which will increase students' curiosity about that many stories circulating in the public ear. The difference in this research only in the object and the method of research is quite different because the research locations can also be said to be very much.

The fourth research written by 3 researchers are Fauzi, from Serang Raya University, Hanifah, from Health Vocational School, and all (2019) The title of this research is Designing Reading Material for ESP Students in Medical Science Vocational Schools. The similarity between this study is the contents of the journal where the authors also study stories in the form of descriptive texts at this time because the author want to be creative and try to be more creative in reminding every student's willingness to read and all of that can be incorporated into the principle of reading English texts. The difference of this study is that their research is specifically for students in vocational high schools majoring in medical sciences only while in this journal produce general object research and this reading texts are useful for all students in any department and level different.

The fifth research written by Mohammad Maghfur (2019). The title of this research is A Case Study on Students' Ability to Read Summary of Descriptive Text. The similarity of both of our research texts is that we are both looking for ways to improve students' reading skills. The researchers also write reading texts in the form of descriptive texts, just like this research. Talking about the differences between research text and us is not much different, because the purpose of their research is to ask students to read descriptive texts and find summaries or conclusions from the text in order to improve students' reading analysis skills and the content of our texts. This research is examining a story object and writing story text in the form of descriptive text as well.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The Problem of Study

The research question as follow:

1. What is Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni building?
2. How to transform Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni becomes a descriptive text?

The Objectives of Study

The objectives of the research are formulated as follows:

1. To find out about the building of the Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni
2. To transform Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni becomes reading text

The Scope of the Study

For this research to be more effective, efficient, directed and able to be studied in more depth, the researcher needs to limit the problem to this research, namely that the researcher will focus on discussing one research topic in the form of a descriptive text whose contents are about a description of the building for the place of worship Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni.

The Significances of the Study

For Students: This research can be reading material for students so they can find out about Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni Building.

For Teachers: This research can add reference to reading material that will be taught by the teacher to students.

For Next Researchers: This research is useful for many people, especially researchers who can use this research material as a reference or can also continue the performance of the results author's research material.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The research approach used in this research is descriptive qualitative research. Gay (2006) explained that qualitative research is the collection, analysis, and interpretation of comprehensive narrative and visual data to gain insights into a particular phenomenon. Therefore, the writer collected and analyzed the data and then described it. This method is done to describe everything that is related to the topic of research conducted. According to Sukardi (2003), descriptive research is a research method that seeks to systematically describe the characteristics of objects to be examined properly. In this research, the data and information obtained are in accordance with the reality in the field and then processed using a descriptive qualitative approach.

Object of the Research

The object of this research is Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni building located in Medan. The researchers have already conduct interviews with an informant about Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni building so that this research can be accomplished.

Data Source

According to Narimawati (2008) primary data comes from the original or first. The primary data source in this study was used by searching for data directly from the location where the data had to be observed and the researchers also conducted interviews with informants who know clearly about the research topic we were researching. According to Sugiyono (2009) secondary data is a source of data that does not directly provide data to data collectors. Examples are other people and documents. Secondary data sources in this study are data sources that are not directly carried out. The researchers have collect data results regarding the current research topic from social media or other people who have real evidence of data from the topic under study, either through written documents or pictures or photos.

Data Collection Techniques

The definition of data collection techniques as techniques or methods that can be used by researchers to collect data. Riduan (2010). Data collection techniques are data collection in scientific research which is a systematic procedure to obtain the necessary data Satori and Komariah (2011). From the two opinions regarding what the meaning and purpose of data collection techniques are in the opinion of experts, we can conclude that data collection is a tool that is selected and used by researchers in collecting data activities so that these activities become systematic and facilitated by the research. Based on the data collection techniques that the authors use, namely observation techniques, interview techniques, and documentation.

1. Observation

According to Supriyati (2011) Observation is a method for collecting research data with a naturalistic nature that takes place in a natural context. In support of this opinion, Creswell (2014) also explained that observation is the process of collecting data by observing and recording phenomena that occur directly, whether in the form of behavior, events, or interactions between individuals or objects to be observe. To realize an observation that would produce information that was accurate and real, the researchers went to make observations at the location that was the main object of the research, namely Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni for three consecutive days. On the first day, the observations will make by the researcher were that the researchers will enter and surround the building and ask an informant about the time available for the researchers to conduct an interview with the informant. On the second day, the researchers will begin to pay close attention to the appearance of the shapes, motifs, symbols, and even colors in the building. On the third or last day of observation, the researchers will write down all the information regarding the unique and interesting parts of the building so that the researchers are able to ask or discussed with the informant in the interview process.

2. Interview

According to Esterberg in Sugiyono (2015), an interview means a meeting held by two or more people to exchange information or ideas by means of question and answer. When conducting an observation, it is very important for a researchers to have informant who know clearly about a research object. Informant in the interview process are useful for providing accurate and real

information about an object being observed. At this stage, the researchers will prepare 10 questions that will be asking and discussing with informants regarding the shape of the Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni building. The questions that will be asked to the informant must be in accordance with what is seen in the shape of the building. Researchers will only focus on asking whether each shape, motif, symbol and even color on the building has meaning.

3. Documentation

According to Sugiyono (2018) Documentation is a record of past events. Documents can be in the form of writing, images, or monumental works by someone. Therefore, it is very important for researchers to produce documentation of the object being studied. In this research, the researchers will take many image documents regarding the appearance of the real form of the Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni building. The aim of the documentation images taken by researchers will also aim to make it easier for readers to see a picture the appearance of the building, so that it will be easier to describe the building from a picture.

Research Instrument

Sugiono (2013) suggests that a research instrument is a tool used to measure observed natural and social phenomena. Meanwhile, according to Purwanto, Erwan and all (2018), research instruments are basically tools used to collect data in research. According to research instruments are tools and facilities used by researchers in the collection process to make data collection easier and the results more accurate, complete and consistent (Suharsimi Arikunto (2007). The research carried out will also be easier to process. Writers are categorized as Human Instruments, whose function is to determine research focus, choose information as a data source, carry out data collection, have data quality, data analysis, interpret data and make conclusions on their findings. In this research, researchers used 2 types of research instruments, namely soft and hard instruments. In our soft instrument as researchers using observation guidelines and interview guidelines. Meanwhile, for hard instruments, the researchers use image capture media in the form of cameras and recording devices.

Data Analysis Techniques

According to Sugiono, (2018) data analysis techniques in the research process is a research that is difficult to do and requires hard work. creative way of thinking, as well as broad insight. This is why in conducting data analysis, a researcher needs to work harder to achieve the desired results. In the process, researchers also need to think outside the box, and broaden their insights, especially about the field being researched. A finding based on the focus or problem to be answered. In qualitative research, conceptualization, categorization, and description developed based on events obtained during activities field is underway. Therefore, data collection activities and data analysis cannot be separated from one another. Both took place simultaneously the process is cyclical and interactive.

1. Data Collection

The way researchers collect all data regarding the Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni building is by observing the building first. Observations are made by going around the building and even entering every room in the building, to pay attention to every appearance of the shape of the building by carefully. After the researchers carefully observed each appearance of the shape of the building, the researcher conducted an interview with a source who knew many things about the Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni building in order to obtain accurate and complete information about the building, especially in explaining each appearance of the shape of the building.

2. Data Reduction

At this stage, the researchers only choose the main things, to focus on things that are important in the results of observations made on the building, the researchers just focus on some of the core results of the observations which will only contain a description of the building and whether each shape, motif, or the color of the building has its own meaning. In conclusion, the researchers did not discuss in depth the history of the building's initial construction, but will only focus on the appearance of the building's shape.

3. Data Display

This is the final stage in data collection, where the researchers will provide conclusions and make a summary of all the data that has been collected so that the data can be arranged, arranged in a relationship pattern, so that it will be easier to understand. Data display can be done in the form of a short description.

RESULTS

This research was conducted at Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni, which is located at Jl. Sakura III No.7-10, Tj. Selamat, District. Medan Tuntungan, Medan City, North Sumatra. For data study material by researchers who have carried out data search activities by observing the research place and the researcher also conducted an interview with Mr. Gundo Francis Saragih as Pastor and Rector of Graha Bunda Maria Annai Vekangkanni. Observations were made during the research then produces data that can be obtained used for data processing. Based on the results of research at Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni found that this place was built in September 2001 and completed in 2005, until now Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni is still strong and well maintained. In this place there are also uniquely shaped buildings and beautiful miniatures. All the data collected by the researchers, starting from observations to conducting interviews, the researcher converted the data into descriptive text-based reading material as follows:



Figure 1. Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni

Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni building is a place of worship or called a place of prayer which was created by a pastor named James Barathaputra S.J, which was built over 4 years in the city of Medan. Construction of this building itself began in September 2001 and was completed in September 2005. This building is located at Jl. Sakura III No.7-10, Tj. Selamat, District. Medan Tuntungan, Medan City, North Sumatra.

This building, which is used as a place of worship or prayer, is a dedication dedicated to honoring the Virgin Mary (Mother of Jesus) as a figure who is highly revered by Catholics. Pastor James is a Servant of God from India who is also the architect of this building who decided to move to Indonesia and build the Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni Building, as a place of prayer for Catholics. This building is designed with a very beautiful, majestic shape and has a uniqueness that makes many people who see the building become curious. This building, which is a church or place of prayer, has a shape that is actually different from the shape of churches in general. At first glance, the Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni building looks like a temple (a Hindu place of worship) and even more unique part is the design appearance of the building has a magnificent "Dome" located on the top floor of the building, which people usually know is that the Dome is seen in mosques where Muslims worship. Pastor James Barathaputra himself made the shape of this building look similar to an Indian temple, because the name of Velangkanni village itself comes from India and it was there that Mother Mary was reincarnated as a human and performed services to the people in Velangkanni village, India.



Figure 2. The view of the Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni

The view of the Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni building also feels majestic, with unique carvings on each shape of the building, the colors and motifs used are also very majestic and seem unique. Before entering the courtyard of this building, every visitor will encounter a gate containing a miniature symbol of the traditional Batak house and words of welcome.



Figure 3. Lord Jesus Giving Water to a Samaritan Woman

In the front yard of the building, visitors will be greeted by a statue of the Lord Jesus giving water to a Samaritan woman who is depicted in a Christian Bible story. Furthermore, on the front page to the side, visitors will also be greeted with a mini garden, which contains a statue of the Catholic Pope and is dedicated to the Pope (the leader of the Catholic religion).



Figure 4. Aula Santa Anna

This Graha building has 2 main floors, right in front of the door of the 1st floor building, visitors will be greeted with a unique appearance in the form of a mini statue of the Virgin Mary dressed and decorated in clothing resembling a Hindu Goddess in India and right on the pillar at the entrance too, there is banana tree which means a symbol of life that never ends, like a banana, the roots, stems and leaves can be used, moreover the fruit can be eaten and then the banana tree sprouts again and produce new fruit. And so on until the process of new shoots emerging, banana trees become a symbol of human life which will never end and there will always be new offspring given by God.



Figure 5. Hall for Holding Meetings

The room on the first floor is used as a hall for holding meetings or events. The unique thing about the room on the first floor is that it doesn't have a door, but there are 4 accesses to go in and out, both on the right and left and 3 accesses at the front. Not only that, this room also has many unique carvings and paintings.



Figure 6. Shrine

The second floor, called the Shrine, is used as a place to hold celebrations and a place of prayer for Catholics. The Shrine room has many miniatures of the Virgin Mary and her carvings on the walls and roof of the room. In the room there are long chairs arranged neatly for the prayers to feel comfortable and the room is very quiet and peaceful. To enter the 2nd floor, visitors can go up via the flyover on the right and left of the building which has a semicircular shape on both the left and right sides. The meaning of the flyover is designed as an embrace, namely that this place is open not only to those who are Catholic, but everyone regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, everything will be embraced. Along the bridge there are magnificent lights.



Figure 7. Tower at the Top of the Building

This building has a tower at the top of the building which consists of 7 floors, which symbolizes perfection, because the number 7 is believed to be the number of perfection. At the top of the building there are 3 semi-circular domes which symbolize the tri-single God, namely God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. This building is dominated by several types of colors taken from the 7 colors of the rainbow and each of these colors has its own meaning which is taken based on the understanding of Catholic teachings, but what is more dominant in this building is the color white, which means it symbolizes purity; the red color symbolizes sacrifice; the green color symbolizes life; the golden brown, yellow color symbolizes glory; the black color symbolizes sin; and the last color is gray, which symbolizes human life, which is like a gray color, which sometimes has uncertain feelings, can be happy, and can be sad.



Figure 8. Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni

From the front to the side yard, visitors will also be greeted with a mini garden containing a statue of the Catholic Pope and dedicated to the Pope (Catholic religious leader). In the side yard right next to the first floor building, there is a chapel, a place of prayer for every congregation, especially Catholics. This building is a place of prayer for Catholics. However, because of the unique shape of the building itself, many people, even those who are not Catholic or Christian, visit and see firsthand the original shape of the building. For this reason, the Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni building has been approved as a tourist attraction for all visitors, and is open to the public FREE of charge. Every visitor who is not a Catholic Christian will most likely come to just take a

photo in front of this building, and this can all be done with the rule that every visitor who comes must wear polite and neat clothes, because after all this building is a place of worship which must be respected. Visitors are also advised not to take photos in the holy place (place of worship) which is on the second floor of this building because this place is considered very holy so visitors should not just enter and take photos.

DISCUSSIONS

Designing reading materials that are unique or that are rarely known to many people is very important to increase the reading interest of the wider community, one of which is designing reading materials based on Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni. The research carried out at Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni went smoothly as it should because the management of this building was very open and very helpful during the research. Likewise, all the priests and nuns have been very helpful by providing researchers with information about the parts of the building and support in this research. In carrying out this research, the researchers did not experience any difficulties because both the informant and researchers collaborated well and the researchers did not experience difficulties in meeting the informant so that the researchers obtained the necessary data.

This study shows that Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni is a building that has many unique features, both in terms of shape and ornaments and miniatures in the building. Even though it has been standing for quite a long time, Graha Bunda Maria Annai Velangkanni still stands strong and is well maintained thanks to the staff and also the priests and nuns who have cared for this building wholeheartedly.

In order to find out how far the readers, especially students, understand the reading text from the results of this research, the researchers ask 5 questions, namely:

1. What is the name of the building?
2. What type of building is in the description text
3. Where is the location where the building stands?
4. What makes the building look unique?
5. How many floors are there in the building?

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

By seeing the tolerance in Medan, enthusiasm of spiritual tourism, researchers decided to take Bunda Maria Annai Velangkani building as object of research. This research was designed descriptive qualitative. It was purpose to find out the detail about the object of research. Researchers collect all the information by asking everything that researchers have been see in 3 days straight and making list of questions to informant. This building has a very unique appearance, there are 2 main floor in total and has its own meaning in every floor, shape, motif and even color, the meaning of which is follows from the Catholic religion. Maria Bunda Annai Velangkani is a building for Catholic worship which is very similar to the Hindu place of worship known as Vihara and even slightly similar to the Muslim place of worship known as Mosque in the first floor.

At first, this building was built specifically as a place of worship and to pray peacefully, but many people were amazed and curious about the shape and appearance of this building which was very unique and didn't look like a normal Catholic church building. Therefore, this building has been officially opened as a public tourist attraction, which can be entered by everyone regardless of their religion to be allowed to enjoy the uniqueness of this building directly.

In conducting this research, Researchers realize that there are still limitations to studying in more depth the topics that researchers study. Therefore, the researchers suggests to readers or researchers who may wish to continue this research, to study or conduct new research regarding other historical and unique religious buildings in the city of Medan and which not many people know about. So that readers will feel interested and enthusiastic about reading texts resulting from research on other unique objects.

FURTHER STUDY

This research still has related limitations, so it is necessary to carry out further research on the topic in order to perfect this research and increase the reader's insight.

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