

STRATEGIES OF ENGLISH STUDENTS DEPARTEMENT IN BUILDING CHARACTER THROUGHT POETRY

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Abstarct: This article presents the strategies of English students department of Islamic University of Malang in building character through poetry. Poetry is one type of literary works besides short stories and novel. The objective of this study was to describe the learning strategies used by English students department of sixth semester to build character through poetry. In conducting the study, the researcher uses the Descriptive Qualitative approach. The subjects of this study were 15 English students department. The data were collected through doing online questionnaire, online interview, and documentation that was due in January 17th to April 21th, 2021. The data were analyzed using Qomariyah theory (2020) of code types. There are developing and applying codes, identifying themes, and summarizing the data. According to the findings, students use writing, listening, and or reading a poetry as their strategies to build their character and also the students mention in online interview that by reading a poetry someone can understand and feel what the author wrote. The findings of this study are likely to be beneficial for the future researcher who had read this study, can learn the strategies in building character through poetry are used writing, listening, and or reading poetry. The researcher really suggests that the next research on finding the strategies in building character through poetry will use the newest parameters found by other researcher other than those who have mention above.

Key Words: Poetry, Strategies, Character

INTRODUCTION

Some scholars, specialists, lecturers and researchers have studied and explored issues and concerns relating to the use of English-language literature as both a foreign language and a second language. Many literary works, such as songs, poetry and short tales, teach English because literary works are very pleasing to pupils, both intellectually and emotionally. (Lazar, 1993) Stated that the use of class literature is a successful means of involving a student as an entire person and provides them with good chances of expressing their own ideas, emotions and feelings.

Other than short stories or novels, poetry is one kind of literary work. (Sayuti, 2008) Said that poetry is a kind of linguistic expression that takes account of the aspects of the sounds inside it, which reflects an imaginative and emotional experience, and the intellectual experience of poetry is derived from its individual and social existence. Poetry it self also has a figure of thought that are: 1.) Simile, 2.) Metaphor and 3.) Personification. Beside that poetry also have values that are: 1.) Rreligious, 2.) Philosopichal 3.) Ethic and 4.) Esthetical values.

According to Mustofa (2014), there are three goals of character education in Indonesia; 1) to develop students potentials with enable them to possess good attitudes , 2) to develop citizens whose characters are in accordance with the values found in Indonesia's five principles, 3) to develop citizens' potentials that promote self-esteem, strong nationalism, and humanity. The aimed is to develop Indonesian people, especially the young generation, with a good education system.

Based on the Mustofa (2018) states that there are eighteen values of character building in poetry, that are; 1.) Religious, 2.) Honest, 3.) Tolerant, 4.) Disciplined, 5.) Hard working, 6.) Creative, 7.) Independent, 8.) Democratic, 9.) Curious, 10.) Nationalistic, 11.) Patriotic, 12.) Sportive, 13.) Communicative, 14.) Peace loving, 15.) Studious, 16.) Caring, 17.) Emphatetic and 18.) Responsible.

In this case, the researcher wants to investigate what strategies that students use

in building character through poetry for sixth semester students of English Department at University of Islam Malang. The researchers chose this semester because they had previously studied poetry. They also analyzed the character building in the poetry. It means they are familiar with poetry, and poetry can even help students build their own characters. And the research problem of this study is “what are the learning strategies used by English Students Department of Sixth Semester to build character through poetry?”. Based on the research problem, the purpose of this study is to describe the learning strategies used by English Students Department of Sixth semester to build character through poetry.

METHOD

The researcher conducted this study use descriptive qualitative method. Based on Latief (2019), qualitative research is an investigative process designed to comprehend human conduct via the construction of complex, comprehensive images of the social and cultural environment in which such conduct arises. In qualitative research, the analysis is effectively done with words instead of numbers. Descriptive study is thus a scientific inquiry aimed at picturing natural phenomena.

The subject of the research was there are five classes in the sixth semester in English Department at University of Islam Malang. Every class has 30 students. The researcher chooses a half of a class, so the total of subject is 15 students. The research object was limited on the students who were got an A score in Poetry. The researcher found that only 15 students which are related to the criteria.

In this study, the researcher used online questionnaire by Google Form, online interview by WhatsApp voice note, and documentation as the instruments to collect the data.

In the first phase, the researcher collected the data by giving online questionnaire. Initially a questionnaire utilizing Google Form was used to collect the data. The validity and reliability of this questionnaire was tested using SPSS. The participants of the research are limited, so the researcher used a questionnaire

to collect the data. The identity of the participants' has been hidden and maintained confidentially. The researchers had invited the individuals to complete the questionnaire online through Google Form. Questionnaire should always have a definite purpose that is related to the objectives of the research, and it needs to be clear from the outset how the findings.

The interview was the second phase of data collection. It was held through WhatsApp voice note with the subjects once they completed the first phase. Interview is the main research instrument in qualitative research. It is conversation between two persons or more in order to get certain information. The interview will be conducted with students in Sixth semester English students Department of Islamic University of Malang. The researcher will arrange the statement for the participants. The statements for the students are to know the strategies of the students to build character through poetry. And this instrument to make a more valid data.

This online based interview was chosen since the unstable conditions that caused by Corona Virus breaks, so all the planning were designed was postponed and it all changed into online based research. Even though this kind of research is insufficient to collect data concretely, yet both of researcher and subjects had a great effort to conduct this research which finally could gathered the data that needed.

The thrid phase of collecting the data was making documentation. Qomariyah (2020), said that documents include items that may be used to store information, such as pictures, videos, films, memoranda, letters, diaries, clinical case records, and many types of mementos. The documentation of this study is photo of doing online questionnaire with Google form and online based interview used by WhatsApp voice note to the participants.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

The findings provide the data that was gathered by performing an internet-based research, such as asking respondents to fill out a statement from using

Google Form and conducting an online interview via WhatsApp voice note. The theory of qualitative research offered by Latief (2019) define that qualitative research as an inquiry method focused at understanding human behavior by constructing comprehensive, holistic images of the social and cultural environments in which such behavior happens. In qualitative research, words are used to analyze data rather than numbers. Data is a term that represents reliable information that might assist a researcher in answering the question(s). This information can originate from a variety sources, including observation, interview, documentation, newspaper clippings, personal journal, or questionnaire.

Building Character through Writing, Listening, and or Reading a Poetry

Based on the result of the questionnaire which held on 17 January 2021, it is found from the subjects that from the first statement of questionnaire is *“You build your religious character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about religion”* the answer of the subject there are 9 agree and 2 very agree of 15 subject answer and it’s mean the subject one opinion with this statement of questionnaire that is the strategies to build their character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry. Second statement is *“You build your honest character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about religion”* the answer of the subject there are 10 agree 4 disagree and 1 very agree, from the answer it’s mean that they build honest character through writing, listening, and or reading a religion poetry. Next statement is *“You build your tolerant character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about humanity”* the result there are 11 answer of agree, 2 answer of disagree, 1 answer of very agree, and 1 answer also of very disagree, from the result it’s mean a lot of the subject used strategies of writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about humanity to build their tolerant character. Fourth statement is *“You build your disciplined character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about struggle of life”* the answer of the subject there are 8 agree, 4 disagree, and 2 very agree, it’s mean the subject used writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about struggle of life to help build

their disciplined character. Next, statement is *“You build your hard working character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about failure of life”* the answer of the subject are 8 agree, 3 disagree, 2 very agree, and 2 also answer very disagree, it’s mean that the subject used this strategy by writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about failure of life to build their hard working character. Sixth, statement is *“You build your creative character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about love or romance”* the results are 6 agree, 2 very agree, 4 disagree, and 3 very disagree, in total there are more agree than disagree it’s mean this statement of questionnaire is right that one of their strategy to build their creative character with writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about love or romance. Next, statement is *“You build your independent character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about struggle of life”* the results are 10 agree, 2 disagree, 1 very agree, and 2 very disagree. In total there is a lot of agree than disagree, it is mean this questionnaire is right that one of the strategy to build independent character by writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about struggle of life. Eighth, statement is *“You build your democratic character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about democracy”* the subject answer are 8 of agree, 5 of disagree, 1 of very agree, and 1 also of very disagree. In total there is more answer of agree than disagree, it’s mean this statement of questionnaire is right that the strategy of subject to build their democratic character is by writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about democracy. Next, statement is *“You build your curious character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about nature”* the subject answer are 8 answer of agree, 1 answer of very agree, and 6 answer of disagree. Its mean this statement of questionnaire number 9 is right that the strategy of subject to build their curious character by writing, listening, and or reading poetry about nature. Tenth, statement is *“You build your nationalistic character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about patriotism”* and the results of this statement are 9 answer of agree, 2 answer of disagree, very agree, and very disagree. In total there is a lot of agree answer than disagree answer, its mean this statement of questionnaire number 10 is also right that the subject used this strategy to build

their nationalistic character. Next, statement is *“You build your patriotic character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about struggle of life”* and the answer are 9 of agree answer and 6 of disagree answer, it’s mean this statement of questionnaire is also right that the strategy of them to build their patriotic character by writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about struggle of life. Next, statement is *“You build your sportive and respectful character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about humanity”* the answers of subject are 9 answer of agree, 4 answer of disagree, and 1 answer of very agree and very disagree, it’s mean the statement of questionnaire number 12 is right that the strategy to build their sportive and respectful character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about humanity. Thirteenth, statement is *“You build your inclusive and communicative character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about friendship”* the answer of the subject are 12 answer of agree and 3 answer of disagree. In total there is a lot of agree answer than disagree answer, it’s mean the subject one opinion with this statement of questionnaire that to build inclusive and communicative character are through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about friendship. Next, statement is *“You build your peace loving character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about love or romance”* the answer of subject are 8 answer of agree, 3 answer of disagree, 3 answer of very agree, and 1 answer of very disagree. In total there are 8 of agree and 3 of very agree, it’s mean this statement of questionnaire is one opinion with the subject that their also build peace loving character one of their strategy is by writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about love or romance. Fifteenth, statement is *“You build your studious character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about failure of life”* the answer of subject are 9 answer of agree and 6 answer of disagree, in total there are 3 differences that agree answer is more than disagree answer, it’s mean this statement also one opinion with the subject strategy to build studious character by writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about failure of life. Sixteenth, statement is *“You build your caring and compassion character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about humanity”* the answer of subject are 11 of agree answer and 4 of disagree answer,

it's mean a lot of subject one opinion with this statement of questionnaire that one of the strategy to build caring and compassion character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about humanity. Seventeenth, statement is *"You build your empathetic character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about justice"* the answer of subject are 8 answer of agree, 4 answer of disagree, 2 answer of very agree, and 1 answer of very disagree. It's mean a lot of subject also one opinion with this statement that with writing, listening, and or reading a poetry is their strategy to build an empathetic character. Last, statement is *"You build your responsible character through writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about humanity"* the answer of subject are 9 answer of agree, 3 answer of disagree, and 3 answer also of very agree. It's mean the subject are one opinion with this statement that they used writing, listening, and or reading a poetry about humanity to build their responsible character.

Next, the researcher was conducted the data by WhatsApp voice note interview. It was held at 21 of April 2021 and the duration of conducting this research was about 42 minutes. The subjects responsively explain their answer and they was obviously state their structured answer for each questions.

For the first question, the question was,

What is poetry?

The subjects answered that poetry is a literary work that is arranged through words into a sentence which is arranged beautifully based on what they see and their experience, usually a poetry draws feeling of the writer and there was a message in that poetry, so the meaning of a poetry was contained the feeling of a writer which the words are contained a figure of speech.

For the second question, the question was,

In the poetry course that you have done studied in the last semester, did you remember the characters of poetry? The subjects' answers, yes I remember the characters of poetry but not at all just like: religious, honest, hardworking, peace loving, creative, tolerant, disciplined, and nationalistic.

For the third question, the question was,

From the characters of poetry that you remembered, did you apply these characters in your daily life? If yes, how do you apply it?

The subjects answered, for the first character that I always applied is religious character and the way to apply this character is tried to make close to God, one of them is carrying out God's commands especially regarding the five daily prayers. Second is nationalistic character and the way to applied this character is by always loving the country, following ceremonies, and always maintaining the existing culture in Indonesia. Next, peace loving and the way to apply this character in their daily life are by love themselves. That is the three characters which always applied in their daily life.

And the subjects also answered, there are several characters that they still try to apply in their daily life that are: honest with the way tried to always say honestly. Hard working with the way tried to always hard working to reach their dreams. Creative with the way to make a new thing with looking for literature or references from internet or YouTube and we are as candidate of teacher must be have this creative character.

Next, tolerant with the way respect other people opinions. For the last, disciplined with the way tried to always on time and have a good time management.

Next question, the question was,

In the poetry having three meaning that are: general meaning, detailed meaning, and intention meaning. What do you know about those meaning?

The subjects answered, general meaning is the whole meaning of the poetry, detailed meaning is a more detailed meaning of the poetry, and intention meaning is the purpose of a writer in writing poetry.

For the fifth question, the question was *by understanding the meaning of a poetry, did the person's character be formed through the meaning that their understanding?*

The subjects answered, by understanding the meaning of the poetry, it is can help shape someone's character when they read and they can entered into the characters in the poetry and also when we are really need that character we can got an motivation to build that character in our life.

For the sixth question, the question was,

According to you which ways was more relevant to build character through poetry? Listening, writing, or reading a poetry? Explain why you choose it!

The subjects answered, c. Reading poetry, because not all the people can write and not all the people can listening with a perfect listening but, by reading someone can understand and feel what the author wrote when we read we can easily get carried away from the atmosphere of the poetry and we can also get advice from what we read.

For the last question, the question was, *Did you agree that literary works especially poetry can help build a person's character?*

The subjects answered, yes poetry can help build a person's character, because when we were studied about poetry we were became more know about the characters and values in the poetry. And we can entered into the characters in the poetry when we were studied and for a poetry lovers through words in poetry, it is can be used as motivation or reference to improve life in the next day. So, poetry can be a place to change their character for the better than before.

In this finding we can conclude that through the meaning or characters of the poetry that their already found, it is they were applied in their daily life. And it means poetry can help build a positive character. It is supported by (Ernawati, 2018) who states that poetry gives positive effect to build characters.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Coming up with the following study, the researcher conclude that Poetry is a literary work that is arranged through words into a sentence which is arranged beautifully based on what they see and their experience, usually a poetry draws feeling of the writer and there was a message in that poetry, so the meaning of a poetry was contained the feeling of a writer which the words are contained a figure of speech.

The subject was one opinion with the questionnaire that their strategies to build character through poetry is by writing, listening, and or reading a poetry, it's can help their character build such as; tolerant, creative, hardworking, respectful, communicative, and peace loving. Based on online voice note by WhatsApp, the subjects mention that by reading poetry can help the characters of someone be a Good character because by reading we know the meaning and understand the felling of writer in poetry. From 18 characters of poetry there are some of characters that they always applied in their daily life that are; religious by always obey the rules of Allah, nationalistic by always loving the country, following ceremonies, and always maintaining the existing culture in Indonesia, and peace loving by love yourself. And also there are some characters that the subjects still tried to be apply in their daily life such as; honest by tried to always saying honestly, hardworking by tried to always hard working to reach their dreams, creative by make a new thing with looking for literature or references from internet or YouTube, tolerant by respect other people opinions, and disciplined by tried to always on time and have a good time management.

The suggestion based on the findings is for the instructor or lecturer, as well as future researchers, who have read this study, to discover how the topic builds character via poetry and how to apply character in daily life.

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