



THAI NGUYEN UNIVERSITY
Socialist Republic of Vietnam



BATANGAS STATE UNIVERSITY
Republic of the Philippines

**READING PERFORMANCE AND READING INTERESTS OF
COLLEGE FRESHMAN STUDENTS OF THAI NGUYEN UNIVERSITY:
BASIS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY INTEGRATIVE READING
MATERIALS**

A Dissertation
Presented to
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Batangas State University
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Doctor of Philosophy
Major in English

By:
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ABSTRACT

Title : **READING PERFORMANCE AND READING INTERESTS OF COLLEGE FRESHMAN STUDENTS OF THAI NGUYEN UNIVERSITY: BASIS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY INTEGRATIVE READING MATERIALS**

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Summary

The study looked into the reading performance and reading interests of College Freshmen of Thai Nguyen University as basis for developing college supplementary integrative reading materials. Reading materials on music, literature, food and health, sports and games and science were the main concerns in assessing students' interest on the mentioned materials. A total of 400 college freshmen were included in the survey conducted in College of Education, College of Agriculture & Forestry, College of Information Technology, College of Science and College of Economics & Business



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Administration. The study tested the following hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between demographic profile and level of reading performance of students and there is no significant relationship between reading performance and reading interests of students.

To gather the needed data, reading test was administered and a researcher-made questionnaire were utilized. Content validity was established by submitting the instrument to the adviser for the comments and suggestions and to the experts in the field. The data generated by the test and the questionnaire were analyzed using percentage, weighted mean, chi-square test and Pearson-r.

Findings of the study revealed that in terms of gender, one hundred forty-nine of the student respondents are males, while two hundred fifty-one are females. As to type of school graduated from, seventy-nine are from private schools, while three hundred twenty-one are from public schools. In terms of living accommodation, one hundred thirty-seven owned their accommodation, while two hundred sixty-three are only renting their places. In terms of family income, ninety-six come from high earners, while one hundred forty-three are with their families who fall under average earners. Meanwhile, one hundred sixty-one of the students come from low earner families. In terms of educational qualification of parents, one hundred one of the respondents' mother obtained college degree; two hundred eighty-eight finished high school



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diploma; while eleven respondents reported that their mothers only completed the elementary curriculum. On the other hand, one hundred thirty of the respondents' father obtained college degree; two hundred sixty-six finished high school diploma; while four respondents reported that their fathers only completed the elementary curriculum

Moreover, in the students' reading performance in English, one hundred forty of the respondents fall under average reading performance followed by moderately good gotten by one hundred fifteen of the respondents. Meanwhile, only six fall under good reading performance. Overall mean performance indicates that the students fall under average reading performance

In the relationship between demographic profile and reading performance of the students, the computed p-value for type of school graduated from shows that there is a significant relationship on reading performance. However, the computed value of gender; living accommodation; family income; educational qualification of father; and mother which are all greater than 0.05, indicate that reading demographic profile has no significant relationship on the reading performance of the students.

In addition, the reading interests of students relates music, musical reviews got the highest weighted mean with verbal interpretation of interesting. This was followed by The Life Story of



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Beethoven with a weighted mean verbally interpreted as interesting. However, The Birth of a New Tenor obtained the lowest weighted mean with less interesting verbal interpretation.

In terms of literature, Diaries of Famous People in Vietnam is interesting as compared to Historical Novels which according to the respondents was less interesting.

In terms of food and health, health journals got the highest weighted mean with less interesting verbal interpretation. It was followed by Fitness and Wellness Magazines. Lastly, the Recipe Books obtained the lowest weighted mean.

In terms of sports and games, basketball Tips got the highest weighted mean; followed by Journals of Great Athletes and sharing on the last rank are Biographies of Football Stars and Sports Reviews.

In terms of science, Issue on Ebola Virus got the highest weighted mean, followed by Discoveries on Space and Astronomy and lastly, Reading on Stem Cell Therapy.

In the relationship between reading performance and reading interests, the computed p-value for music; literature; food and health; sports and game; and science which are all greater than 0.05, indicate that reading interest has no significant relationship on the reading performance of the students.



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Therefore, reading performance is not affected by students' reading interest.

The study therefore recommends that literary works and musical reading materials, as mostly appreciated by the respondents to aid their reading performance, must be enhanced.

Integrative simple musical literary pieces may be given to students together with a follow-up study giving emphasis on other factors aside from the reading interest which could improve reading performance such as language difficulty, level of fluency and reading rate. Supplementary reading materials are hereby proposed for implementation.



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APPROVAL SHEET

This dissertation entitled **READING PERFORMANCE AND READING INTERESTS OF COLLEGE FRESHMAN STUDENTS OF THAI NGUYEN UNIVERSITY: BASIS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY INTEGRATIVE READING MATERIALS**

prepared and submitted by **DINH THI HUONG** in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy major in English has been examined and is recommended for Oral Examination.

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