

E-NEWSLETTER

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Editor : Anna R. Phoa, Aulia Nurdini, Bernard A. Pesik, Erlyanti Saputri |
English Language Consultant : Todd Cordy | Creative Designer : Tomi |
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Dear Colleagues,

It is fantastic to be able to keep in touch with you again through this May-June edition of our Mentari Books' e-newsletter. In this edition on page 2, we present an article about literacy and parenting. In order to support children in their education and development, what do we need to consider? Numerous studies have examined the importance of the home literacy environment for the development of children's academic achievements.

The months of May and June are very special and meaningful for most of us. On 1st of May, we celebrate International Labour Day when the social and economic achievements of workers are recognised. Then in the middle of May, Buddhists will welcome Vesak Day. May this special day bring happiness and joy for those who celebrate it. While at the end of May, Christians will commemorate the Ascension of Jesus Christ. During these months, the fasting month of Ramadhan begins, including the celebration of Eid Al-Fitr 1st Shawwal 1440H. We wish our Muslim colleagues happy fasting and Eid Al-Fitr. May God bless you with good health while undertaking fasting throughout the month of Ramadhan.

May and June are also the period of preparing for the new academic year 2019-2020. Thank you for choosing Mentari Group for your educational needs. We will continue to strive to serve and support our customers, and deliver high-quality products and services with which we hope you will be fully satisfied. As the leading education solutions provider in Indonesia, we would like to give you the most recent updates about our latest publications and learning resources. More information can be found on page 3. Please visit to our online shopping website www.mentaripedia.com. We hope our customers can easily find and purchase the educational materials they need, just by clicking the link.

Read on and have a great month ahead!

Warmest Regards,
The Editor-Mentari Group Newsletter Team.

**Eid Al-Fitr
1 shawwal 1440 H**

Jokes

Are Bugs Good to Eat?

A boy asks his father, "Dad, are bugs good to eat?" "That's disgusting — don't talk about things like that over dinner," replies his dad. After dinner, the father asks, "Now, son, what did you want to ask me?" "Oh, nothing," says the boy. "There was a bug in your soup, but now it's gone."

Camping with Sherlock Holmes

Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson went camping. They pitched their tent under the stars and went to sleep. Sometime in the middle of the night Holmes woke Watson up and said, "Watson, look up at the stars, and tell me what you see." Watson replied, "I see millions and millions of stars." Holmes said, "And what do you deduce from that?" Watson replied, "Well, if there are millions of stars, and if even a few of those have planets, it's quite likely there are some planets like Earth out there. And if there are a few planets like Earth out there, there might also be life." And Holmes said, "Watson, you idiot, it means that somebody stole our tent."

Source:
<https://www.buzzfeed.com/bensmith/clean-jokes-to-tell-your-kids-that-are-actually-funny>

Quotes

"Stick to the basics, hold on to your family and friends – they will never go out of fashion."

—Niki Taylor

"Family and friendships are two of the greatest facilitators of happiness." —John C. Maxwell

"A happy family is but an earlier heaven."
—George Bernard Shaw

"Family and friends are hidden treasures, seek them and enjoy their riches." — Wanda Hope Carter

Fostering Literacy

Have you, as a parent, introduced a digital device to children because you feel the learning process is easier, especially as many children sit calmly when they're given the device? You are not alone.

"Giving children a device during their early childhood will make children more likely to lose concentration, become less focused, and have tired eyes from seeing images that move too fast", said a child and teen psychologist Ratih Zulhaqqi. According to her, it would be better if parents stimulate children by reading story books or fairy tales together.

Reading activities at home that take place in a warm and pleasant atmosphere can foster basic literacy skills. The six basic literacy skills include (1) literacy (literasi baca-tulis), (2) numeracy (literasi numerasi), (3) scientific literacy, (4) digital literacy, (5) financial literacy, and (6) cultural and civic literacy (literasi budaya dan kewargaan). Basic literacy skills, 21st century competence, and character are the 21st century skills that children need as a provision for them to become citizens of the world.

One simple principle to help parents ensure that they are creating a literacy rich environment at home is to make reading and writing materials consistently within sight and within easy reach of children. By looking at books, newspapers, magazines, color pencils, and other stationery, children will get used to seeing family members using these materials. This habit fosters a positive culture that shapes their attitude, after all, the most common way that children learn is by copying what they see.

Here are some tips in creating a literacy rich environment at home.

1. Keep shelves filled with a variety of books (novels, comics, picture books, atlases, books about science, etc.)
2. Place a basket containing books in the family room or child's bedroom.
3. Locate bookshelves in family rooms or other rooms where families gather.
4. Reading corners can be a place to store books and toys, and become a place for storytelling or independent reading.
5. Model target behaviour by having your children see you read.

Children will love reading when they get the benefits of feeling happy, entertained, and relaxed when they are reading (Clark and Rumbold, 2006). These benefits foster intrinsic motivation in children. Clark and Foster's research (2005) also show that intrinsic motivation is influenced by the type of reading. For example, if a child likes fiction, especially adventure and mystery, then he will be motivated by himself reading the story. Intrinsic motivation in reading (that is, motivation that arises from within) is more effective in making children fonder of reading than extrinsic motivation (De Naeghe et. Al., 2012).

However, extrinsic activities, such as reading challenges, incentives, prizes, and games to grow children's interest in reading, can be the starting point for building reading habits.

Reading activities not only increase individual competence, but also improve social skills and empowerment of a person. Children and adolescents who like to read in their spare time tend to be more confident, calmer, find it easier to concentrate, and are more empathetic towards others. In addition, students who like to read have better academic achievements, are more capable of extended reading, and have better numerical abilities. Adults who love reading tend to be more tolerant and understand other cultures. Parents who love reading tend to communicate with children better and have better parenting patterns than parents who hardly read.

Growing a literate generation starts from home. Parents who always lead by example help to grow and maintain children's reading interest. By developing a highly literate generation, parents have contributed greatly to creating a nation's bright future as it will be built by young people who have a competitive edge and fighting power in a changing, modern world.

Source:

http://gln.kemdikbud.go.id/glnsite/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/6.-Seri-Manual-GLS_Membaca-Untuk-Kesenangan.pdf; Setiawan, R. 2019. Seri Manual GLS, Menumbuhkan Budaya Literasi di Rumah. Kementerian Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan, Jakarta; <https://kabar24.bisnis.com/read/20180930/255/843686/menumbuhkan-minat-baca-anak-di-tengah-kepungan-gadget>

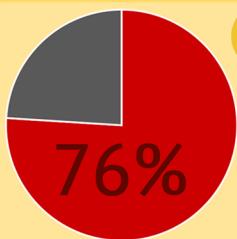


Importance of Early Literacy

We all know how important reading is, but did you know children who are read to starting at a young age are more likely to succeed in school



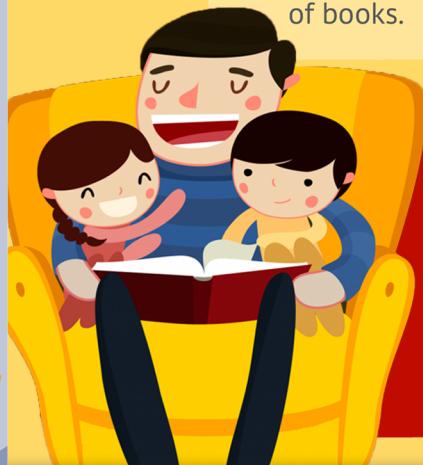
By the age of 3 there is a 30 million word gap between children from lower income families and higher income families. Every word you say builds your child's brain, speaking and reading to your child more can help close that gap.



76% of students enter kindergarten with no knowledge of books.

By age 3

a child's brain will be
80%
of its adult size.



Quick Tip!
Having your child sit in your lap, not only allows bonding but also creates a positive association with books and reading. Your child will learn to associate books with love.

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For further information, please contact Mentari Digital:

021 - 5890 1900 Ext: 6112

021 - 5890 0818

support@mentaridigital.com

0877 8803 0390

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2019

Cambridge Day

Organised by Mentari Group

Jakarta - Saturday, 16 March 2019



MENTARI
ENGLISH TEACHER
GATHERING

Bekasi & Makassar, 23 March 2019



Preschool Teachers Gathering

Jakarta - Saturday, 6 April 2019



You can access our upcoming event directly to this link www.mentarievent.com

Surabaya Timur : (031) 5946 780/5946 560, Makassar : (0411) 859 564/2135 779



BERKENALAN DENGAN BAHASA INDONESIA

Oleh: Dr. Felicia N. Utordewo

Rubrik ini dipersembahkan oleh:



Seri Pelajaran Bahasa Indonesia untuk Sekolah Dasar
Persemaahan dari Mentari Group

Apakah kita betul-betul kenal dengan bahasa kita dan asal usulnya? Artikel ini berusaha untuk memperkenalkan kembali bahasa Indonesia kepada para pembaca. Perkenalan ini diawali dengan definisi atau batasan tentang bahasa Indonesia, menurut Harimurti (1999), yang harus dilihat dari tiga aspek, yaitu aspek sejarah, aspek sosiologis, dan aspek hukum. Ketiganya tidak dapat dipisahkan satu sama lain. Berbicara tentang perkembangan bahasa Indonesia tidak akan lepas dari sejarah Indonesia, bahkan sejarah dunia. Dalam artikel ini, saya akan menguraikan perkembangan bahasa Indonesia dari ketiga sudut pandang tersebut.

ASPEK SEJARAH

Perkembangan bahasa Indonesia tidak dapat dilepaskan dari bahasa Melayu. Bahasa Melayu sudah dipergunakan sejak abad ke-7 sebagai bahasa komunikasi atau lingua franca tidak hanya di pulau-pulau seantero Nusantara melainkan juga di seluruh Asia Tenggara. Bahasa Melayu yang digunakan itu disebut bahasa Melayu Pasar. Sekitar abad ke-16, Indonesia sudah sangat terkenal di Eropa dengan rempah-rempahnya, terutama lada dan pala. Marco Polo, Vasco Da Gama, Bartolomeu Dias merupakan tokoh sejarah dunia (abad 14–15) yang bersinggungan dengan Indonesia melalui pelayaran mereka menuju Timur Jauh. Di Indonesia, bahasa Melayu Pasar masih terlihat jejaknya sebagai dialek di Indonesia bagian Timur, seperti Melayu Ambon, Melayu Papua, Melayu Makasar. Di Jakarta atau Sunda Kelapa, pada masa itu, bahasa Melayu bercampur pula dengan dialek Melayu Tionghoa. Oleh karena itu, ada pendapat bahwa bahasa Indonesia berasal dari daerah Timur Indonesia.

Pada masa penjajahan Belanda, tahun 1917, pemerintah Hindia Belanda mendirikan Balai Poestaka. Tujuan utama pemerintah Hindia Belanda adalah meredam dan mengalihkan gejolak perjuangan bangsa Indonesia yang semula muncul di surat kabar ke media tulis formal, seperti buku. Dengan demikian, pergerakan pemuda tidak bertentangan dengan kepentingan Belanda. Pada masa itu, penulis-penulis dari Minangkabau banyak mengisi khasanah sastra Indonesia, seperti Marah Rusli, Nur Sutan Iskandar, Tulis Sutan Sati, Abdoel Moeis. Pengaruh para penulis Minangkabau ditambah dengan ditemukannya naskah-naskah Melayu Kuno yang banyak berasal dari Kesultanan Riau menimbulkan hierarki bahasa. Bahasa dalam karya sastra disebut sebagai bahasa Melayu Tinggi, sementara bahasa Melayu Pasar disebut sebagai bahasa Melayu Rendah. Bahasa Melayu Riau dan Minangkabau ini mengakibatkan timbulnya anggapan bahwa bahasa Indonesia berinduk kepada bahasa Melayu Riau. Namun, sebenarnya, bahasa Indonesia merupakan campuran dari berbagai dialek Melayu Pasar, bahasa Melayu Minangkabau, dan bahasa Melayu Riau.

ASPEK SOSIOLOGIS

Aspek sosiologis ini berkaitan dengan perkembangan sejarah kebangsaan Indonesia. Pada saat itu, para pemuda Indonesia bercita-cita untuk bertanah air, berbangsa, dan berbahasa persatuan "Indonesia". Para pemuda mengadakan Kongres Pemuda II, pada tanggal 27–28 Oktober 1928 di Batavia. Kongres

Pemuda ini dalam keputusannya mendeklarasikan Sumpah Pemuda pada 28 Oktober 1928. Buniy deklarasi itu adalah:

- Kami poeta dan poetri Indonesia mengakoe bertoempah darah jang satoe, tanah Indonesia.
- Kami poeta dan poetri Indonesia mengakoe berbangsa jang satoe, bangsa Indonesia.
- Kami poeta dan poetri Indonesia mendjoendoeng bahasa persatoean, bahasa Indonesia.

Jadi, secara sosiologis, bahasa Indonesia mulai dijunjung sebagai bahasa persatuan pada tanggal 28 Oktober 1928.

ASPEK HUKUM

Sejak Sumpah Pemuda, deklarasi tersebut disiarkan dalam berbagai surat kabar dan dibacakan di hadapan rapat perkumpulan kebangsaan. Definisi bahasa Indonesia dipertegas lagi dalam Kongres Bahasa Indonesia I yang diselenggarakan tahun 1938 di Solo dan diperkuat kembali di Kongres Bahasa Indonesia II tahun 1954 di Medan.

"Jang dinamakan bahasa Indonesia, jaitoe bahasa Melajoe jang sesoenggoehpoen pokoknya berasal dari Melajoe Riau akan tetapi soedah ditambah, dioebah, atau dikoerangi menoeroet keperluoean zaman dan alam baharoe, hingga bahasa itoe laloe moedah dipakai oleh rakjat di seloeroeh Indonesia, pembaharoean bahasa Melajoe hingga mendjadi bahasa Indonesia itoe haroes dilakoekan oleh kaeom ahli jang beralam baharoe ialah alam kebangsaan Indonesia" (KBI II)

"...bahwa asal bahasa Indonesia ialah bahasa Melaju. Dasar bahasa Indonesia ialah bahasa Melaju jang disesuaikan dengan pertumbuhannja dalam masjarakat Indonesia sekarang." (KBI II)

Puncaknya, bahasa Indonesia diakui sebagai bahasa resmi kenegaraan pada tanggal 18 Agustus 1945 dalam Undang-Undang Dasar RI 1945 pasal 36, yang menyatakan bahwa bahasa negara adalah bahasa Indonesia.

Sekarang kita telah berkenalan dengan bahasa Indonesia dan bagaimana bahasa Indonesia terbentuk sebagai bahasa persatuan kita. Dengan memperhatikan ketiga aspek tersebut, pengetahuan kita mengenai bahasa Indonesia menjadi lebih lengkap.

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