

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate the connection between grade 9 students' reading interest and comprehension in Pedamaran. Students from two junior high schools participated in the study, which employed a correlational approach. A reading test and a questionnaire on reading interest were used to gather data. The two variables' relationship was examined using the Pearson Product Moment Correlation. The findings revealed a substantial correlation between reading interest and reading comprehension, with a p-value of 0.001 (<0.05). A somewhat positive correlation was indicated by the Pearson correlation coefficient of 0.519. Additionally, a regression test with a p-value of less than 0.001 verified a significant positive relationship. The results showed that students' enthusiasm in reading had a beneficial impact on their comprehension of texts, as it explains 26.9% of the variance in reading comprehension. Fostering reading interest may enhance comprehension abilities, according to this study, which offers insightful information about the relationship between reading interest and understanding. Other approaches to collect more accurate data and expand on these findings should be investigated in future studies.

Keywords: *Correlation, Reading Interest, Reading Comprehension*