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## Factors That Can Affect Student Engagement in Learning

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### Abstrak

Faktor-faktor yang dapat mempengaruhi keterlibatan siswa di kelas memiliki pengaruh yang cukup besar terhadap proses pembelajaran siswa. Karena faktor internal dan eksternal saling berhubungan, siswa akan berhasil menyelesaikan kegiatan akademik jika mereka memiliki kemauan dan usaha. Selain itu, dukungan dari lingkungan mereka juga dapat mempengaruhi keterlibatan siswa dalam proses belajar. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengidentifikasi semua komponen yang dapat mempengaruhi keterlibatan siswa dalam proses pembelajaran pada siswa kelas XI SMA Pusaka Nusantara 2 Bekasi. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan pengumpulan data melalui wawancara dan observasi. 3 siswa telah dipilih oleh peneliti untuk diwawancarai lebih lanjut dan data dianalisis menggunakan tematik analisis Braun & Clarke. Hasil penelitian ini diharapkan dapat meningkatkan pemahaman tentang seberapa penting faktor internal dan faktor eksternal untuk membantu meningkatkan keterlibatan siswa dalam proses pembelajaran.

Kata Kunci: *Keterlibatan Siswa, Pembelajaran, Prestasi Akademik*

## Abstract

Factors that can affect student involvement in the classroom have a considerable influence on the student learning process. Because internal and external factors are interconnected, students will successfully complete academic activities if they have the will and effort. In addition, support from their environment can also affect student involvement in the learning process. The purpose of this study is to identify all components that can affect student involvement in the learning process in grade XI students of SMA Pusaka Nusantara 2 Bekasi. This study uses a qualitative approach with data collection through interviews and observation. 3 students were selected by the researchers for further interviews and the data were analyzed using Braun & Clarke's thematic analysis. The results of this study are expected to increase understanding of how important internal and external factors are to help increase student involvement in the learning process.

*Keywords: Student Engagement, Learning, Academic Achievement*

## INTRODUCTION

One of the teachers' goals is to make students learn actively. Other factors can affect the student's learning success, but every effort is made to achieve this goal. Internal and external factors are usually responsible for student failure in the learning process. According to (Fredricks et al., 2004) internal factors are factors that can affect student engagement, related to their interest and enjoyment of learning as well as their chances of competing in it. Meanwhile, external factors refer to things that come from outside, such as the school environment or the support students receive from parents, teachers, and friends.

Various situations can reduce student engagement in learning. Engagement is defined as "an indispensable psychological investment in order for students to understand and master skills and knowledge" (Fredricks et al., 2004). Engagement consists of three categories, namely behavioral, emotional, and cognitive. Behavioral engagement means that students are engaged in assignments, comply with school rules, and have standardized test scores. Emotional engagement includes students' participation in their emotions and perspectives on learning. Cognitive engagement is the application of cognitive and metacognitive strategies related to academic achievement and active participation in learning activities. It can be concluded that involvement is essential for students' academic success. The negative effects of the lack of student involvement, namely reduced motivation to learn, reduced understanding of the material, and lack of involvement can have an impact on students' disciplinary attitudes.

Student involvement in learning is a major factor that can determine academic success (Student Engagement, Context, and Adjustment: Addressing Definitional, Measurement, and Methodological Issues, 2019). Increasing student engagement is crucial. Students who

have a high level of engagement will feel happy while learning, and this sense of joy is what drives them to put in more effort to learn. Another study found that students who were not actively involved were more likely to have underperforming performance, frequent absences from school, and may even drop out (Lippman et al., n.d.). If student are not engaged, they will not have the desire to learn. This will adversely affect their school's performance and achievements. Knowing what can affect student engagement can help prevent this from happening. Therefore, this article aims to discuss other aspects that can affect student involvement in the learning process.

## RESEARCH METHOD

This research is a type of qualitative research that uses the case study method. Case studies, which are qualitative approaches, allow researchers to conduct research that occurs in the real world (Rianto, 2020). This study aims to identify internal and external factors that can affect student involvement in grade XI of SMA Pusaka Nusantara 2 Bekasi. Focus on 3 students to find out what could affect student learning engagement. Researcher wanted to interview these five students to get clearer information.

The use of face-to-face interviews and the use of online media such as Zoom were used to collect data for this study. Researcher used semistructured interviews to ask some more in-depth questions about the factors that can influence their engagement in learning. In addition, the researcher also uses observation as a data collection method. The researcher chose observation because it could see and pay attention to the students' attitudes at the time of the interview, their appearance, and their family background. The researcher used Braun and Clark's thematic data analysis. In qualitative research, thematic analysis is an analytical method that can find, analyze, and report patterns in a wide data set (Braun & Clarke, n.d.).

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Two components can affect student learning engagement. The first comes from the students themselves, such as interest in lesson, motivation to learn, and confidence in facing academic challenges. The second comes from the student's external environment, such as support from their parents and friends.

### 1) Internal factors

The results of several interviews on internal factors, such as motivation, confidence, and interests, show that internal factors in students play an important role in the learning process. This can be seen from several interviews about internal factors:

Researcher : How do you assess your own motivation in learning?

Student 1 : In my assessment, my motivation in learning is quite high. Because I think motivation is very influential in my productivity when studying.

Student 2 : In my assessment, my motivation in learning is very good. I am always enthusiastic about learning and try to focus when studying.

Student 3 : In my judgment, I am very enthusiastic about learning. When I am at home, I always review the material that has been discussed that day at school.

As shown in the interview above, students stated that they have a fairly high level of motivation to learn. This suggests that motivation is an internal component that can affect how students engage in lessons in class.

Researcher : Do you have high self-confidence in facing academic challenges?

Student 1 : I feel very confident and able to face academic challenges by studying harder.

Student 2 : I feel that my confidence in facing academic challenges is quite good.

Student 3 : I feel that my confidence in facing academic challenges is quite high

The above interviews show that students are confident and have the ability to overcome academic challenges. This shows that self-confidence affects student engagement. Students will not be motivated to learn if they are not confident. Confidence greatly affects students; Students who lack confidence are usually more passive in class and lack a better understanding of the material. This will affect the cognitive abilities of students.

Researcher : Do you have a strong interest in English subject?

Student 1 : Quite strong, I love the English subject. I like to practice my English skills by watching English movies or watching content on YouTube.

Student 2 : Yes, quite strong.

Student 3 : The interest I have is high enough to learn English.

Based on the interview above, it can be seen that students are very interested in English lessons. It has a significant impact on student engagement in the lesson, as it is based on a

fondness for the lesson. This will make students better at following lessons and have an impact on their cognitive abilities.

## 2) External factors

The results of the analysis showed that students received positive support from their friends and family. This can be seen from several interviews related to external factors:

Researcher : How do you rate the support you receive from your parents in studying?

Student 1 : My parents were very helpful. I didn't get a class rank back then, but they always supported me and gave me advice on how to gain become a class champion again.

Student 2 : The support provided by my parents is very good. My parents facilitated me to take the course

Student 3 : The support provided by my parents is quite good. When I was studying, my family always helped me.

The results of the interviews showed that the students received considerable support from their parents, which was able to increase student engagement in learning. Because they believe that their surroundings are capable of increasing their desire to learn.

Researcher : Do you have peers who support you in studying?

Student 1 : Yes, I have many friends who support me in learning. Usually we do tasks together, discuss, and help each other.

Student 2 : Yes I have some friends who support me in learning.

Student 3 : Only a few can support me in learning.

The above interview shows that students have friends who can help them learn and often work together to complete assignments. This shows that the student's friendship environment supports their involvement in learning in the classroom. But there are also students who only have a few friends who can support them to study.

## Discussion

Internal and external factors are two components that can affect student engagement (Fredricks et al., 2004). The results of the study show that components that can affect student involvement in learning have a good impact. External factors, such as parental support that is always there to help students learn, are shown by students who say that their parents are always there to revive their enthusiasm when their learning outcomes decline. In addition,

another student said that he had a lot of support from his peers to study together, thus bringing a positive impact on his learning engagement.

Grade XI students also have a positive impact from their internal aspects because they have a strong motivation to learn, which makes them very interested in learning. They have strong convictions and are able to face academic challenges. Furthermore, students' interest in English subjects greatly affects their engagement in class. Students in class XI are very fond of English subjects, and they often learn English by watching English movies or watching content on Youtube that can practice their English skills. So it can be concluded that the components that affect student engagement greatly affect their involvement in learning. This is in line with the research that has been conducted by (Gladisia et al., n.d.).

## CONCLUSION

The results showed that two components, namely internal and external factors, have the ability to influence and increase student engagement. These factors are equally important, and the influence of parents or family is enormous (Bakker & Bal, 2010). The provision of facilities that support academic success and parental comfort has an impact on student learning engagement (Gladisia et al., n.d.). If the student environment has a strong support, the student's desire to learn will grow gradually. The next suggestion for researchers is that if they return to conduct research on the same topic, it is expected to add other elements or components that can affect engagement in learning.

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