Filipino As Second Language: Guide In Acquiring Filipino By Reading Novels

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ABSTRACT

Learning a second language is one thing. Learning a second language through reading a text is another thing. This study aims to show the acquisition of Filipino as Second Language of the respondents who are reading novels. The researcher utilized the Descriptive Method of research with the questionnaire as the main data-gathering instrument since this study focused on Reading Filipino Novels in Acquiring Filipino as Second Language; Basis in Designing a Guide to Enhance Filipino Proficiency. Engaging children in reading novels have some effects on how they acquire new language. The improvement of a child is not only about himself but also there are some factors concerning it. This study aims to show the acquisition of Filipino as Second Language of the respondents who are reading novels. Those respondents who are fond of reading such novels will acquire something.

KEYWORDS

Language; Filipino; novels; reading; learning

INTRODUCTION

The way language changes and gives rise to new varieties is not something new. Language variation is an occurrence in all languages of the earth. (Belvez, P., 2010). Varieties of Filipino. Learning a second language is one thing. Learning a second language through reading a text is another thing. This study aims to show the acquisition of Filipino as Second Language of the respondents who are reading novels. Those respondents who are fond of reading such novels will acquire something. Reading is an important tool for learning whether students are poor, average or good reader’s at all educational levels for as long as they acquire second language.

Engaging children in reading novels have some effects on how they acquire new language. The improvement of a child is not only about himself but also there are some factors concerning it. Whatever this study may give you, the researcher will be expecting that this will help students, parents and teachers to know how they’re child/student/himself acquire Filipino language by means of reading and enhance their intellectual and linguistic competence.

Languages continuously change because it is a living organism. New words and new uses are being coined at a furious rate to describe new inventions and new experiences. As always, new words are being created at the frontiers of science, industry, culture and society. The use of language in every country is their way to understand and link with each other. Language varies from different countries because of their own lingua franca; languages that will make everyone to communicate.

Reading is one of the basic skills that a child should have. It is one of the five (5) macro skills (reading, writing, listening, speaking, and thinking) a child could master. Reading is recognized to be one of the most essential skills that an individual can possess. It is a vehicle
for obtaining ideas. Through reading an individual has his command as a means for widening his mental horizons and multiplying his opportunities for experiences. (Bernal, 2018)

The emergence of a national language that could unite the whole country is the realization of a dream that goes back to the year 1935. President Manuel L. Quezon of the Commonwealth of the Philippines made this possible through the inclusion of an article in the 1935 Constitution of the Philippines regarding the development of a national language. (Belvez, P. 2012). Development of Filipino, The National Language of Philippines.

The inclusion of Tagalog in the curriculum was viewed as a positive direction towards more effective teaching and learning since, compared with English, Tagalog would be an easier language to use as tool of learning. This significant move also marked the beginning of the critical process of developing the national language and disseminating it nationwide mainly through the schools (Espiritu, C. 2014). Filipino Language in the Curriculum.

Executive functions are the most complex brain functions - the most “human” functions that separate us from apes and other animals. They’re often observed in parts of the brain that are the newest, in evolutionary terms: the prefrontal cortex, which is responsible for advanced processing; the bilateral supramarginal gyri, which play a role in linking words and meanings; and the anterior cingulate. Studies show that the bilingual experience alters the structure of these areas.

First of all, we see increases in gray matter volume. The brain is made up of cells called neurons, which each have a cell body and little branching connections called dendrites. Gray matter refers to how many cell bodies and dendrites there are.

In our globalized world, it has become even more essential in the job market to know another language. Companies and businesses have a natural desire to expand their existing networks. Having fluency in another language gives an edge on any resume by showing employers potential to converse with an entirely different group of people. Employers would be more apt to send a prospective employee abroad if he or she shows proficiency in another language. An experience abroad has the ability to enhance careers, often leading to promotions and valuable skills dealing with foreign customers. Traveling to another country for a job not only allows for tremendous opportunities for oneself, but also allows a company to broaden its network. Yet businesses are not the only types of employment where learning another language would be beneficial. Educators will often have students from many different language backgrounds, scientists will need to converse with others in their field from different countries, and those in the entertainment industry can open un their career aspects tenfold if they can effectively learn a second language. Specifically, in jobs dealing with marketing, sales, or technical support, knowing a second language can add between 10% and 15% to your wage (Hazlehurst, 2010).

Stories organize us culturally and emotionally. They make life meaningful and manageable, but they do even more. Reading stories offers us the opportunity to develop wisdom. Stories stretch our minds and help to grow our moral capacity. The renowned Methodist theologian Stanley Hauerwas provocatively suggested, “If you are not reading a novel a week, you cannot live a moral life.” That sounds extreme, but think about it. Our own lives are too small for us to have enough “material” to feed a deep moral decision-making process. Reading novels and stories allows us to gain access to deeply imagined lives other than our own. Experiencing complex moral situations enriches the pool of experience from which we make decisions. Great novels also have the complexity to strengthen our moral muscles. As brash as we may feel at times, many of us are so fearful of conflict that we craft lives that have little complexity; we avoid troublesome relationships — essentially avoiding life. Good novels have the problematic tension that we need to grow our risk-taking capacity. Despite being in thrall to information, wisdom comes not from knowing facts but from
knowing truths about human nature; it comes from seeing through facts to their underlying patterns. We are shaped by the stories that we read and hear.

Languages continuously change because it is a living organism. New words and new uses are being coined at a furious rate to describe new inventions and new experiences. As always, new words are being created at the frontiers of science, industry, culture and society.

By reading novels, people will develop and learn the language of what they are reading. This way, learning a different language will be easier and more natural. Additionally, it also exercises and helps the brain to develop. It improves imagination and decision making.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Paradigma
The forgoing theoretical concepts are illustrated in the paradigm that follows using the input – process – output scheme.

Input
It reveals the different genre; advantages of reading; acquiring Filipino as second language; problems encountered in reading Filipino novels; solutions to the problem. Inputs reflect the resources that groups have at their disposal and are generally divided into three categories: individual-level factors, group-level factors, and environmental factors. Individual-level factors are what group members bring to the group, such as motivation, personality, abilities, experiences, and demographic attributes. Examples of group-level factors are work structure, team norms, and group size. Environmental factors capture the broader context in which groups operate, such as reward structure, stress level, task characteristics, and organizational culture.

Process
Which deals with the ways and methods to produce good results. Using questionnaire, an unstructured interview and observation to determine the advantages of Filipino Novels. Acquiring of Filipino as a second language. Applying into practice the spoken Filipino. Because it is a process, acquisition of language is something that is achieved over time and not overnight. Processes are the mediating mechanisms that convert inputs to outputs. A key aspect of the definition is that processes represent interactions that take place among team members. Many different taxonomies of teamwork behaviors have been proposed, but common examples include coordination, communication, conflict management, and motivation.

Output
It which is the result of the outcomes of the input and process at is believed that the application of these theories which determines in crafting a guide to enhance Filipino proficiency. Indicators of team effectiveness have generally been clustered into two general categories: group performance and member reactions. Group performance refers to the degree to which the group achieves the standard set by the users of its output. Examples include quality, quantity, timeliness, efficiency, and costs. In contrast, member reactions involve perceptions of satisfaction with group functioning, team viability, and personal development. For example, although the group may have been able to produce a high-quality product, mutual antagonism may be so high that members would prefer not to work with one another on future projects. In addition, some groups contribute to member well-being and
growth, whereas others block individual development and hinder personal needs from being met.

### RESEARCH METHODS

The researcher utilized the Descriptive Method of research with the questionnaire as the main data-gathering instrument since this study focused on Reading Filipino Novels in Acquiring Filipino as Second Language; Basis in Designing a Guide to Enhance Filipino Proficiency. This method describes and interprets “what is”. It is concerned with conditions or relationships that exist, practices that prevail, beliefs, points of view, process that are going on effects that are being felt, or trends that are developing. The process of descriptive goes beyond mere gathering and tabulating data. It involves an element of interpretation of the meaning or significance of what is described. The survey gathers data from relatively large number of cases at a particular time. It is concerned with the generalized statistics that result when data are abstracted from the number of individual. Descriptive research is defined as a research method that describes the characteristics of the population or phenomenon studied. This methodology focuses more on the “what” of the research subject than the “why” of the research subject. The descriptive research method primarily focuses on describing the nature of a demographic segment, without focusing on “why” a particular phenomenon occurs. In other words, it “describes” the subject of the research, without covering “why” it happens. ((2016). Descriptive Research: Definition, Characteristics, Methods, Examples and Advantages

The researchers utilized two Higher Education Institutions in the Philippines with foreigner students who are enrolled in different programs as they are required to enroll 6 units of Filipino course as per describe the Commission of Higher Education. The researcher
used the Random Sampling technique an example of probability sampling. This is when a list containing all of the population is created and used to obtain participants by random selection. This random selection guarantees that each individual has an independent and equal chance of being selected.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
From the gathered data, the researcher has formulated the following findings;

On the contribution of reading Filipino novels to acquire Filipino as a second language

1. On Vocabulary the first 3 in ranks are
   a. Sight Word 98%
   b. Dictionary Skills 90%
   c. Vocabulary Development 87%

2. On Comprehension the first 3 in ranks are
   a. Under Sight Words 94%
   b. Word Analysis Skills 93%
   c. Creative Imagination 88%

3. On Spoken words the first 3 in ranks are
   a. Linguistic Performance 95%
   b. Practice 87%
   c. Retention 73%

4. On the Problems encountered when reading English novels
   a. Unfamiliarity and difficulty of some words in the text with 99%
   b. Language barrier with 97%
   c. Understanding the message with 95%

5. On the Solution on the Problems encountered
   a. Obtain comprehensible input with 96%
   b. Reading for pleasure with 95%
   c. Deployment of available abstract structure with 90%

Findings shows that reading Filipino Novels contributes to the improvement of vocabulary and comprehension. A growing body of research indicates that reading literally changes your mind. Using MRI scans, researchers have confirmed Trusted Source that reading involves a complex network of circuits and signals in the brain. As your reading ability matures, those networks also get stronger and more sophisticated.

It also suggests that reading Filipino Novels improves linguistic performance and retention.

And speaking of sensing pain, research Trusted Source has shown that people who read literary fiction — stories that explore the inner lives of characters — show a heightened ability to understand the feelings and beliefs of others. Researchers call this ability the “theory of mind,” a set of skills essential for building, navigating, and maintaining social relationships. (2019). Benefits of Reading Books: How It Can Positively Affect Your Life. https://www.healthline.com/health/benefits-of-reading-books

A guide is crafted to enhance foreign students in Filipino

1. Librarians should formulate programs that will encourage more students to read Filipino novels and should offer an array of different genre of Filipino Novels.

2. School-Based students organization should formulate projects that will promote Filipino as a second language to foreigner students.
3. Filipino teachers should incorporate into the course the different ways to ensure continues reading of different Filipino Novel and proper assessment of comprehension.

4. The different school stakeholders should ensure to develop Filipino proficiency development programs using Filipino novels among foreign students.

5. An Institutional school policy that will reinforce Filipino proficiency for foreign students.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, the researcher has arrived at the following conclusions;

1. That Filipino as second language can be acquired by reading Filipino Novels particularly in Vocabulary, Comprehension and Spoken English

2. That problem arises in reading Filipino novels such as unfamiliarity with words, challenges of comprehension due to complexity and language barrier and difficulty understanding the author’s message is common justifications and is given solutions.

3. A guide was crafted to enhance Filipino proficiency by using Filipino Novel as to acquire Filipino as a second language.

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