

## CHAPTER II

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### **A. Theoretical Framework**

##### **1. Definition of Wattpad Application**

As expressed by Rebora and Pianzola (2018), Wattpad is a digital platform that functions as a space for discovering and sharing stories. Wattpad is described as a sharing network that connects people through language, transcending geographical and cultural boundaries. In addition to offering opportunities for creativity and story appreciation, the platform is considered highly beneficial for literature enthusiasts as it enables interaction across the globe. Wattpad not only serves as a place for writing and reading but also as a platform for interacting with people from various cultures and broadening users' perspectives.

As an online community designed for writers and readers, Wattpad, according to Ramdarshan Bold (2018), was founded in 2006 by Allen Lau and Ivan Yuen. This platform provides opportunities for writers, both beginners and experienced, to publish their works, receive feedback, and build relationships with other readers. With its features, Wattpad becomes an interactive creative space where writers can develop their writing skills while gaining direct appreciation from a wide community of readers.

Furthermore, according to research by Cordero (2023), Wattpad is a rapidly growing community platform that offers various genres, including classical fiction, contemporary fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and religious-themed literature. This makes it a source of inspiration and entertainment that attracts millions of

users. The diversity of genres reflects the platform's flexibility in catering to readers' interests from various backgrounds while providing space for writers to explore their creativity.

In her journal titled *The Return of the Social Author: Negotiating Authority and Influence on Wattpad* (2018), Melanie Ramdarshan Bold stated that Wattpad changes how writers and readers interact with each other. Wattpad is not just a place to share works but also allows writers to build authority and influence in the digital writing world due to its community-based approach. This interactivity makes it more than just a platform; it is a medium that fosters the transformation of relationships between writers and readers in the contemporary literacy ecosystem.

Additionally, according to Pido (2022), Wattpad provides a reading and writing medium that allows users to read various works or write their own stories, accessible for free on the Apple Store and Google Play Store. Thus, Wattpad becomes an interactive space where writers and readers can freely share content. Wattpad's accessibility makes it an open platform for everyone.

Bal (2018) added that Wattpad is a platform that supports freedom of expression, providing an inclusive space for users to share stories, ideas, and creativity without pressure. This makes Wattpad a safe space for anyone wishing to pour out their imagination. With an approach that supports diversity and comfort, Wattpad has proven itself as a platform that empowers users to express themselves creatively and contribute to the global literacy ecosystem.

## 2. History of Wattpad

Wattpad is a digital platform in the form of a mobile application and website that is used for reading and writing literary works online. Wattpad was first established in 2006 by Allen Lau and Ivan Yuen in Toronto, Canada. The initial purpose of developing Wattpad was to provide a space for writers to share their works with readers for free and to allow readers to access various types of reading materials through digital devices.

Along with technological advancements and the increasing use of mobile devices, Wattpad has experienced significant growth. This platform allows users to read and write texts in various genres, such as short stories, novels, poetry, and fan fiction. In addition, Wattpad provides interactive features such as comment sections, voting (like) buttons, and personal libraries, which enable interaction between writers and readers.

In its development, Wattpad has not only functioned as an entertainment medium but has also begun to be utilized in the field of education, particularly in reading instruction. Easy access, a wide variety of reading texts, and an engaging display make Wattpad one of the digital media platforms that has the potential to support literacy activities and reading comprehension learning, especially for students.

To date, Wattpad has been used by millions of users from various countries and continues to grow as a digital literacy platform that facilitates global collaboration between writers and readers.

### 3. Wattpad Genres

Wattpad offers a wide variety of genres that readers can explore according to their interests and preferences. This diversity allows Wattpad users to continuously choose and enjoy new content. The following are some common genres found on Wattpad:

#### a. Romance



Image 2.1  
Romance genre of homepage on wattpad

The romantic genre focuses on love stories between characters, including emotional conflicts, romantic relationships, and the development of feelings such as love, longing, and sacrifice.

b. Short Stories

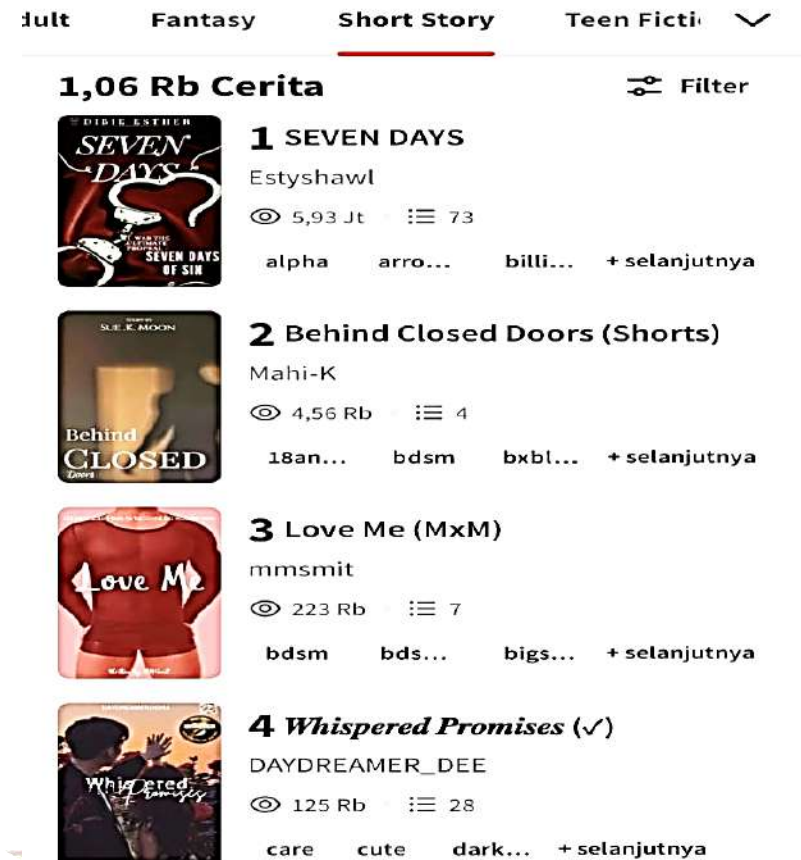
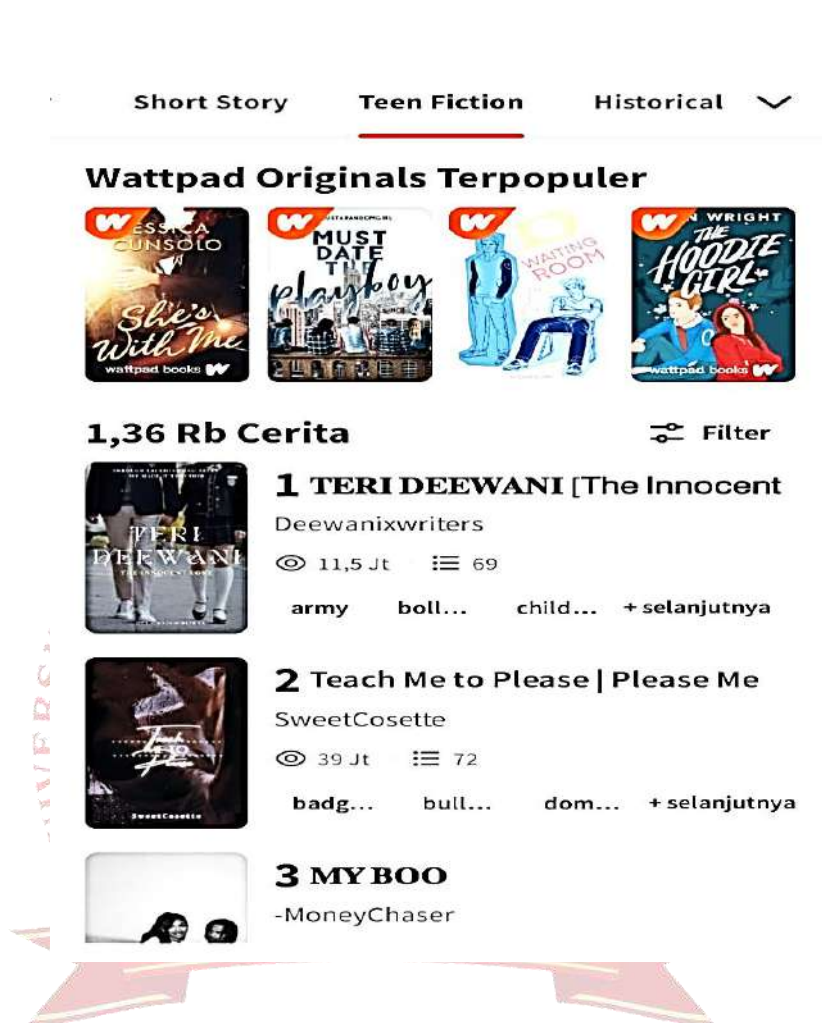


Image 2.2  
Short Stories genre of homepage on wattpad

Short stories are narratives with concise and compact plots, usually focusing on a single event or message without extensive story development.

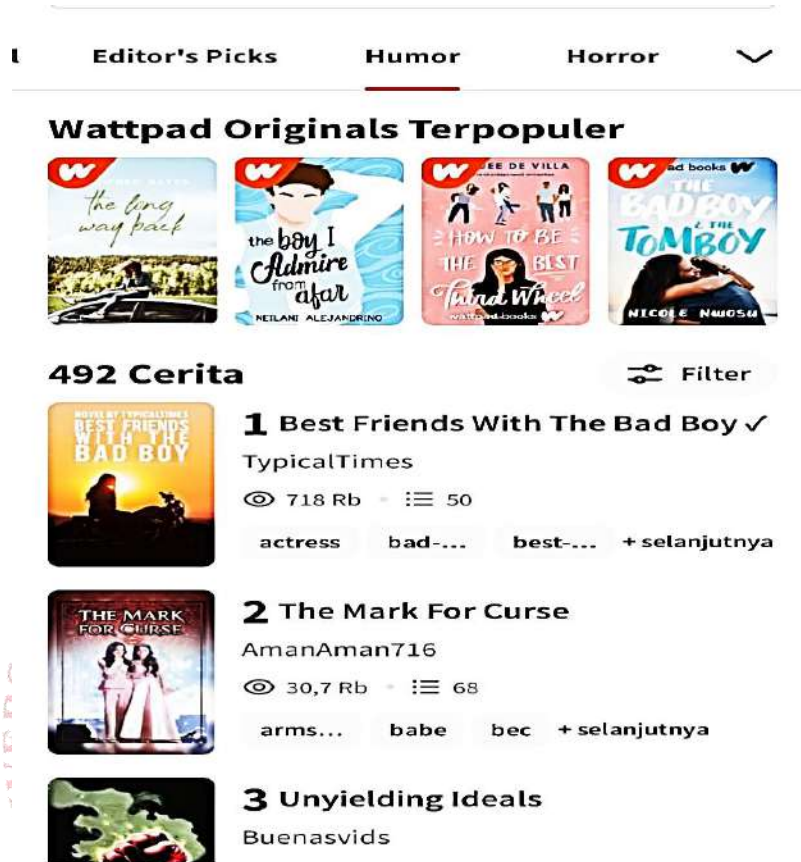
c. Teen Fiction



**Image 2.3**  
**Ten Fiction genre of homepage on wattpad**

Teen fiction depicts the lives of teenagers, such as friendship, school life, identity exploration, and problems commonly faced by adolescents in their daily lives.

d. Humor



**Image 2.4**  
**Humor genre of homepage on wattpad**

The humor genre aims to entertain readers through funny stories, light-hearted dialogue, and amusing situations.

e. Horror

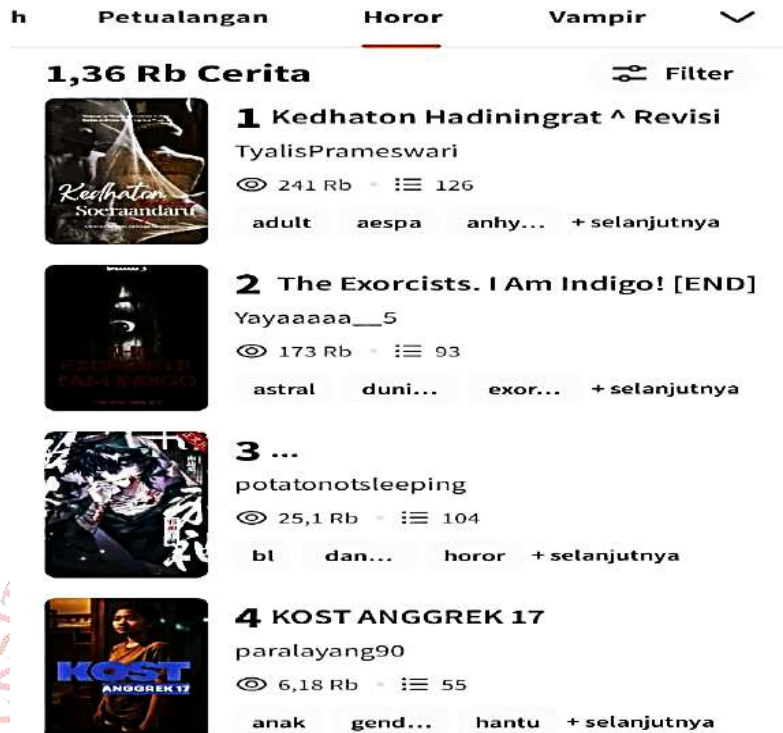


Image 2.5  
Horror genre of homepage on wattpad

The horror genre presents stories intended to create fear or tension through mystical elements, supernatural beings, or frightening events.

f. Slice of Life



**Image 2.6**  
**Slice of Life genre of homepage on wattpad**

The slice of life genre portrays everyday life in a realistic manner, highlighting simple events that are closely related to readers' real-life experiences.

g. Inspirational

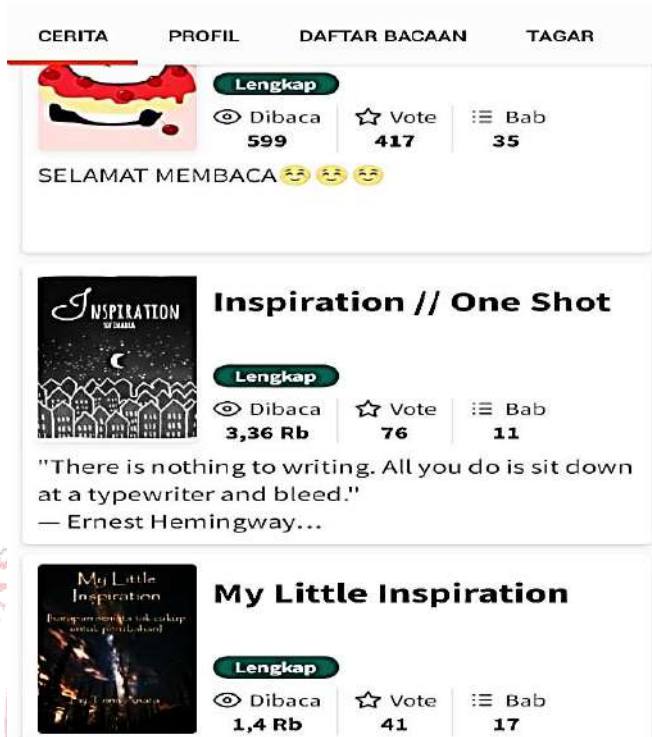


Image 2.7

**Inspirational genre of homepage on wattpad**

The inspirational genre presents stories that provide motivation and positive values, such as perseverance, optimism, and hope in facing life's challenges.

## h. Mystery

Lit   Diverse Lit   **Mystery**   Thriller   ▾

### Wattpad Originals Terpopuler

**1,38 Rb Cerita**   Filter

- 1 A psychopath And His Angel | 18+**  
\_writesbytani\_  
👁 481 Rb   📖 46  
18plus   dang...   dark...   +selanjutnya
- 2 Child of a King**  
Anne\_170399  
👁 225 Rb   📖 69  
baby...   bigb...   bigfa...   +selanjutnya
- 3 PAYBACK IS A BITCH**  
Kelwrytes

**Image 2.8**  
Mystery genre of homepage on wattpad

The mystery genre contains stories with puzzles or secrets that must be solved, often involving investigations and unpredictable plot twists.

## i. Family

The family genre focuses on relationships among family members, highlighting togetherness, affection, family conflicts, and ways to resolve them.

#### 4. Concep of wattpad

Alan Lau and Ivan Yuen founded Wattpad in 2006 to create a global community for writers and readers. Wattpad is a blogging platform and app that facilitates writing and reading, according to Nadia and Adi Bayu (2017). Wattpad's management reported that by 2016, the platform had 45 million monthly users who spent a combined 15 billion minutes on the app. They also stated that Wattpad hosted over 300 million stories, supported 90% of activities on mobile devices, and operated in more than 50 languages. This indicates a strong interest in reading and writing, with Wattpad serving as a platform to nurture these passions.

According to Mufariza (2019), everyone can create stories, read, and provide feedback on others' works. Users can also collaborate and participate in community activities. Members of the community, known as "Wattpaders," often write their stories in series, uploading one or two chapters at a time, and seek comments and suggestions for each section. Additionally, users can follow each other's profiles, give "stars" (positive votes) to stories they enjoy, and join thematic "clubs," which are discussion forums focused on genres or other aspects of writing and reading.

All stories on the app are accessible for free, as noted by Jaguit and Alamo (2015). Users do not need to pay to read, join, or download the app. Stories can also be accessed via tablets, laptops, or personal computers. The platform encourages interaction, as every story section has an open comment box at the bottom, making it easy for users to engage with popular content. Wattpad has become a favorite among students because its fiction often resonates with their personal experiences.

Coelho, Costa, Santos, et al. (2019) further highlighted Wattpad's success in reaching a broader audience. The app allows anyone to create, edit, and publish fictional or non-fictional works. By targeting underexplored markets, especially in countries like Brazil and others experiencing a book industry crisis, Wattpad has tapped into new opportunities. By offering free publishing for both renowned and unknown writers, along with receiving feedback from readers, Wattpad has grown in popularity across diverse social groups of readers and writers.

### **5. The Purpose of Wattpad Application**

As previously explained, Wattpad is a web-based self-publishing application that enables both new and established writers to manage many aspects of the publishing process independently. These include creating informational content, designing covers, editing, publishing, promoting, and selling their works (Bold, 2016:2)

Wattpad also serves as a more modern and contemporary method of information distribution compared to traditional distribution methods. Furthermore, Wattpad has the capability to deliver information directly to users without requiring intermediaries, making the process much faster compared to traditional methods, which typically require more time.

Additionally, as modern society is often referred to as an information society, individuals possess the ability to freely search for, access, and create informational content without being limited by time or location.

## 6. Procedure Of Wattpad

### a. Creating a User Account

The first step to using Wattpad is creating an account by choosing a sign-up method: Google, Facebook, or email. If you select email, you need to create a username and password. This initial process is essential to ensure you have exclusive access to your account and can utilize Wattpad's features. With this account, you can save stories, write your own, and interact with the Wattpad community.

### b. Verifying the User Account

After creating an account, Wattpad will send a verification email to the registered address. Click the link in the email to complete the verification process. This step ensures that the account is valid and secure. Additionally, verification provides full access to platform features, such as writing stories or joining the community.

### c. Updating User Profile

Once verification is complete, you'll be prompted to fill out your profile with basic information, such as a name and photo. If you link your Wattpad account to social media like Facebook or Google, your profile picture will sync automatically. However, if you prefer not to connect social media, you can manually upload a photo. Updating your profile helps establish your identity on the platform and allows other users to recognize and interact with you.

### d. Exploring Stories

In Wattpad's main menu, you'll find several key options like Discover to search for new stories, Create to write or share

your own, and Community to join writing clubs or contests. The menu also provides access to other features like Inbox for messages, Library for your story collection, and Settings to manage account preferences. This simple interface is designed to help users navigate the platform easily.

e. Navigating the Mobile App

Wattpad's mobile app is designed for user convenience. When you log in, the stories you're currently reading will appear in the Library. You can access additional features by tapping the small "W" icon in the top left corner, which opens options such as Profile, Notifications, and Explore. These features make it easy for users to switch between functions, enhancing the reading experience.

f. Finding Stories to Read

To discover interesting stories, click the Discover icon (shaped like an eye) on the main menu, then use the magnifying glass icon to search for stories by title or keyword, such as "romance," "action," or "fan fiction." Wattpad's search system uses tags and keywords, allowing users to easily find stories based on their favorite genres or themes. This simplifies the process for new readers to find relevant content.

g. Viewing Story Details

When you come across a story with an intriguing cover or title, read the description to find information such as the story's status (completed or ongoing), the number of chapters, and a synopsis. These details help you decide if the story matches your interests. Additionally, reading the description offers insight into the writing style or genre.

#### h. Adding Stories to the Library

Once you decide to read a story, you can add it to your Library by clicking the READ button or the plus (+) icon. Adding stories ensures they're easy to access later without needing to search for them again. This feature helps you organize your personal reading list according to your preferences.

#### i. Using the Library

Stories you've added will be saved in the Library, accessible through the icon shaped like three stacked books. When you open the Library, you'll see the covers of the stories you've added. Click a cover to resume reading from the last chapter you left off. This feature is designed to help users track their reading progress easily and stay organized.

### 7. Feature of wattpad

#### a. Platform

Wattpad is available for download on mobile devices or through its web version, making it accessible on various platforms, such as tablets, smartphones, or computers.

#### b. Writing

Users can create a wide range of works, from short stories to poetry, and instantly share them via the app on their smartphones. This feature is particularly beneficial for writers who want to write and share their work without needing to use a computer. Additionally, writers can receive direct feedback from readers through comments, enabling real-time improvements to their stories.

c. Reading

Wattpad doubles as an e-book reader, allowing users to explore stories written by authors worldwide. Readers can interact with stories by leaving comments or reactions that the authors can view instantly. This feature fosters greater interaction between writers and readers, creating a dynamic and engaging reading experience.

d. Free and Offline

Wattpad offers free access to its reading and writing features, making it appealing to both readers and writers. Many stories are available at no cost, and users can download them for offline reading, which is particularly useful for those without internet access while traveling or in areas with poor connectivity.

e. Conversation

The app's conversation feature allows users to communicate through their accounts with other readers or authors. It includes options to ask authors questions, discuss specific stories, or chat with fellow readers about various topics. This fosters closer and more interactive relationships between authors and readers while enhancing the social experience of using Wattpad.

## Menus in the Wattpad Application

Below are the main features available in the Wattpad application:

### a. Home

Image 3.1

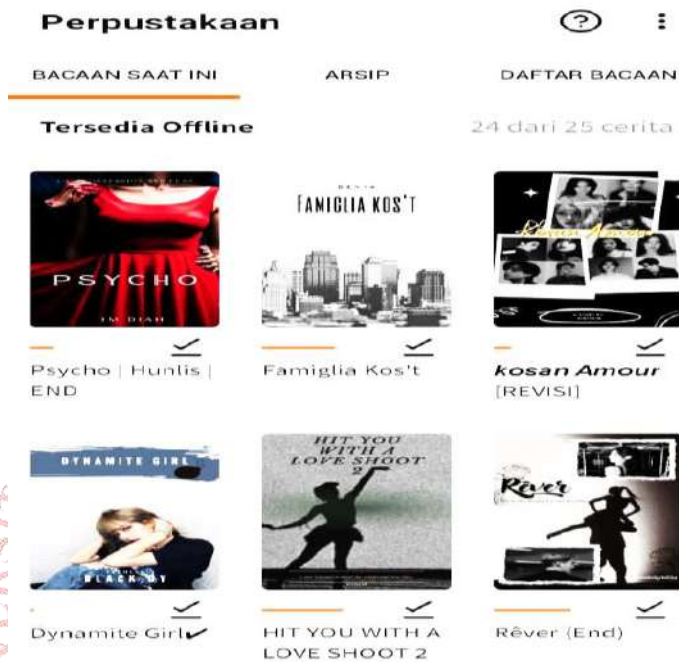


The Home menu is the main display of the application, showcasing a wide variety of reading collections. Here, users can explore different story categories such as Spiritual, Romance, Science Fiction, Fantasy, Humor, Paranormal, Mystery/Thriller, Horror, Historical Fiction, Teen Fiction, Fanfiction, Poetry, Short Story, General Fiction, Chicklit, Action, Vampire, Werewolf, Non-Fiction, Classics, and Random.

Additionally, there is a Search feature that helps users find books by simply typing in keywords. A Share feature is also available, allowing users to share interesting stories with friends via different platforms.

b. Library

Image 3.2



This menu functions as a personal reading collection storage. It includes the Current Reads feature, which stores stories currently being read or saved for later. There is also an Archive submenu that allows users to store stories in an organized archive.

c. Create Story

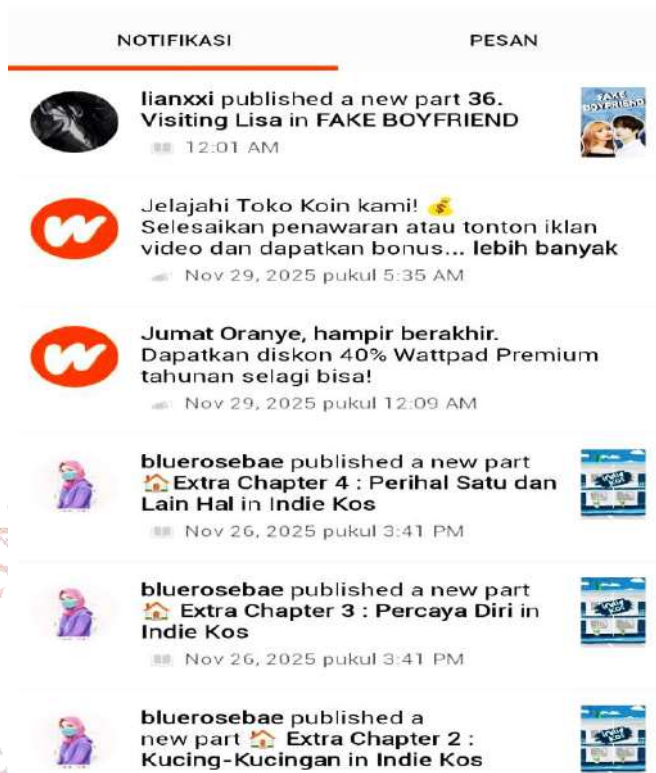
Image 3.3



Through this menu, users can begin writing stories to publish. The feature enables users to set the book cover, edit the title, description, category, and add tags. After finishing the writing or when needing to make further edits, users can save their work using the "Add a Part" button.

d. News

Image 3.4

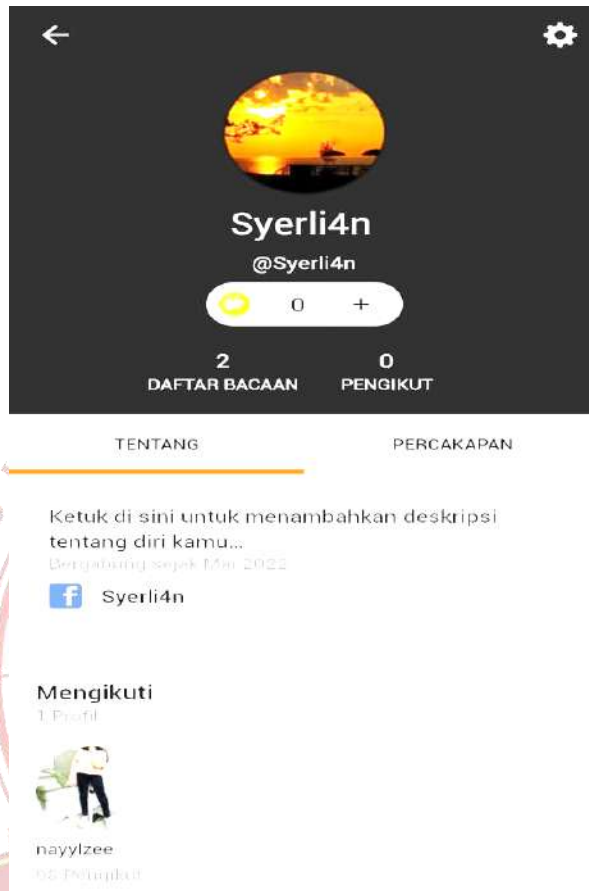


This menu provides information or messages sent to the user. It includes several submenus:

- 1) News Feed: Displays the latest news or updates for the user.
- 2) Notifications: Contains alerts related to user activity.
- 3) Messages: A place where users can send and receive messages from other Wattpad users.

e. Account Profile

Image 3.5

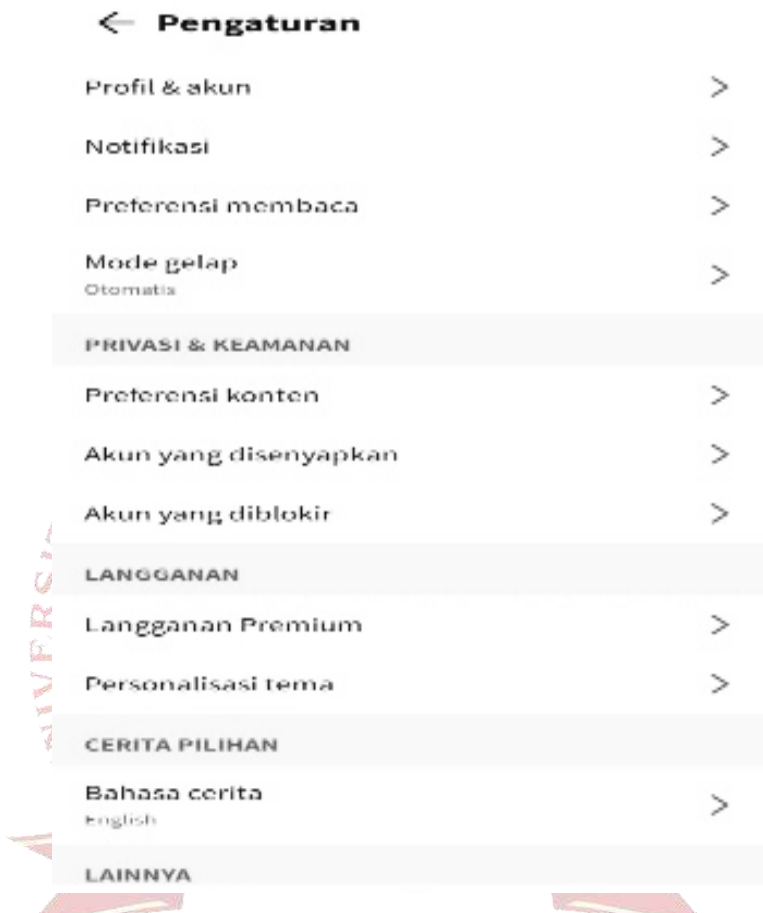


This menu includes several submenus:

- 1) About: Displays a brief description that helps others get to know your profile.
- 2) Worr: A section to post messages or status updates.
- 3) Reading List: A collection of stories saved by the user that can be accessed easily at any time.

f. Settings

Image 3.6



The Settings menu includes the following submenus:

1. Edit Profile: Allows users to change personal details such as profile photos.
2. Account Settings: Used to manage email addresses, usernames, passwords, and language preferences.
3. About: Contains general information about the Wattpad application.
4. Help Center: A support menu to assist users in resolving any issues they encounter while using the app.

## **8. Advantages and Disadvantages of Wattpad**

a. Wattpad has many advantages as a learning tool for several reasons:

- 1) Various themes available in the Wattpad application: Wattpad provides a large collection of user-generated stories and novels in various genres, giving readers a wide range of reading choices.
- 2) Application accessibility: Wattpad can be easily accessed through smartphones, tablets, and computers, allowing readers to read from anywhere.
- 3) Community engagement: Wattpad connects users and writers to a community that allows them to interact, provide feedback, and collaborate in storytelling.
- 4) Motivational factors: Interactive activities such as voting, commenting, and sharing encourage readers to participate and motivate writers to continue writing.

b. Disadvantages of Using Wattpad Application

Although Wattpad has many advantages, there are also some disadvantages, such as:

- 1) Quality Control: Wattpad is an open publishing platform, so it may contain works with poor grammar, word errors, and weak editing.
- 2) Media Copyright: Since users can upload content without proper authorization, the openness of the platform can lead to copyright issues.
- 3) Limitations in Offline Mode: Some stories on Wattpad can be read offline, but not all of them are available in offline mode.

Users with limited internet connections may face this problem.

## **9. Definition of Reading Comprehension**

One of the essential activities in the reading process is reading comprehension, which involves students' efforts to understand and evaluate the content of a text they have read. Mastering this activity is crucial because, by examining and identifying different types of texts, students can find the most accurate answers and achieve good results. According to Jarmanik (2012), reading comprehension, also known as comprehension reading, is defined as the ability to derive meaning from written material. In other words, the primary goal of reading a text is to understand and interpret the message or information the author intends to convey. A person is considered to have good reading comprehension when they can grasp the meaning the author wants to deliver. This involves not just reading words but also analyzing, understanding context, and connecting information to form a complete understanding.

However, according to Vaughn and Boardman (2015), reading comprehension is a complex process involving multiple elements that work together to help readers better understand and interpret texts. These factors include the reader's background knowledge, reading strategies, the text itself, the reader's interest in the topic, and their knowledge of the text type.

Nikmah (2020) states that reading comprehension occurs when someone understands the meaning of a text and connects it with their prior knowledge. This suggests that reading comprehension depends on both the information in the text and the

reader's prior knowledge, which helps them interpret and relate new information to what they already know.

According to Snow et al. (2002), reading comprehension is the process by which readers simultaneously extract and construct meaning through interaction and engagement with written language. First, readers extract the information or meaning contained in the text, and second, they connect this information with their prior knowledge. Readers must be actively involved in this process.

Adding further depth to the concept, Heilman (1981:242) describes reading comprehension as a process of making sense of written ideas through interpretation and interaction. It is a multifaceted process influenced by various thinking and language abilities, emphasizing the importance of cognitive engagement during reading.

Furthermore, Pressley (2000) and Birsch (2011) highlight that reading comprehension encompasses a range of skills, including word recognition, fluency, vocabulary knowledge, and prior knowledge about the text. These components are essential to enable readers to quickly and accurately comprehend the text and gain meaningful insights. Reading, in this context, is recognized as one of the core language skills in learning English.

Finally, Olson and Diller (1982:42) define reading comprehension as the set of skills required to understand and apply information contained in written material. This perspective underlines the practical application of comprehension skills, showing that understanding a text is not an end in itself, but also a means to use the acquired information effectively.

## 10. Types of Reading

### a) Extensive Reading

According to U. Penny (2012: 146), extensive reading is independent and silent reading of a long text that is interesting, such as a story or book, which is often referred to as sustained silent reading (SSR) or reading for pleasure. In practice, this approach encourages readers to enjoy the text without excessive academic pressure, so that they can read more quickly and understand the overall meaning. In addition to improving reading skills, extensive reading also contributes to natural vocabulary enrichment, increases reading motivation, and provides an authentic exposure to language, which can ultimately strengthen readers' understanding and language skills.

### b) Intensive Reading

According to Anderson (2001:5), intensive reading is a type of reading that is done at a slower speed and requires deep understanding. The goal is to develop skills in analyzing words, expanding vocabulary, understanding sentence structure, as well as distinguishing between theses, facts, and supporting details or not. In addition, intensive reading also helps readers gain social and cultural insights from the texts read. This approach is commonly used in language learning to improve understanding and analytical skills of texts.

### c) Silent Reading

According to Reutzel & Juth (2014), silent reading is often considered an important component of literacy training at the elementary school level. This activity not only helps to

improve reading endurance and overall reading skills, but it also provides opportunities for students to practice a variety of reading skills. This is in line with the opinion of NCTE (2019), which emphasizes that silent reading plays a role in improving reading fluency and comprehension. Meanwhile, according to Moss (2016), silent reading refers to an activity in which students choose their own books to read independently in class while honing reading fluency skills. This means that even though it is called silent reading, this activity still focuses on improving fluency in reading, both in terms of speed, intonation, and text comprehension. In other words, both theories emphasize that silent reading is not just about reading silently, but also as a learning strategy that aims to improve students' literacy skills as a whole.

d) Reading Aloud

According to Hanh (2002, p.11), reading aloud is an ideal way to give students an idea of how a skilled reader understands a text. By listening to good readings, students can begin to build their own network of reading techniques, including how to understand and interpret texts effectively. Meanwhile, according to Guzzeti (2002, p.487), reading aloud involves pronouncing words by following the right intonation, tone, emphasis, and pauses to convey the author's message and language style effectively. This shows that reading aloud is not just about reciting words, but also about how to convey meaning in a clear and expressive way. Thus, both theories emphasize that reading aloud plays a role in improving students' comprehension to the text while honing their language skills.

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## 11. Concept of Reading Comprehension

Reading comprehension is an essential activity in the reading process. It is an effort made by students to understand and evaluate the content of the texts they have read. This skill must be mastered by students because, when facing exams with various types of texts, they can determine the best answers and achieve good results. Reading comprehension is not just about recognizing words or sentences, but involves deep thinking to connect new information with prior knowledge. It is a foundational skill that supports academic success and the ability to handle challenges in understanding various texts.

According to Bosede and D.O. (2016), reading is a form of communication between the author and the reader, involving letters, words, phrases, and clauses. This activity also serves as a space for negotiation between the writer and the reader. In this context, the reader does not just receive information but processes and interprets the meaning of the message conveyed by the author. This process involves a dynamic interaction between the text and the reader, where meaning comes not only from the text itself but also from the reader's interpretation, influenced by their background knowledge.

Meanwhile, Varita (2017) states that comprehension is the core of reading. It relates to prior knowledge, the structure of the text, and active efforts to find information. In other words, reading comprehension is an attempt to search for meaning by using the reader's knowledge of vocabulary, including collocations and idioms, within the text being studied. This process shows that reading is not a passive activity, but requires active involvement

from the reader to understand the information contained in the text, both explicitly and implicitly.

Takaloo and Ahmadi (2017) explain that reading comprehension involves organizing meaning in written or spoken communication through a reciprocal exchange of ideas in a specific communicative context. Reading comprehension includes the basic ability to decode meaning from written texts, but it also involves the reader's prior knowledge. This shows that reading comprehension is a holistic process, where the reader not only interprets literal information from the text but also links the communicative context and their knowledge to derive deeper meaning.

In addition, Bilal, Tariq, Masood, et al. (2013) state that reading comprehension is a process in which the reader constructs meaning using the message on the printed page as well as the information stored in the reader's mind. This activity involves deliberate thinking, where meaning is built through interaction between the text and the reader. Reading comprehension is not just about understanding words or sentences; it also involves interpretation and critical evaluation of the information. This process allows the reader to connect new information with prior experiences or knowledge, resulting in a deeper understanding.

Furthermore, Chair (2002:11) defines reading comprehension as the process of simultaneously extracting and constructing meaning through interaction and involvement with written language. The terms "extraction" and "construction" emphasize the importance of the text, although the text alone is insufficient to determine reading comprehension. In this sense,

reading comprehension involves synergy between the text and the reader, where the reader does not merely extract information from the text but actively constructs meaning using their own knowledge. This process reflects how crucial the reader's involvement is in understanding the text, as reading comprehension depends on the combination of internal factors (the reader's knowledge and experiences) and external factors (the structure and content of the text).

## **12. Reading Comprehension Levels**

### **a. Literal Comprehension**

At the literal level, students are expected to reproduce the information provided by the author, such as understanding word meanings, recalling stated concepts, summarizing ideas, remembering key points, and recognizing the sequence of events or information.

Behaviors demonstrated during the learning process are considered essential for higher-level comprehension. According to Saadatinia et al. (2017), students must extract specific information from each paragraph to achieve literal understanding. To derive meaning from a long string of words consisting of propositions and sentences, one must be able to process and recognize each word individually.

Research suggests that context, facts, and sequence present in a text should be included in literal reading comprehension. Context refers to the overall picture that includes the relationships among facts, facts are the information contained in the text, and sequence is how this information is organized chronologically based on events.

Additionally, at this level of comprehension, students must determine the correct and accurate meanings of words or terms used in the text, gather information from the reading, and paraphrase what they have learned.

b. Inferential or Interpretiv Comprehension

When interacting with a text, readers draw on their knowledge and life experiences. They are able to grasp hidden meanings between the lines. The ability to thoroughly analyze content is a vital component of reading. Moreover, readers must understand the relationships among various ideas, including their interconnections and the implicit meanings they convey.

Cognitive processes such as making inferences, forming generalizations, and predicting outcomes begin to function at this level of interpretation or comprehension. In such cases, teachers may assign more challenging tasks to students, such as:

1. Rephrasing concepts or topics mentioned in the text.
2. Explaining the author's purpose for writing the text.
3. Identifying the main idea, even if it is not explicitly stated in the text.
4. Drawing conclusions from the content that has been read.

c. Critical Comprehension

The third level of reading comprehension is known as critical comprehension, where learners are required to deeply analyze, assess, and evaluate the content of the text. At this stage, the author often uses language intended to influence the reader's perspective through the presentation of data, specific viewpoints, communication purposes, and their own credibility. Readers are no longer passive; instead, they must actively assess the quality

of the content, question the validity of arguments, evaluate the writer's objectivity, and recognize potential biases or manipulative elements in the text.

The main goal of this stage is to develop critical and reflective thinking skills so that readers can respond to the text logically and responsibly. Critical comprehension also helps students differentiate between facts and opinions, identify persuasive techniques in writing, and draw accurate conclusions based on evidence within the text. These skills are essential for shaping individuals who are independent, analytical, and capable of deeply understanding and interpreting complex texts.

### **13. The Purpose of Reading Comprehension**

Reading is an essential activity in modern society. Through reading, we can gain knowledge and master various subjects. According to Nurhadi (1987), the purpose of reading significantly influences reading comprehension skills. The clearer one's purpose in reading, the better their understanding of the content.

Blanton et al. and Irwin (in Farida Rahim, 2008) state that the objectives of reading include:

- a. Enjoying or gaining entertainment,
- b. Enhancing specific strategies,
- c. Applying certain strategies,
- d. Updating knowledge on a particular topic,
- e. Connecting new information with prior knowledge,
- f. Gathering information for oral or written reports,
- g. Confirming or refuting a prediction,
- h. Conducting experiments or utilizing information from the text,

and understanding text structures to answer specific questions.

Nurhadi (1987) categorizes reading objectives into two types: general and specific objectives.

#### General Objectives

- a. Gathering information,
- b. Understanding a subject, and
- c. Enjoying reading for pleasure.

#### Specific Objectives

- a. Obtaining factual information,
- b. Exploring information about specific or problematic topics,
- c. Critically evaluating other people's writing,
- d. Enjoying reading on an emotional level, and
- e. Productively spending leisure time.

#### Reading Comprehension Strategies

According to McNamara (2009), there are six reading comprehension strategies:

- a. Monitoring Understanding (Comprehension Monitoring)

This strategy encourages students to actively check whether they understand the text as they read. If they realize they're confused, they can pause and try other approaches like rereading or clarifying meanings. Being aware of confusion is a key first step to improving comprehension on their own.

- b. Restating in Their Own Words (Paraphrasing)

In this strategy, students are trained to express the content of the text using their own words. Doing this requires them to truly grasp the meaning before they can explain it again. It also helps them recognize parts they don't fully understand yet.

c. Connecting to Prior Knowledge (Elaboration)

Elaboration encourages students to link what they read to what they already know or have experienced. For example, when reading about extreme weather, they might recall a similar event they've seen or gone through. This connection makes the content more meaningful and easier to remember.

Using Logic and Common Sense (Logic or Common Sense)

When students lack background knowledge on a topic, they can still understand the text by applying logic and general reasoning. Even without formal learning on the subject, they can infer meaning or draw conclusions using their everyday knowledge and rational thinking.

d. Making Predictions (Predictions)

This strategy invites students to imagine or guess what might come next in the text. It is particularly helpful in narrative or story-based texts because it keeps students engaged and focused. While not as common in scientific texts, making predictions still supports the process of understanding.

e. Connecting Ideas Across the Text (Bridging)

The goal of this strategy is to help students understand the relationships between sentences, paragraphs, or sections of the text. They learn to integrate scattered information into a complete understanding. This ability to connect ideas is essential for gaining a full and coherent grasp of what they read.

## 14. Reading Comprehension Theories

There are three types of theories in reading comprehension, namely mental representation, content literacy, and cognitive processes.

### a. Mental Representation

Visualization – Van Oostendorp and Goldman (1998) stated that a reader creates a mental representation of the text while reading, which explains how they comprehend the text. Many studies support the idea that various levels of representation are involved in constructing meaning. According to Kintsch (1998), three levels of mental representation are created when a reader reads a text: surface component, situation model, and text base.

Kintsch (1998) further explained that when words and phrases—not their meanings—are encoded in the mental representation, this is referred to as the surface element of the mental representation. The text base, also known as the "textbase," represents the meaning of the text and consists of the parts and relations that arise from the text itself, without adding elements that are not explicitly identified. By forming a pure text base, readers can use their prior knowledge to achieve a better understanding.

According to Kintsch (1998), the situation model is a structure that combines the text base with the reader's related knowledge. To create a text base, some prior knowledge is required, but this knowledge is more general and necessary to understand the text as a whole. Meanwhile, the prior knowledge used to form a situation model is more specific and directly related to the content of the text.

b. Content Literacy

Content literacy is the ability to read, understand, and learn from texts related to a particular subject matter. Content literacy is divided into three categories: general literacy, content-specific literacy, and previously learned content literacy.

General literacy and content-specific literacy represent more general types of knowledge that are not dependent on a particular text. Prior knowledge of content, on the other hand, is knowledge related to the specific content of a text and is used to form the situation model in mental representation (McKenna & Robinson, 1990).

For example, while reading comprehension in mathematics depends more on general literacy skills and prior knowledge, it is not clear that mathematics requires content-specific literacy skills. Thus, it can be said that symbolic language is the main factor influencing the need for content-specific literacy skills in mathematics (McKenna & Robinson, 1990).

### c. Cognitive Processes

The activation of more specific prior knowledge and the application of syntactic and semantic rules occur automatically and unconsciously. Some cognitive processes are more or less conscious. Perception is a highly automatic and unconscious process.

For example, when we see a dog and immediately recognize it as a dog, we are only aware of the result; there is no active and conscious thinking process that enables us to make that identification (Kintsch, 1992).

Active thinking is part of problem-solving. This can be seen in situations where we try to recall the name of a person we see and recognize. Since the process of comprehension occurs unconsciously, when we read a text without experiencing difficulty in understanding it, the process is more related to perception than to problem-solving. Therefore, comprehension lies between perception and problem-solving.

### **B. Some Related Previous Studies**

The first research was conducted by Fadillah and Amin (2022) with the title "Improving Students' Reading Comprehension through Wattpad Media in Grade 11 at SMA Swasta Bandung." This study aimed to enhance students' reading comprehension using Wattpad media. The research was carried out on 30 eleventh-grade students at SMA Swasta Bandung. The method used was Classroom Action Research (CAR) with two cycles, involving the class as the subject. This research provided greater opportunities for students to improve their comprehension by identifying main ideas and understanding messages in texts effectively. The results showed a significant

improvement in students' reading comprehension, with an average pretest score of 29.83 points, increasing to 44.67 points in the first cycle and 79.67 points in the second cycle. The percentage of students achieving the minimum passing grade (KKM) also increased from 6.67% in the pretest to 16.67% in the first cycle. Wattpad media helped students recall key details and expand their vocabulary. Based on these findings, the researchers recommend the use of Wattpad media in reading activities to enhance students' reading comprehension.

Second, a study was carried out by Rizal et al. (2023) entitled "The Effect of Using Wattpad Application in Improving Reading Comprehension of The Tenth Grade at SMA Negeri 9 Makassar." This study aimed to determine whether the use of Wattpad has an effect on improving students' reading comprehension. The researchers employed a quantitative research design with a pre-experimental approach. The findings indicated that reading by using the Wattpad application helped students in understanding texts more thoroughly. Furthermore, educators were motivated to integrate technology into the teaching and learning process, as the application allowed teachers to create their own stories based on class materials, making it a useful supporting medium. The analysis confirmed that students' reading comprehension improved significantly after treatment with the Wattpad app. Based on the findings of this study, the researcher suggests using Wattpad while reading as it can improve reading comprehension performance.

Similarly, Azzahra et al. (2024) conducted research entitled "Exploring Wattpad Application Usage Patterns Among Students in Reading Narrative Texts at SMPN 28 Bekasi." This study applied a

survey method to explore how students used Wattpad. The results showed that most students preferred novels (45%), fiction (56%), and romance (44%). They frequently read on Wattpad (46.7% daily) for 30 to 60 minutes and actively engaged with features such as bookmarking, following authors, and considering reviews and ratings. In addition, students demonstrated the ability to follow storylines, analyze characters, and identify conflicts. These findings indicated that Wattpad not only supports the improvement of students' reading comprehension but also increases their engagement and interest in reading.

In line with these findings, Genie et al. (2021) conducted a study titled "Students' Attitude Toward the Use of Wattpad in Reading Comprehension." This research used a descriptive qualitative method with instruments in the form of closed questionnaires distributed to 20 English Literature students at Universitas Sumatera Utara, complemented by interviews with 5 selected respondents. The results revealed that vocabulary was the most affected reading component (40%), followed by comprehension (35%), reading fluency (15%), and phonemic awareness (10%). Regarding attitudes, 10 students expressed positive perceptions, 6 were neutral, and 4 had negative responses toward the use of Wattpad in reading. Overall, the study highlighted how Wattpad contributes to the development of different reading components while also shaping students' attitudes toward digital reading media.

Based on the findings of this study the researcher suggests using Wattpad while reading as it can improve reading comprehension performance.

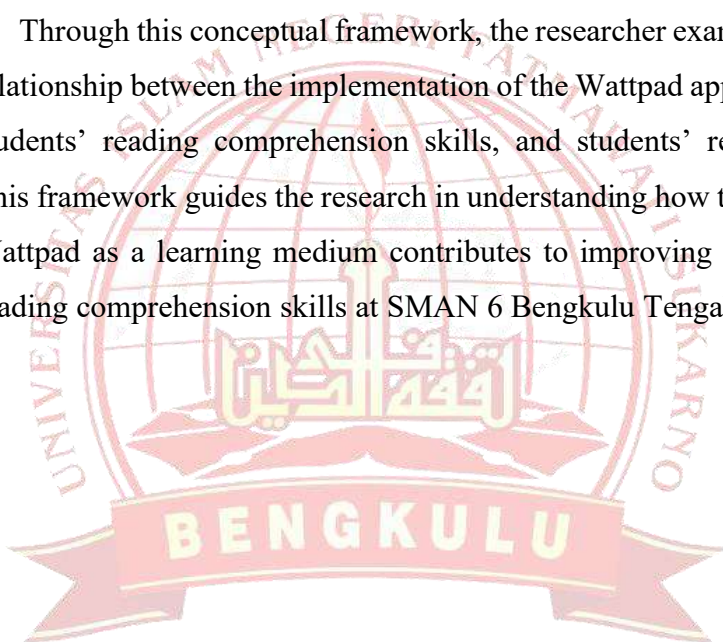
### **C. Conceptual Framework**

The researcher constructs a conceptual framework to analyze the implementation of the Wattpad application as a learning medium in improving students' reading comprehension skills. This study focuses on students of SMAN 6 Bengkulu Tengah as the research subjects. In this framework, the Wattpad application is positioned as the main learning medium that provides various types of reading texts, particularly narrative texts, in a digital format that is familiar and appealing to students. The use of Wattpad is expected to support students' reading comprehension skills by offering interesting stories, varied genres, and contextual language that can help students understand the content of the text more easily.

Reading comprehension skills become the primary learning outcome in this study. These skills include students' ability to identify main ideas, understand detailed information, interpret vocabulary in context, make inferences, and comprehend the overall meaning of the texts read through the Wattpad application. Through continuous reading activities using Wattpad, students are expected to develop better comprehension skills as they engage more actively with the texts.

In addition, this framework also considers students' responses toward the implementation of the Wattpad application in the learning process. Students' responses are important in describing how students react to the use of Wattpad as a learning medium, including their interest, motivation, and engagement during reading activities. Positive responses from students may indicate that Wattpad is an effective medium to support reading comprehension learning.

Through this conceptual framework, the researcher examines the relationship between the implementation of the Wattpad application, students' reading comprehension skills, and students' responses. This framework guides the research in understanding how the use of Wattpad as a learning medium contributes to improving students' reading comprehension skills at SMAN 6 Bengkulu Tengah.



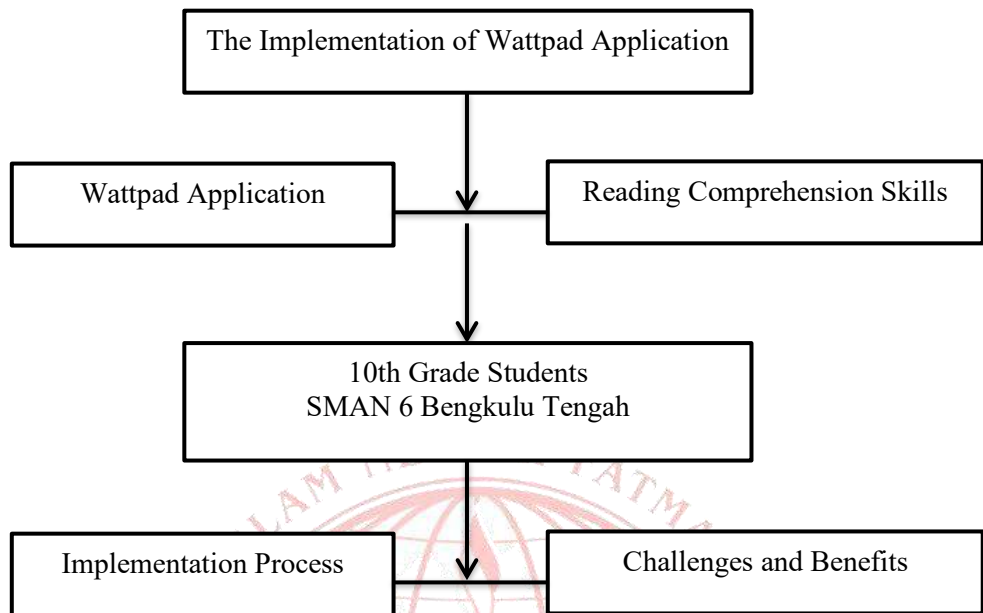


Figure 1. Conceptual Framework

