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# ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF EXTENSIVE READING

**M.S.Aliyeva** QDPI o'qituvcisi

**Annotation:** This article highlights principles, advantages and disadvantages of extensive reading. The purpose is to show advantages and disadvantages of extensive reading strategies and methods to use in teaching process.

Аннотация: Мазкур мақолада кенг қамровли ўқишнинг тамойиллари афзаллик ва ноафзаллик томонларининг аҳамияти мавзуси кенг ёритилган. Мақоланинг мақсади – кенг қамровли ўқишнинг тамойиллари афзаллик ва ноафзаллик томонларидан таълим жараёнида фойдаланишни кўрсатиб беришдир.

Аннотации: В этой статье широко освещаются принципы всестороннего чтения и важность преимуществ и недостатков. Цель данной статья - продемонстрировать применение принципов всестороннего чтения в учебном процессе, как преимуществ, так и недостатков.

Today, in the Republic of Uzbekistan great attention is given to the radical reorganization of the educational system that will give an opportunity to raise it to the level of modern standards. One of our main tasks is to improve the quality of education in the higher education system and the introduction of innovative technologies in the learning process.

Extensive Reading gives students chances to read longer pieces of reading, which they choose, which they can read at their own speed and at their own ability level. This can be done with Graded readers.

Intensive Reading and Extensive Reading are complementary and teachers should use both. A balanced reading program uses Intensive Reading to introduce new language, and complements this with Extensive Reading which consolidates and raises awareness of this language leading to reading fluency.

There are many reasons why Extensive Reading is good for language development.

Extensive Reading builds vocabulary. When learners read a lot, they meet thousands of words and lexical (word) patterns that are not taught in textbooks. Extensive Reading allows the learner to develop an awareness of collocations (common word partnerships) and thousands of lexical phrases.

Extensive Reading helps learners understand grammar. In textbooks learners meet hundreds of grammar patterns. However, textbooks do not provide enough meetings with grammar for real acquisition to occur. Extensive Reading provides opportunities to see grammar in context so learners can deepen their understanding of how grammar is really used.

Extensive Reading helps learners to build reading speed and reading fluency. In particular, developing reading speed is important because it helps learners to understand language faster and better.

One objective of Extensive Reading is reading for pleasure. This builds confidence and motivation which makes the learner a more effective user of language.

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1. Rationale for extensive. Extensive reading refers to when someone is reading for fun. The term 'extensive reading' was stated by Palmer (1997) to show the difference between extensive and intensive reading. Extensive reading is when someone reads a book, article or magazine in his/her own time. This form of reading can play an important role when it comes to developing comprehension. According to the TME 301 course reader, learners who want to learn a second language for example English, learners will need comprehensive input (TME course reader 301). This means that learners need to get plenty exposure to reading materials in the language they want to obtain. Krashen (1981) argues that learners can acquire language on their own if they receive plenty of exposure to and if it's done in a relaxed environment. Schools should make room for extensive reading in schools. Learners will be able to improve their vocabulary and language use. Extensive reading is a significant way of improving both the vocabulary of a person and ones reading skills (Nuttal 1982). When learners can improve their vocabulary they will enjoy reading and read more 'extensively '. If learners read more they will automatically learn more. Learner will show competence when participating in reading activities. Many people tend to read because they need it for work or study purposes and therefore do not associate it with relaxation or enjoyment. This sentiment generally begins in high school, when difficult literary classics such Shakespeare are mandatory.

In the past, reading was one of the few ways to pass the time, but that was before the advent of technologies beginning with the radio, then television and now computers, the Internet and gaming consoles — in other words, people have many other options for spending time nowadays. With leisure time a precious commodity in this hectic day and age, many people prefer to spend this time doing something that actually interests, relaxes or excites them, ranging from more active pursuits such as playing sports and socializing to more passive activities such as watching movies or video games.

## Advantage: Reading Is Good Exercise For The Brain

Unlike watching television, reading activates parts of the brain that would otherwise remain dormant. Stimulating the brain through reading helps keep it strong and active, thereby reducing the risk of developing conditions such as Alzheimer's disease while improving concentration and memory.

Reading is also a valuable learning tool that helps expand knowledge, skills and vocabulary, which in turn give readers more confidence to deal with a variety of situations and discuss a wider variety of topics.

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## **Advantages of Reading Approach**

There are some benefits in utilizing reading approach:

- 1. Reading approach can be used in a big class.
- 2. In reading approach, students can know much vocabulary because they have to read the passage.
- 3. Students focus what they are studying because they only learn grammar.
- 4. The reading method requires little teaching skill since the lesson-form is a standardized and fixed procedure.
- 5. The reading method is economical of time since the pupils all read simultaneously.
- 6. The reading method does not demand deep knowledge of the language on the part of the teacher, since the teacher does not have to compose the sentences and questions: everything is supplied in the book.

## **Disadvantages of Reading Approach**

Reading approach also has limitation since there is no single teaching method that is chategorized as the best based on some consideration such as: the curriculum, students' motivation, financial limitation, number of students, etc.

The main disadvantages of reading approach are as follow:

- 1. Since reading approach is only focused on written skill, this approach is lack in speaking skill.
- 2. Reading approach is oppressive approach because the vocabularies and grammar are controlled.

What are the benefits of Extensive Reading?

There is a wealth of research into the benefits of Extensive Reading for language learners. Here is a digest of what I consider to be the seven most important benefits:

## 1.Students become better reader

It is widely accepted that people become good readers through reading, and that learning how to read should mean a primary focus of attention on the meaning rather than the language of the text. It is pretty obvious that extensive reading helps students become better readers. <u>Richard</u> <u>Day</u> amongst many others shows that we learn to read by reading. The more language students read, the better readers they become. An integral part of this is learning new vocabulary.

## 2.Students learn more vocabulary

Probably the most cited benefit of Extensive Reading is that it can extend and sustain students' vocabulary growth. We know that vocabulary is not learned by a single exposure. Experts in language and literacy development such as Harvard University Education Professor <u>Catherine Snow</u> believe that you need to encounter a word or phrase in different contexts between 15 and 20 times to have a high possibility of learning the word or phrase. Students are highly unlikely to encounter vocabulary sufficient times within the classroom to learn it. However, if they read extensively they are much more likely to get multiple encounters with words and phrases in a variety of contexts.

## **3.Students improve writing**

Students who read extensively also make gains in writing proficiency (Elley and Mangubhai 1981, and Hafiz and Tudor 1989). This is probably because as students encounter

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more language, more frequently, through extensive reading, their language acquisition mechanism is primed to produce it in writing.

#### 4. Students improve overall language competence

In addition to gains in reading and writing proficiency, research demonstrates that students who read extensively also make gains in overall language competence. For example, Cho and Krashen (1994) reported that their four adult ESL learners increased competence in both listening and speaking abilities through reading extensively. So Extensive Reading would seem to benefit all language skills, not just reading and writing.

## 5.Students become more motivated to read

It is highly motivating for students to discover that they can read in English and that they enjoy it. For this reason it is essential that the books are interesting to students and at a level appropriate to their reading ability. If students find the books compelling and interesting, and can understand them, they may become more eager readers. This can also help to boost their confidence and self-esteem as language learners.

## 6.Students develop learner autonomy.

Students can read anywhere, at any time, and reading extensively helps them become more autonomous learners. To promote learner autonomy extensive reading should be a studentmanaged activity. That is to say that students should decide what, when, where and how often they read.

#### **7.Students become more empathic**

<u>Neuroscientific</u> and <u>social science</u> studies have shown that people who read literary fiction extensively are more empathic. People who read novels about other people who are very different from themselves and their backgrounds are particularly empathic.