

**THE STUDY OF PRIMARY SCHOOL ENGLISH TEACHERS'
UNDERSTANDING OF THE ENGLISH CURRICULUM ON THE
*KURIKULUM MERDEKA***

A Research Paper

Submitted to the English Language Education Study Program as a Partial
Fulfillment of the Requirements for *Sarjana Pendidikan* Degree



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**ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
FACULTY OF LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE EDUCATION
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Oleh
Lantika Vidara Handini

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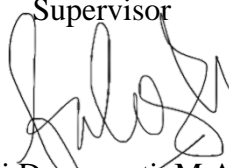
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PAGE OF APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION

I, Lantika Vidara Handini, certify that this research paper entitled “The Study of Primary School English Teachers’ Understanding of the English Curriculum on the *Kurikulum Merdeka*” is originally my work. I am fully aware that I have cited several statements and ideas from other sources, all properly acknowledged.

Bandung, July 2023



Lantika Vidara Handini

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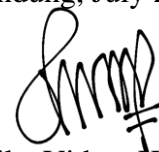
PREFACE

This research paper investigates the primary school English teachers' understanding of the English Curriculum on the *Kurikulum Merdeka*. Two private primary schools in Bandung, Indonesia, were chosen as the research site. Furthermore, two private primary school English teachers took part as the participants in the current research. They conducted their teaching and learning activities in an English classroom during the research period.

The current research adapts case study research to gain an in-depth understanding of the teachers towards the English Curriculum on the *Kurikulum Merdeka*. To collect data, each of the teachers had their teaching and learning activity in the English classroom observed and took part in an individual interview session at the end of their teaching and learning activity. The data were analyzed using the triangulation technique adopted by the framework developed by Miles and Huberman (1994).

I hope this research paper can contribute ideas for future research with an understanding of primary school English teachers' understanding of the English Curriculum on the *Kurikulum Merdeka*. Apart from this, I acknowledge that the current research still has some space to improve. Therefore, any constructive suggestions will be appreciated.

Bandung, July 2023



Lantika Vidara Handini

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ABSTRACT

Kurikulum Merdeka (formerly known as the prototype curriculum) was designed as part of the learning recovery efforts as a more flexible curriculum framework, emphasizing critical elements and developing students' personalities and skills. Therefore, the current research aimed to investigate the primary school English teachers' understanding of the English Curriculum on the *Kurikulum Merdeka*. Since the teacher is a crucial element in achieving educational goals regarding teaching and learning activities, their understanding of the curriculum must be investigated. At the time of research, two private primary school English teachers in different schools in Bandung with students aged 9-12 years were chosen as research participants. A series of structured and unstructured interviews, classroom observations, and documentation were done to collect the data, which were then analyzed with triangulation technique analysis. The finding showed that all participants claimed to understand the English Curriculum on the *Kurikulum Merdeka*. However, in implementing the curriculum, the participants found teaching and learning activities in English classrooms challenging for several reasons. This demonstrates a need for a teacher training program for primary school English teachers related to the *Kurikulum Merdeka* guidelines.

Keywords: *teachers' understanding, English curriculum, Kurikulum Merdeka*

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Pembimbing

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ABSTRAK

Kurikulum Merdeka (sebelumnya dikenal sebagai kurikulum prototype) dirancang sebagai bagian dari upaya pemulihan pembelajaran sebagai kerangka kurikulum yang lebih fleksibel, menekankan elemen kritis dan mengembangkan kepribadian dan keterampilan siswa. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menyelidiki pemahaman guru Bahasa Inggris sekolah dasar tentang Kurikulum Bahasa Inggris pada Kurikulum Merdeka. Hal ini dikarenakan guru merupakan elemen penting dalam mencapai tujuan pendidikan dalam kegiatan belajar mengajar, maka pemahaman guru tentang kurikulum penting untuk diselidiki. Pada saat penelitian, dua guru Bahasa Inggris sekolah dasar swasta di sekolah yang berbeda di Bandung dengan siswa berusia 9-12 tahun dipilih sebagai peserta penelitian. Serangkaian wawancara terstruktur dan tidak terstruktur, observasi kelas, dan dokumentasi dilakukan untuk mengumpulkan data, yang kemudian dianalisis dengan teknik analisis triangulasi. Temuan dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa guru mengaku sudah memahami Kurikulum Bahasa Inggris pada Kurikulum Merdeka. Namun, dalam pelaksanaan kurikulum tersebut, guru menemukan kesulitan dalam kegiatan belajar mengajar di kelas Bahasa Inggris karena beberapa alasan. Hal ini menunjukkan perlunya program pelatihan guru untuk guru Bahasa Inggris di tingkat sekolah dasar yang sesuai dengan pedoman Kurikulum Merdeka.

Keywords: *pemahaman guru, Kurikulum Bahasa Inggris, Kurikulum Merdeka*

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