

**UNFOLDING ENGLISH TEACHERS' VOICES ON CHALLENGES AND
STRATEGIES IN IMPLEMENTING *MERDEKA* CURRICULUM**

THESIS

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UNFOLDING ENGLISH TEACHERS' VOICES ON CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIES IN IMPLEMENTING *MERDEKA* CURRICULUM

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I hereby certify that the thesis and the work presented and illustrated within it are entirely my own and have been produced as a result of my original research. It does not include any material previously written or published by another individual, except as properly cited in quotations and references. No part of this work has been submitted in support of an application for another degree or qualification at this or any other university or institution of higher education. Consequently, I assume full responsibility for the thesis in the event of any objections or claims from others.

This thesis to fulfil the requirement for the degree of magister (S2) in Department of English Language Education, State Islamic Institute of Kediri.

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RATIFICATION SHEET

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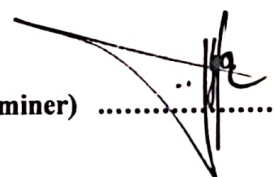
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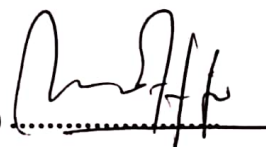
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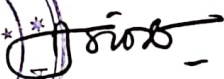
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ABSTRACT

Darussalam, Gilang. 2024. Unfolding English Teachers' Voices On Challenges And Strategies In Implementing Merdeka Curriculum, Department of English Language Education, Faculty of Graduate Degree, State Islamic Institute (IAIN) Kediri. Advisors: Dr. Toyyibah, SS. M.Pd and Nur Afifi, M.App. Ling., Ph. D.

Keywords : *Merdeka* curriculum, Challenges, Strategies

Merdeka Curriculum is an educational policy designed as a recovery learning system. It is closely tied to English learning, with the curriculum emphasizing the development of essential skills and competencies among students. Unfortunately, many teachers have encountered difficulties with the Merdeka Curriculum, likely because it represents a new paradigm for them. This research aimed to analyze the challenges English teachers face in implementing the Merdeka Curriculum.

This research uses a narrative inquiry qualitative method research design and data is obtained using an interviews. This research involved four English teachers from different schools, two teachers from state schools with high and low accreditation and two teachers from private schools with high and low accreditation.

They found several obstacles such as a lack of understanding in making lesson plans, little discussion of the material (the teacher developed the material independently), differences in students' English language skills and students' moral behavior were challenges for teachers. However, They found strategies to face these challenges, such as sharing with other teachers, following training provided by the school and the government. Overall, in their implementation, they applied several teaching methods such as dictation, student centered learning, learning using technology and focus group discussion.

ABSTRAK

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Kata kunci : Kurikulum merdeka, Tantangan, Strategi

Kurikulum Merdeka merupakan kebijakan pendidikan yang dirancang sebagai sistem pembelajaran pemulihan. Kurikulum yang menekankan pengembangan keterampilan dan kompetensi penting di kalangan siswa, sementara bahasa Inggris berfungsi sebagai alat komunikasi penting di dunia global saat ini. Banyak guru yang mengalami kesulitan dengan Kurikulum Merdeka, Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis tantangan yang dihadapi guru bahasa Inggris dalam menerapkan Kurikulum Merdeka.

Penelitian ini menggunakan desain penelitian metode kualitatif inkuiri naratif dan data diperoleh dengan menggunakan wawancara. Penelitian ini melibatkan empat guru bahasa Inggris dari sekolah berbeda, dua guru dari sekolah negeri dengan akreditasi tinggi dan rendah, serta dua guru dari sekolah swasta dengan akreditasi tinggi dan rendah.

Mereka menemukan beberapa kendala seperti kurangnya pemahaman dalam membuat RPP, sedikitnya pembahasan materi, perbedaan kemampuan berbahasa Inggris siswa dan perilaku moral siswa menjadi tantangan bagi guru. Mereka menemukan strategi untuk menghadapi tantangan tersebut, seperti berbagi dengan guru lainnya, mengikuti pelatihan yang diberikan oleh sekolah dan pemerintah.

MOTTO

“Man proposes god disposes”

Life is surprise, many things happen without us necessarily knowing which direction will take us where. Hence, let's make a surprise by walking without expecting it.

~Gie

DEDICATION

I dedicate this thesis to myself. Thank you for persevering and paving the way for a lifelong love of knowledge. I apologize for the times I was too hard on you and the times I was too weak. You are remarkable.

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