

INTEREST OF ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDENTS IN CHOOSING ENGLISH FOR CHILDREN (EFC) CONCENTRATION PACKAGES

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to analyze the factors that influence students' interest in taking the English for Children (EFC) concentration package in the English Language Education Study Program at Yogyakarta State University. In the context of the global era, superior human resources are the key to a nation's competitiveness. This research identifies internal factors, such as positive attitudes towards children, self-efficacy, and self-desire, as well as external factors, such as the influence of friends, family, seniors, introductory courses, lecturers, comparison with other concentration packages, and job prospects. , which forms students' interest in the EFC concentration.

This research method involved 60 students from the class of 2020 as research subjects, with data collection using questionnaires and interviews. The data analysis technique uses a triangulation approach, which combines various methods and data sources to increase research trustworthiness. The results of data analysis show that positive attitudes towards children, self-efficacy, and self-desire are the dominant internal factors, while the influence of friends, family, and seniors, as well as introductory courses, lecturers, comparison with other concentration packages, and prospects work is a significant external factor in shaping student interest.

This research contributes to understanding the dynamics of student interest in the EFC concentration package, as well as its implications for the development of study programs and increasing the competitiveness of human resources in the context of globalization.

Keywords: Interest, Concentration package, EFC, English for Children

Kata Kunci: *Interest, Concentration package, EFC, English for Children*