

ABSTRACT

Sari, Eka Widya Kartika Wulan (2024): A Content Analysis of English Textbooks "Bright: An English Course For SMP/MTS Grade VIII" Referring to The Merdeka Curriculum

This study focuses on the analysis of the English textbook titled "Bright," authored by Nur Zaida, specifically designed for eighth-grade junior high school students in Indonesia. The textbook is utilized at a school in Bandung and as a supplementary book published commercially by Indonesian publisher.

The primary aim of this research is to evaluate the content of the textbook "Bright: An English for Eighth-Grade Junior High School Students" using Cunningsworth (1995) criteria and to assess whether the content of the textbook aligns with the learning outcomes (*Capaian Pembelajaran*) outlined in the *Merdeka Curriculum* requirements.

This study employs a descriptive qualitative approach and content analysis design. The data collection for this study was gathered from the "Bright: An English for Eighth-Grade Junior High School Students" published by Erlangga Publisher 2022. In conducting the analysis, eight specific criteria from Cunningsworth (1995) were considered, which include: 1) aims and approach, 2) design and organization, 3) language content, 4) skills, 5) topics, 6) methodology, 7) teacher's books, and 8) practical considerations. These criteria serve as benchmarks for evaluating the quality and appropriateness of the textbook's content. Additionally, this study also analyzes how well the textbook aligns with the learning outcomes stipulated in the *Merdeka Curriculum* requirements, ensuring that it meets educational standards set for eighth-grade students.

The result of the research shows that the textbook achieved average score 77,2%. The textbook fulfils score of aims and approach (100%), design and organization (83,3%), language content (40%), Skill (100%), Topic (100%), Methodology (100%), Teacher's book (20%) and Practical Consideration (75%). This textbook satisfies 77,2% of the eight Cunningsworth criteria. According to the Pusat Perbukuan (2011) requirements, 60-79% falls under the "Fair" category. Furthermore, the content of this textbook aligns with the learning outcomes of the *Merdeka Curriculum*, as it includes genre-based approach such as narratives, descriptions, specialized texts (short messages, advertisements) and authentic texts that are essential for eighth-grade students to comprehend.

To conclude, the "Bright" textbook meets 77,2% score of Cunningsworth's (1995) criteria and the textbook is consistent with the learning outcomes of the *Merdeka Curriculum*. The content analysis indicates that the textbook is appropriate for use in eighth-grade junior high school settings.

Keywords: *Content analysis, Textbook, Cunningsworth's criterion, Merdeka Curriculum requirements.*