

## READING MOTIVATION AND ITS IMPACT ON COMPREHENSION

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**Abstract.** Reading motivation plays a crucial role in the development of reading comprehension and academic achievement. Motivated readers are more likely to engage actively with texts, employ effective reading strategies, and develop critical thinking skills. This article examines the relationship between reading motivation and comprehension, explores factors influencing learners' motivation, and discusses practical ways to enhance reading engagement. The study highlights that intrinsic motivation, supportive learning environments, and access to interesting reading materials significantly contribute to better comprehension outcomes.

**Keywords:** *Reading Motivation, Reading Comprehension, Language Learning, Reading Strategies, Academic Achievement, Learner Engagement.*

### Introduction

Reading is one of the most essential skills in education and lifelong learning. It enables individuals to acquire knowledge, develop critical thinking abilities, and communicate effectively. However, successful reading depends not only on linguistic competence but also on learners' motivation. Reading motivation refers to the interest, desire, and willingness of individuals to engage in reading activities.

In recent years, researchers have increasingly focused on the relationship between reading motivation and comprehension. Studies indicate that students who are motivated to read tend to spend more time reading, use more effective reading strategies, and achieve better academic results. Therefore, understanding the impact of motivation on comprehension is important for both teachers and learners.

### Main Body

Reading motivation can be divided into two major categories: intrinsic and extrinsic motivation. Intrinsic motivation refers to reading for enjoyment, curiosity, and personal satisfaction. Extrinsic motivation involves reading for external rewards such as grades, recognition, or academic requirements.

Research conducted by Guthrie and Wigfield (2000) demonstrates that intrinsically motivated students often show higher levels of comprehension because they actively engage with texts and seek deeper understanding. These learners read not only to complete assignments but also because they genuinely enjoy the process of learning through reading.

Several factors influence reading motivation. First, the learning environment plays a significant role. Teachers who create supportive and encouraging classrooms help students develop positive attitudes toward reading. Second, access to interesting and age-appropriate reading materials can increase learners' willingness to read. Third, family support and reading habits at home contribute significantly to the development of reading motivation.

Reading comprehension involves the ability to understand, interpret, analyze, and evaluate written information. Motivated readers are more likely to employ effective reading strategies such as predicting, summarizing, questioning, and making connections with prior knowledge. As a result, they comprehend texts more successfully than students who lack motivation.

Technology has also influenced reading motivation. Digital libraries, e-books, educational applications, and online reading platforms provide learners with convenient access to diverse materials. These resources can make reading more interactive and engaging, particularly for younger generations who are accustomed to digital environments.

In my opinion, motivation is one of the most important factors affecting reading comprehension. Even students with strong language abilities may struggle to understand texts if they lack interest in reading. Conversely, highly motivated learners often overcome difficulties because they are willing to invest time and effort in the reading process. I believe that teachers should focus not only on teaching reading skills but also on fostering a genuine love of reading among students.

Furthermore, educational institutions should provide opportunities for students to explore different genres and topics that match their interests. When learners find reading meaningful and enjoyable, their comprehension naturally improves. Reading should be viewed not merely as an academic task but as a valuable tool for personal and intellectual growth.

### **Conclusion**

Reading motivation significantly influences reading comprehension and overall academic success. Motivated learners engage more deeply with texts, apply effective reading strategies, and demonstrate better understanding of written information. Both intrinsic and extrinsic forms of motivation contribute to reading achievement, although intrinsic motivation appears to have a stronger and more lasting impact.

Educational institutions, teachers, and families should work together to create supportive environments that encourage reading. By providing engaging materials, promoting positive reading experiences, and fostering learners' interest, it is possible to improve both motivation and comprehension. Ultimately, developing reading motivation is essential for helping students become successful, independent, and lifelong readers.

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