THE DIFFICULTY OF READING WORLDWIDE

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Abstract: *Currently, it is a regrettable reality that many people worldwide have a low level of literacy, with some unable to even write their own names. It is essential to analyze the reasons behind this situation: Deficiencies in the Education System: In some regions, education is not given sufficient attention. A lack of schools, a shortage of teachers, or the absence of quality curricula negatively impact literacy levels. Economic Challenges: When families face financial difficulties, children are often forced to work instead of attending school, limiting their access to education. Cultural and Social Factors: In some societies, education is undervalued, particularly for girls, who may face restrictions on their ability to study. Digital Illiteracy: With the advancement of technology, digital knowledge has become increasingly important. However, many people lack access to the resources needed to acquire modern technological skills.*

Key words: *Reading difficulties, Literacy, Education system, Economic challenges, Cultural and social factors, Digital illiteracy, Language barriers, Complexity of texts, Attention and distraction, Reading habits*

Annotatsiya. *Hozirgi kunda ko‘plab insonlarning savodxonlik darajasi past bo‘lib, ba’zilar hatto o‘z ismlarini ham yozishni bilmaydi. Ushbu holatning sabablarini tahlil qilish muhimdir: Ta’lim tizimidagi kamchiliklar: Ayrim hududlarda ta’limga yetarli darajada e’tibor berilmaydi. Maktablarning yetishmasligi, o‘qituvchilar tanqisligi yoki sifatli o‘quv dasturlarining yo‘qligi savodxonlik darajasiga salbiy ta’sir qiladi. Iqtisodiy qiyinchiliklar: Oilalar moliyaviy qiyinchiliklarga duch kelganda, bolalar maktabga borish o‘rniga ishlashga majbur bo‘lib, ta’lim olish imkoniyatidan mahrum bo‘ladi. Madaniy va ijtimoiy omillar: Ayrim jamiyatlarda ta’lim qadrsizlanadi, ayniqsa qizlar ta’lim olishda cheklovlarga duch keladi. Raqamli savodsizlik: Texnologiyaning rivojlanishi bilan raqamli bilimlar tobora muhim bo‘lib bormoqda. Ammo ko‘plab insonlar zamonaviy texnologik ko‘nikmalarni o‘rganish uchun zarur resurslarga ega emas.*

Kalit so‘zlar: *O‘qishdagi qiyinchiliklar, Savodxonlik, Ta’lim tizimi, Iqtisodiy qiyinchiliklar, Madaniy va ijtimoiy omillar, Raqamli savodsizlik, Til to‘siqlari, Matnlarning murakkabligi, Diqqatni chalg‘ituvchi omillar, O‘qish odatlari*

Аннотация. *В настоящее время, к сожалению, многие люди по всему миру имеют низкий уровень грамотности, а некоторые даже не могут написать свое имя. Необходимо проанализировать причины этой ситуации: Недостатки в системе*

образования: В некоторых регионах образованию не уделяется должного внимания. Нехватка школ, учителей или отсутствие качественных учебных программ отрицательно сказывается на уровне грамотности. Экономические трудности: Когда семьи сталкиваются с финансовыми проблемами, дети часто вынуждены работать вместо того, чтобы ходить в школу, что ограничивает их доступ к образованию. Культурные и социальные факторы: В некоторых обществах образование недооценивается, особенно для девочек, которые могут сталкиваться с ограничениями на обучение. Цифровая неграмотность: С развитием технологий цифровые знания становятся все более важными. Однако многие люди не имеют доступа к ресурсам, необходимым для освоения современных технологических навыков.

Ключевые слова: *трудности чтения, грамотность, система образования, экономические трудности, культурные и социальные факторы, цифровая неграмотность, языковые барьеры, сложность текстов, внимание и отвлечения, привычки чтения*

Low literacy rates. In many countries, literacy levels among the population remain underdeveloped. According to UNESCO, 750 million adults worldwide, primarily women, cannot read or write. This issue is linked to limited access to education and poor quality of educational resources [UNESCO, 2020]. Language barriers. In multilingual societies, reading difficulties are common. People are often educated in dominant regional languages rather than their native tongues, which affects their ability to read and comprehend effectively. For instance, in India, many children are required to study in English or Hindi rather than their mother tongues [World Bank, 2021]. Complexity of texts. Globally, educational systems and media sometimes use overly complicated texts. New readers or those with limited experience may struggle to understand these materials. According to the American Psychological Association (APA), when educational content does not match a learner’s cognitive level, comprehension becomes more difficult [APA, 2018]. Attention and distraction issues. The rise of digital technology has made it harder for many people to focus on text-based materials. Smartphones, social media, and videos often reduce attention spans. Pew Research Center highlights that the digital environment has decreased people’s ability to concentrate on long texts [Pew Research, 2019]. Economic and social factors. In low-income countries, people often lack the time and resources to invest in reading. Low family incomes affect the quality of education and access to books or other learning materials [World Economic Forum, 2022]. The Importance of Reading. Reading is a process that enriches a person's spiritual world, enhances their knowledge, and broadens their thinking. Through reading books, we not only gain new knowledge but also shape our worldview. Books pass down the experiences accumulated by humanity over centuries from one generation to the next. Benefits of Reading. Gaining Knowledge: Through books, people can acquire knowledge in various fields. These can include not only textbooks or scientific sources but also literary works, life stories, and biographies. Developing Critical

Thinking and Analytical Skills: Reading books teaches people to think, analyze, and solve problems effectively. Enriching Language and Speech: Reading helps individuals learn new words, better understand grammar, and enhance their speech. This is especially important for those learning foreign languages, as books play a significant role. Mental Relaxation and Motivation: Reading books reduces stress and calms the mind. Well-written motivational works can inspire individuals to pursue new goals. Why Develop the Habit of Reading? In today’s technological age, the habit of reading is on the decline. However, spending time reading a few pages of a book instead of being on a phone or computer can significantly improve the quality of life. After all, a knowledgeable and spiritually enriched person is highly respected in society. To develop the habit of reading, you can: Dedicate time daily to reading in your schedule. Choose books on topics that interest you. Discuss what you've read with your friends. What are Reading Difficulties? Reading difficulties refer to challenges in understanding, decoding, or processing written text. These challenges can stem from neurological, educational, or social factors and can affect individuals across all age groups, particularly children in their early education years [Sources: UNESCO, 2020, World Bank, 2021]. Types of Reading Difficulties. Dyslexia: A neurological condition that impairs the ability to read, write, and spell. People with dyslexia struggle with word recognition and matching sounds to letters [Source: International Dyslexia Association]. Reading Comprehension Problems: Some individuals can read words but have difficulty understanding their meaning or context [Source: APA, 2018] Word Decoding Issues: Difficulty pronouncing and understanding unfamiliar words [Source: National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)]. Visual Processing Problems: Issues with interpreting visual input, such as letters appearing jumbled or reversed [Source: American Optometric Association]. Language Processing Disorders: Difficulties in understanding or producing spoken and written language due to differences in brain processing [Source: National Institutes of Health (NIH)]. Causes of Reading Difficulties. Neurological Factors: Brain-based conditions, such as dyslexia, affect language processing [Source: World Health Organization (WHO)] Lack of Early Exposure to Reading: Children without access to books or storytelling at a young age may face difficulties later [Source: UNESCO, 2020]. Limited Educational Resources: Inadequate access to qualified teachers or learning materials hinders literacy development.[Source: World Bank, 2021]. Language Barriers: Learning in a second language rather than one’s mother tongue can complicate literacy acquisition.[Source: World Economic Forum, 2022] Attention Disorders: Conditions like ADHD make it hard to focus on reading tasks.[Source: Pew Research Center, 2019].Economic and Social Issues: Poverty, lack of parental support, and unstable home environments can negatively affect literacy rates.[Source: World Economic Forum, 2022]Signs of Reading Difficulties. Slow reading speed. Difficulty recognizing familiar words. Trouble associating sounds with letters. Avoiding reading tasks. Challenges remembering or understanding what was read.[Sources: NICHD, APA]

Conclusion. Reading is not only a source of knowledge but also an essential tool for personal growth. Even reading one page a day can lead to significant changes. So, make reading a habit and continue to expand your knowledge.

Recommendations

To promote reading globally and overcome these challenges:

Provide affordable and accessible educational opportunities.

Offer materials in simple and understandable language.

Teach effective use of digital tools for learning

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