

ABSTRACT

Puteri Nur Syifa Nindita Arifah. 2023. The Advantages And Challenges In Implementing Independent Learning Curriulum (Kurikulum Merdeka Belajar). Thesis. English Education Department, Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training, Antasari State Islamic University. Advisor : Saadillah, M.Pd.

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Curriculum is a teaching and learning program that take place in formal contexts. A curriculum can refer to a system, such as a national curriculum, an institution, such as a school curriculum, or even a specific school. The Indonesian Ministry of Education and Culture, Research, and Technology officially released the Independent Learning Curriculum (Kurikulum Merdeka Belajar) In 2022. It is aimed to promote a more student-centered and competency-based approach to education.

The purpose of this research was to find out what are the advantages of the new curriculum for teachers and students. Also to find out what are the challenges for the teachers. Researcher use descriptive qualitative. The data collection techniques were Observation and Interview. The researcher joined the teachers classes for classroom observation, and conducted the interview with teachers and students. The Informans of this research were 2 English teachers and 15 Students. They were 5 students from each grade. 5 students were taken from each 7th, 8th and 9th grade. The students were chosen by their activeness in class.

The result of the study there were some benefits for teachers. First, teaching english with independent learning curriculum was easier. Second, teachers understand more about the students' learning styles. Next, students' learning interest, scores and characteristic were increasing. The last, students and teachers had good communication. Meanwhile, there were benefits from the students' point of view based on the interview. First, The students understand the material easier. Second, the students felt more intrested in learning english. While the challenges teachers should face when using Independent Learning Curriculum. First, Teacher felt difficult to determine teaching techniques for the students. Second, teacher felt difficult to know all of the students' characteristics. Last, teacher felt difficult in choosing essensial material for each class.