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Department of English Language and literature

# MASTER DISSERTATION

Science of the language

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Submitted and Defended by:

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## **The Impact of Reading Short Stories on Enhancing Creative Writing among EFL Students: The Case Study of Master One Civilization and Literature at Mohamed Khider University of Biskra**

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A Dissertation Submitted to the Department of English and Literature in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master's Degree in Sciences of the Language

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## **Declaration**

I, **ROMAISSA Gaha** do hereby declare that this work is the product of my own effort, and has neither submitted nor published to any institution or University for any degree before.

This inquiry was certified and completed at Mohamed Kheider University of Biskra, June 25.2024.  
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## Dedication

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

I dedicate this dissertation first to my beloved father, **Mohamed Miloud**, who has been my inspiration and strength, your sacrifices and guidance have taught me the value of hard work and devotion.

To my dear mother, **Wahiba**, thank you for your constant encouragement, love, and support throughout my studies

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I am grateful to all who have contributed to the success of this study.

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process.

## Abstract

Reading short stories is very valuable activity for students' creative writing, especially for people learning English as a foreign language. It explores how reading and writing are connected and how they help people become better writers. This study shows the importance of using short stories in schools to inspire students and help them in their writing skills. The research focuses on understanding how different types of stories affect how well students write. It investigates about how reading short stories can make people more creative and better writers in English. The study guesses that reading short stories regularly can improve students' creative writing skills. To find out, researchers gave a survey to first-year LMD Master Students at Mohamed Kheider University in Biskra. They used an online questionnaire with 28 students chosen at random. The results show that most students believe reading short stories helps them write better, with benefits like learning more words, improving how they write, and being more creative. The study suggests teachers use short stories in lessons to help students learn better. It ends by saying reading short stories plays a big part in making people more creative and better writers in English.

**Keywords:** Creative writing. EFL students, Reading Short stories,

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# **General introduction**

## **Introduction**

This study investigate the role of reading short stories in benefiting students creative writing, especially the English language, being able to read and write well is very important, however, it is not just about discovering words or putting sentences together. The deep connection between reading and writing that can develop writing skills.

This study discuss about why reading and writing are important, and how they work wonderfully together ,in addition to how reading short stories can serve as a secret weapon to boost your creativity when writing, by looking at research and trying things ourselves, we hope to crack the code on how short stories can really make your writing shine. Ultimately, this is all about the power of learning to change your life for the better. We believe that by reading and writing together, we can become great communicators, think critically, this revised version uses simpler vocabulary, a more conversational tone, and avoids overly complex sentence structures. It also emphasizes practical benefits and avoids excessiveacademic language.

### **1. Statement of the problem**

The ability to write creatively is an essential skill for students, especially those learning English as a foreign language (EFL). Despite extensive efforts to improve writing instruction, many students struggle to produce creative written work. Traditional teaching methods often prioritize grammatical accuracy over creative expression, leaving students with limited opportunities to develop their imaginative abilities. This gap is particularly evident in EFL contexts, where students may face additional challenges such as limited exposure to diverse literary genres and cultural nuances.

By studying the effect of reading short stories on written creativity, this study seeks to Address the following main problems: the lack of creativity in students' writing despite their proficiency in grammatical structures, and the need for innovative teaching strategies that integrate reading, writing practices, and the potential benefits of using short stories as a tool to enhance creative

writing skills.

## **2. The research questions**

The research question in this study is as follow:

How does reading short stories enhance creative writing?

## **3. Research Hypothesis:**

In this research work, one hypothesis put forward:

If students engage regularly in reading short stories, then their creative writing will be significantly enhanced.

## **4. Research design**

### **4.1.Choice of methodology :**

This present study took part within descriptive type of research since it describes the relationship between reading short stories and creative writing, it based on the qualitative and quantitative method to collect Data.

### **4.2.The population and sample:**

The population in this research will be selected from Master s students in literature and civilization at University of Mohamed Kheider Biskra. The sample consists of 28 students chosen randomly.

### **4.3.Data gathering tools**

We used a questionnaire as a research tool to collect data. It is an effective way to understand and analyze how reading short stories enhances creative writing for our case study first-year Master students at Mohamed Kheider University in Biskra.

## **5. Aims of the study**

To investigate the impact of reading short stories on enhancing creative writing among EFL students:

- To analyze the influence of reading short stories on creative writing.
- To identify the specifics of short stories that contribute to enhancing creative writing.
- To develop effective strategies for integrating short stories into writing instruction.

## **6. Significance of the study**

This study aims to understand how reading short stories affects creativity in writing. This understanding can provide valuable insights into how students learn and the best teaching methods. The study also seeks to highlight the role of literary texts in enhancing creative expression in writing and to offer practical recommendations for teachers to make writing instruction more engaging and effective.

## **7. Structure of the study**

This study is organized into two chapters. The first chapter is divided into two parts: The first section focuses on “The Power of Reading and the World of Short Stories,” covering the nature, components, purposes, strategies, and benefits of reading, specifically short stories, and their value in EFL contexts.

The second section delves into “Uncovering the World of Creativity: The Art of Writing,” discussing the nature of writing and creativity, the components and purposes of effective writing, and different writing strategies. It also studies the benefits of creative writing and the impact of short stories on writing skills. As for the second chapter, on the practical side, we conducted a case study by taking a sample of Master’s 1 students by developing a questionnaire that addresses the students’ experiences and opinions about the impact of reading short stories on improving their creative writing skills.



The study ends with a general conclusion and recommendations, then references and a list of appendices.

# **Chapter One:**

## **Literature review**

# **Section one**

## **Introduction**

Reading is crucial and essential for our cognitive and linguistic development. It is fundamental for academic success and lifelong learning. For EFL students, for instance, reading is essential not only for improving language abilities but also for exploring diverse cultures and personal development. Reading a variety of materials can significantly enhance reading skills across different dimensions. Short novels, for example, provide an opportunity to develop reading skills since they typically present concise narratives that require focused attention and comprehension. This section addresses various aspects of reading, beginning with its basic components, importance, and various strategies, highlighting the many benefits that can be gained from regularly engaging in reading. The chapter reviews the relationship between reading and literature, and highlights the role that the short story plays in enhancing and developing the reading experience.

### **I. The Nature of reading**

Reading does not just understand printed symbols, but rather a cognitive process that requires active interaction with the text, where the reader contributes all of his previous experiences and knowledge to construct meaning. This process is influenced by multiple factors, such as the reader's cultural background and personal experiences, as well as the structure, content, and language used (Goodman 1996).

#### **I.1 Reading as a meaning-making process**

The reader can extract and understand the basic message of the text through a set of steps involved in the reading process as a meaning-making process. First, one of these steps is prediction, which is the expectations the reader forms about the text based on the title, introduction, and his or her own experiences.

Then decoding, which is decoding written codes into meaningful words and sentences, and this requires knowledge of grammar and vocabulary.

Then comprehension, which is the reader's association of words and sentences and understanding the text well.

Then we move to analysis, which is identifying what the text consists of, such as the main ideas, their details, and the relationships between them, and then synthesis, which is a comprehensive understanding of the text through the reader's integration of the extracted information.

Finally, evaluation is the evaluation of the text, its credibility, validity, and importance, using the reader's knowledge and critical thinking skills (Stanovich, 1980).

## **I.2 Components of Effective Reading**

Effective reading involves multiple essential components that contribute to a deeper understanding and enjoyment of texts. These components include vocabulary, grammar, syntax, and prior knowledge. Each of these elements plays a crucial role in enhancing reading skills and overall comprehension.

### **I.2.1 Vocabulary**

Understanding and using vocabulary effectively is the foundation for effective reading. It enables the reader to decipher the meanings of individual words, understand subtle differences in language, and appreciate the depth of written expression. Effective vocabulary development also involves expanding understanding of words and understanding the relationships between them.

This can be achieved through varied reading, where the reader is exposed to diverse texts that introduce new words and their contexts, or using a dictionary (for example, looking

At a dictionary provides precise definitions and examples of usage), and playing word games such as crossword and vocabulary tests that reinforce word knowledge.

Vocabulary can also be understood by studying the origins of words and prefixes, meaning that understanding the origins of words helps in deducing their meanings.

Finally, practice using new words in writing and speaking, which enhances word knowledge (Bear and all 2012).

### **I.2.2 Grammar and syntax**

A strong understanding of grammar and syntax can enable readers to recognize the components of a sentence, for example to identify subjects, verbs, objects and meanings. It can also enable him to analyze the structure of a sentence by understanding the relationship between words and phrases and understand the meaning of a sentence by understanding the message intended by the author. It can also detect grammatical errors by identifying errors in written language and correcting them.

Understanding grammar involves enhancing grammatical and morphological skills, which leads to the study of grammatical rules and terms to understand the principles of linguistic structure, and the analysis of grammatical patterns in texts to determine how sentences are constructed. In addition to practicing grammar exercises by always enhancing grammar skills through exercises and practice. It also includes finding feedback on your writing, i.e. correcting and identifying grammatical errors in your writing (McKeown & Beck, 2016).

### **I.2.3 Prior knowledge:**

The purpose of shaping our understanding of reading is important because the goals we set for reading, such as learning, entertainment, or seeking specific information, influence how we interpret and engage with texts, and the prior information and experiences we have acquired over time provide a basic framework for interpreting and communicating texts.

Effective use of prior knowledge involves activating prior knowledge when remembering

information and experiences related to the topic presented in the text. It also involves making connections, linking new information to our existing knowledge, and using prior knowledge to infer missing details or clarify incomprehensible points to fill in gaps. The effective use of knowledge also leads to evaluating information by evaluating the credibility and importance of new information (Allington, 2002).

### **I. 3. Purposes of Reading**

#### **I.3.1. Reading for Information's**

Reading to obtain information considered a path to knowledge, because it enables individuals to acquire ideas and information. Expanding their understanding of the world and different topics. Reading to obtain information has many purposes. First, reading textbooks, articles, and other information materials provides a structured approach to learning new disciplines (Allington, 2002). Secondly, research on specific topics as delving into research papers etc. online facilitates in-depth exploration of specific topics (Presley, 2010). Third, reading news articles, periodicals, and social media posts keeps individuals informed about current affairs (Stahl & Hayes, 2012). I also include effective strategies, which are defining the purpose, which means clearly defining the information required to guide the reading process. It also consists of previewing the text by scanning the subtitles and introductory paragraphs to get an overview. In addition to reading actively, this happens by interacting with the text by asking questions, highlighting the main points, and taking notes. Finally, summarizing and synthesis, which is condensing the main ideas and linking them to existing knowledge (McKeown & Beck, 2016).

#### **I. 3.2. Reading for Pleasure:**

Embracing and Enjoying the Worlds of Literature Recreational reading is an opportunity to immerse oneself in the enjoyable worlds of literature and enjoy experiences that enrich feelings and promote relaxation. This type of reading aims to escape into imaginary worlds because it gives the reader a break from the pressures of daily life (Bear, Invernizzi, and Templeton & Coker 2012).

It also provides an enjoyable read to explore diverse viewpoints and different experiences, which contributes to expanding general culture and interacting with fictional characters that contribute to the development of empathy and imagination. Effective strategies for reading for pleasure include choosing books that arouse interest and match the reader's interests, which creates a suitable and calm environment for readers, reading at an appropriate pace to enjoy the words and immerse themselves in the events of the story, in addition to thinking about the reading experience and its overall impact on the individual.

### **I.3.3. Reading for Personal Growth:**

The goals of reading for personal growth include gaining new insights and perspectives, developing intellectual growth, and challenging long-held beliefs (Allington, 2002). It also aims to enhance self-awareness, as reading provides personal development and self-help through understanding oneself and one's qualifications (McKeown & Beck, 2016).

In addition, reading for personal growth leads to the development of critical thinking skills through analyzing and evaluating texts, which allows for the strengthening of critical thinking and the ability to make independent judgments (Presley, 2010). Reading for personal growth not only enhances critical thinking skills through the analysis and evaluation of texts but also fosters the ability to make independent judgments (Presley, 2010). Effective strategies include selecting books that provoke thought, encourage contemplation, and approach texts with reasoning. Additionally, being open-minded to various perspectives and actively engaging in the reading process by taking notes, posing reflective questions, and applying newfound insights in daily life are essential components (Stahl and Hayes, 2012). These practices not only enrich the reading experience but also contribute to personal development and the cultivation of deeper understanding and critical thinking abilities.

### **I.4. Reading strategies**

Reading is a basic process that a person seeks. It is considered the process of exploring symbols, understanding meaning, and adopting knowledge. In order to reach broad horizons in reading, a group



of strategies must be used, each of which has a special role. This article contains five basic strategies, which are cognitive reading, transitional reading, interactive reading, extended reading, and intensive reading.

#### **I.4.1. Perceptive Reading**

Cognitive reading includes the strategy of quickly understanding the text by revealing the text's basic ideas and general structure and identifying information and its most important details, it has important applications such as previewing texts that is, taking a general overview of the text before going into its details (Smith, 1978). In particular, locating specific information by quickly searching for relevant information within a long text (Goodman, 1996) and identifying the main points, most important ideas and details contained in the text.

In addition to understanding the text and organizing its titles quickly, effective cognitive reading has strategies that include reading the first and last paragraphs, understanding the text by picking up on the beginning and main ideas with the concluding ideas, as well as searching for bolded text, italics, and keywords, which means identifying relevant terms and distinct points (Stanovich, 1980).

#### **I.4.2. Selective reading**

It is extracting gems of information, as selective reading considered an effective strategy in study, research and knowledge, as through it notes and broad outlines extracted in order to reveal and organize basic information. Applications of selective reading include note-taking and summarizing main ideas, details, and quotes (Allington, 2002), as well as incidental lines, by arranging text from main ideas to subtopics of the text.

In addition, identifying basic information means extracting the most important aspects of the text (Stahl and Hayes, 2012). Effective strategies can be used in this reading, such as active reading, which consists of highlighting important elements, asking questions, and taking notes throughout the reading period. As well as using a fixed system for taking notes, which means using a fixed plan to organize information, thus creating clear and concise detailed outlines. A detailed process can also be used to

represent the structure of the text, including numbers, points, etc.

### **I.4.3. Interactive reading**

What meant is to enter into a dialogue with the text, and this strategy is considered of a high level because it develops our thinking and enhances our critical thinking. This done by following a range of applications, such as argument evaluation, that is, evaluating the strength and validity of the arguments stated (Bear, Invernizzi, Templeton, & Coker, 2012). In addition, identifying biases, author's opinion, and possible assumptions, and forming personal opinions and interpretations, which ultimately means drawing conclusions, conclusions, and expressing personal opinions based on the text, (McKeown & Beck, 2016).

Effective interactive reading strategies are to ask questions about the text to find out the author's purpose and evidence by asking critical questions by looking at different points of view, such as reading the text in several ways and different points of view to reach the goal, for example, in addition to linking the text to knowledge and personal experiences. In addition, which means linking the content of the text to previous personal cognitive studies.

### **I.4.4. Extended reading**

Embracing the world of texts and reading extensively is one of the most beautiful reading strategies, as the reader feels pleasure because it includes a large group of different texts, which leads to nourishing the mind with many ideas and terms, and developing fluency and development. Extensive reading applications aim to explore different types of authors, i.e. discover the diversity and difference in literary styles and points of view between different authors (McKeown & Beck, 2016) and include expanding the vocabulary and knowledge base by acquiring new vocabulary and information, thus expanding the scope of understanding in various fields. . (Brosley, 2010).

In addition to enhancing reading fluency and stamina, which means being able to read easily for long periods without feeling tired (Stahl and Hayes, 2012). Effective extensive reading strategies also mean methods and techniques that can be used to make extensive reading more effective and successful in

achieving educational and entertainment goals.

These strategies include choosing books that spark interest, setting realistic reading goals, and creating a reading environment, such as quiet places that help you focus.

#### **I.4.5. Extensive reading:**

Extensive reading means deep reading and comprehension. This reading strategy carefully analyzes the text and examines its basic meaning, the applications of extended reading include identifying literary devices that means identifying literary elements such as metaphors, similes, symbols, etc. (Smith, 1978).

In addition, there is an analysis of style and language through understanding the author's use, sentence structure and tone (Goodman, 1996) as well as the interpretation of the meaning of the text which consists of knowing the analysis of the deeper layers of meaning and symbolism (Stanovich, 1980). Moreover, Extensive reading strategies rely on reading slowly, carefully, and with concentration, and understanding each sentence and phrase without forgetting to examine the entire text.

There are extensive reading strategies that include annotating the text, highlighting key paragraphs and important elements, and recording all necessary notes. Finally, discussion and thinking that is, discussing the text with others to obtain new opinions.

#### **I.5. Enhancing vocabulary and language skills:**

A person's linguistic skills enriched when he exposed to regular reading of a wide range of words and phrases, which enhances his skills in various aspects of communication. The benefits of regular reading for vocabulary and language skills are many.

The first is the inclusion of expanded vocabulary, which is encountering new vocabulary in the context that leads to its integration with one's vocabulary (Allington, 2002). Secondly, improving fluency, when combining many words leads to smooth writing and expression (Bear & Coker, 2012).

Finally, strengthening grammar and sentence structure, as is intended when learning different sentence forms, strengthens grammatical comprehension and writing skills (McKeown & Beck, 2016). Strategies for enhancing vocabulary and language skills through reading rely on selecting difficult

texts and refreshing them to discover new vocabulary and complex sentences. It also includes using a dictionary to learn about the meanings and uses of unfamiliar words, and engaging in active reading by-reading text carefully, highlighting basics and trying to apply new words and words used and written.

### **I.6.Improving understanding and critical thinking:**

Critical thinking skills and comprehension enhanced cognitive ability in regular reading, which enables individuals to analyze and evaluate information in an effective manner, This enhanced cognitive ability has many of the benefits of regular reading for comprehension and critical thinking that lie in enhanced comprehension, which means that diverse texts improve understanding of complex ideas and drawing inferences (Presley, 2010)and it also sharpens critical thinking as different perspectives and arguments bring Develop the ability to organize information and form sound judgments (Stahl & Hayes, 2012).

In addition to improving problem-solving skills because the ability to analyze and interpret information is considered an improved problem-solving skill (Goodman, 1996). Promoting comprehension and critical thinking while reading has very effective strategies, for example, engaging with the text and interacting with it significantly by asking questions, summarizing the text, thinking about the author's arguments, as well as considering different points of view by reading different texts to gain understanding. Broaden the topic and thus assess the author's credibility by evaluating his experience and evidence.

### **I.7.Expanding knowledge and cultural awareness:**

When knowledge expanded through regular reading, individuals are exposed to scientific and cross-cultural discoveries that enhance cultural understanding and awareness this reading is useful in expanding the knowledge base, meaning that reading enriches individuals with knowledge in various fields (Smith, 1987). It also enhances cultural awareness, cultural diversity through literature and other things enhances empathy (Stanovich, 1980) Furthermore, it helps us appreciate different points of view,

which means that by reading from different points of view one's awareness of the world is expanded and assumptions are removed ( Stahl and Hayes, 2012).

Strategies for enhancing cognitive and cultural awareness through reading include selecting different types of authors for literary discovery from different cultures, historical periods, and genres.

### **I.8. Personal growth and development of empathy:**

Reading is an important factor in a person's personal growth because it enhances empathy, self-awareness, and intelligence through which he can be in the shoes of others and understand their points of view. Regular reading for personal growth and empathy has many benefits, for example enhancing empathy, such that reading the experiences of fictional stories and characters leads to an understanding of different emotions and perspectives (Presley, 2010).

Also, increased self-awareness, that is, understanding oneself is largely a result of thinking about fictional characters (Stahl & Hayes, 2012) In addition to improving emotional intelligence, this ability to identify, manage, and express emotions can be developed through active interaction with literature (McKeown & Beck , 2016). Strategies for promoting personal growth and empathy through reading include choosing thought-provoking literature for books that talk about human feelings, relationships, and societal issues, establishing connections and relationships between the characters' experiences and their private lives, and thinking about the reading experience by framing the characters and topics according to the individual's thoughts and feelings.

## **I.9. The Link Between Reading and Literature**

### **I.9.1. Reading literature**

Reading literature is a gateway to diverse worlds and perspectives. It exposes readers to different points of view by studying unique narratives and meeting different characters. It also considered a gateway to countless worlds, and one of its most important benefits is an expanded understanding of the human condition, as literature provides a special vision of the universal feelings, conflicts, and victories associated with humanity (Carell and Swan, 1997).

In addition to appreciating different cultures and viewpoints, it promotes cultural awareness and empathy by engaging with literature in different ways (Gharabi and Stoller, 2007). It also contributes to enhancing critical thinking skills by analyzing literary works, challenging assumptions, enhancing independent thinking, and developing critical thinking abilities (Nation, 2009).

#### **I.10. Common challenges in reading literature for EFL students**

Most English language students have linguistic and cultural obstacles and barriers they face as they explore the world of literature. These challenges faced by EFL students in reading literature is unfamiliar vocabulary and complex sentence structure pose difficulties for English language students (Alderson & Krashen, 2006). It also includes cultural references and allusions that include cultures and historical contexts may be difficult and unfamiliar for English language students (Richards and Noonan, 2005). In addition, abstract and symbolic concepts that are used in literary works, such as metaphors and symbols, which need a deeper interpretation (Al-Umma, 2009).

#### **I.11. Strategies to enhance literature**

Strategies to enhance understanding of literature, especially for students of English as a foreign language, are through selecting appropriate texts, that is, texts that are compatible with the learner's language and ability. It also consists of building basic knowledge through research into the cultural context and historical and literary framework of the text (Gharabi and Stoller, 2007),

It can be also use dictionaries and online resources to clarify previously unapproved words, phrases, and hints (Alderson & Krashen, 2006) and engage in active reading - that is, explaining the text, summarizing key points, and asking questions to further understanding (Richards & Noonan, 2005), in addition, it includes to discuss and analyze the text means including group discussions or seeking guidance from the teacher or others to obtain different points of view (Nation, 2009).

## **I.12. Short Stories:**

### **I.12.1. Definition of the short story:**

Short stories are brief stories, with a limited set of words, a self-contained plot, a limited number of characters, and a consistent theme.

The story often uses elements of surprise and suspense to attract the reader and deliver a strong message. These basic elements are similar to brevity. Short stories are characterized by brevity, as they focus on one series and a specific group of characters (Aldridge, 2000). In addition, the unity of effect, where each element in the short story contributes to the overall effect and central theme (Poe, 1843). It also contains character development, as short stories can present well-developed characters whose motivations are revealed, in addition to plot structure. Short stories usually follow a clear plot structure, and often include events, climaxes, and resolutions to communicate their message (O'Brien, 1978).

### **I.12.2. Characteristics of a well-crafted short story:**

**Elements of Distinction** The short story is considered a Masterpiece of brevity and impact. It amazes readers with its narrative skill and exciting language. It possesses several basic characteristics that distinguish it from ordinary novels. The distinctive features of a well-crafted short story are characterized by an attractive plot. The plot attracts the reader, arouses suspense and surprise, and makes him anticipate the end (Hemingway, 1924), and vivid characters, that is, developed characters, embodied in the mind and unforgettable. (Carver, 1983).

The story conveys a consistent and important theme that affects the reader and sparks discussion (Poe, 1843). In addition to effective language, that is, precise, evocative language that is appropriate to the story and its genre (O'Brien, 1978). In addition to sensory details, sensory details add life to the story and engage the reader's senses. and submerge it (Aldridge, 2000).

### **I.12.3. The value of short stories in EFL contexts:**

Short stories play a role in language learning and the acquisition of vocabulary and knowledge

because they carry many valuable benefits, namely language acquisition, as short stories improve vocabulary, grammar, and fluency through their use (Aldridge, 2000). They are also represented by cultural insights, as the cultural context of short stories provides insights into different customs, values and perspectives (Carver, 1983).

In addition to the engaging reading experience, that is, the attractive narration of short stories is enjoyable and motivating for students (Hemingway, 1924). The latter also lies in diversity, as short stories come in a wide range of genres, catering to diverse interests and preferences (O'Brien, 1978).

#### **I.12.4. Benefits of reading short stories**

Literary Enrichment Reading short stories has many advantages. It enriches readers' lives and expands their literary horizons. It also has many benefits, such as improving reading skills, as short stories improve reading comprehension, critical thinking, and analytical skills (Aldridge, 2000).

This results in the use of an expanded vocabulary, where vocabulary and language are used and enhanced by encountering the diverse language of the short stories (Carver, 1983). As for cultural awareness, reading stories from different cultures expands cultural understanding and awareness (Hemingway, 1924). They also represent an appreciation for literature, as short stories develop a love of literature and an appreciation for different writing styles (O'Brien, 1978) as well as personal growth, that is, stories can promote personal growth (Poe, 1843).

#### **Conclusion**

In this part, we learned about reading and short stories, which revealed their profound impact on human and intellectual development. We started from a basic understanding of reading as a process of creating meaning and drawing symbols. Then we talked about the main components of reading. A variety of reading purposes were also considered, including information and entertainment purposes and developmental, then we discussed various reading strategies, starting with selective reading and interactive reading.



Comprehensive and extended reading where they have a distinctive role in lifelong reading, for example improving vocabulary and language skills, improving understanding and critical thinking, expanding knowledge and cultural awareness, in addition to enhancing personal development and empathy. As for the relationship between reading and literature, the focus was on showing how literature opens up different worlds and perspectives while also presenting common challenges for those learning English as a foreign language. At the same time, a process is proposed to overcome these problems and improve the literature. Finally, this chapter contains important elements about reading through which a person can excel in knowledge and growth in his life.

## **Section Two**

## **I.2. The Nature of Writing and Creativity:**

### **I .2.1. Writing as Self-Expression:**

Writing is an effective tool for self-expression, through which we can express our thoughts and emotions in a distinctive and meaningful way according to (Kerman and Knox, 2016). Respect citation rules it is considered an essential element in human development, meaning the growth of literary, emotional, and social writing In short, through writing, we can discover people's identities, reflect on their experiences, and reach out to them.

### **I .2.2. Writing as a Meaning-Making Process:**

Lateral communication through writing is essential in building relationships and bridging gaps between different communities, that is, it has become easier to communicate through writing over the Internet and exchange ideas, messages, and destinations between people.

This indicates that there are no barriers preventing the exchange of information over time. Box-Trilla (2014) also stated the belief that writing is a means of communication between a wide audience and not just an individual activity, that is, it is a means of receiving knowledge and understanding.

### **I .2.3. Definition of creative writing:**

Written creativity describes creative writing as a manifestation of the writer's inner self and a journey beyond traditional boundaries to discover new ideas and emotions. This means that creativity encompasses the ability to excel, fluency, flexibility, clarity in producing original, innovative, attractive, and creative written works (Klein, 2016).

### **I .2.4. Components of universal writing:**

It typically includes elements that transcend specific languages or cultures, enabling effective communication across diverse audiences. These components may include, Clarity, simplicity, and intended clarity of writing is comprehensive, writing that will lead to dry water. As well as brevity, where you learn the German language for brevity, and aviation information concisely, without confusion or unnecessary connotations. It can also include analyzing two services for details or

incidental topics. The global culture differs in the distinction between cultural diversity and we seek to define the distinction between language or entities that may be offensive or understand it in different cultural courts.

#### **I .2.4.1. Vocabulary:**

Vocabulary is an essential pillar of writing because through it writers can express their ideas accurately and choose them elegantly, allowing writers to paint a vivid picture in the minds of their readers, arouse emotions, and convey complex ideas clearly.

According to Crystal (2008), expanding one's vocabulary through varied reading and active use enhances the ability to communicate effectively. Vocabulary has important strategies such as embracing reading, which means immersing yourself in reading a variety of literature and works in order to expand and discover new words and use them. Dictionaries and thesauruses can also be used, taking into account dictionaries to clarify the meanings of words and other dictionaries such as dictionaries of synonyms and antonyms, which leads to choosing... Rich in vocabulary, you can engage in active learning by incorporating new words into your daily conversations, by writing them down and practicing them effectively (Crystal, 2008).

#### **I .2.4.2. Grammar and syntax the framework of language:**

The backbone of the language is the grammatical rules and syntax that lead to the arrangement of words and phrases, which ensures clarity and understanding the meaning accurately and elegantly, as Strunk and White (2009) confirm that understanding the sentence, verb tenses, and signs Essential elements of grammar and syntax and Sentence structure Understanding the different types of sentences with regard to simple, compound, complex. Verb tenses: meaning using verb tenses well and appropriately. Punctuation Correct use of punctuation marks, including semicolons, colons and periods to clarify and guide the reader (Crystal, 2008).

#### **I .2.4.3. Cohesion and coherence:**

Emphasizes the importance of cohesion and coherence in creating a harmonious and smooth form

of ideas Chomsky (2000), as they considered the threads that connect sentences and paragraphs into a coherent and purposeful text. Cohesion also ensures the logical development of ideas and the overall unity of the text. Effective strategies of cohesion and coherence include using transitional devices, using tools and words that link each idea to another idea, such as but etc. Also maintaining the consistency of the idea. This done by maintaining the consistency of the idea throughout the text to avoid ambiguity. It also includes preparing a clear explanation, where the theological explanation is prepared that covers the main topic or idea of the text in a clear and understandable way (Chomsky, 2000).

#### **I .2.4.4. Stylistic devices:**

Artistic touches Stylistic devices give writing flair and persuasiveness, allowing writers to engage readers, arouse emotions, and highlight key points. Eagleton (2007) asserts that the use of figurative language, varied sentence structures, and active voice enhance the ease of reading and the impact of writing. Common stylistic devices to create vivid images and enhance the framing of writing, we need to use figurative language of metaphors, similes and personification, vary the sentence structure by using different types of sentences, such as short, concise, long, etc., to attract the reader. Likewise, the active voice, as the preference for the passive voice makes writing more engaging and direct (Eagleton, 2007).

#### **I .2.5. Writing purposes:**

##### **I .2.5.1. Writing to Inform:**

Media writing illuminates readers' minds with facts and knowledge and serves as a beacon for them, meeting the needs of many audiences by conveying information accurately and objectively. It also contains many of the key characteristics of writing, such as clarity and accuracy. Informational writing presents information in a clear, concise, and accurate manner to ensure that readers understand the intended message (Fryer, 1985). As well as objectivity and neutrality, where the writer maintains an objective and neutral position and avoids personal opinions and biases that may obscure the presentation

of facts (Fryer, 1985). In addition to comprehensive coverage, the writing provides sufficient details for understanding, while giving a comprehensive overview of the topic as it addresses all relevant aspects (Stunk & White, 2009).

Media writing has various examples, such as news articles, which inform the public about news and events, and there are also explanatory articles, which clarify complex concepts, information, explanations, and processes. A research paper is a search for studies from original research.

#### **I.2.5.2. Writing to persuade:**

Persuasive writing is based on the reader's ideas and beliefs and is effective with persuasive arguments and evidence to persuade the reader to adopt a particular point of action. There are also specific signs of persuasive writing, such as the thesis statement, which means the thesis statement clearly states the writer's position and the path he wants the reader to take (Aristotle, 2007). There are also alternative causes that aim to write good, organized and evidence-based reasons to contribute to the struggle (Aristotle, 2007).

There are also Brazilian appeals, where the writer appeals to the reader and his poet through language and Brazilian appeals (Hurstun, 2006), and finally, editorials to adopt a specific position on an issue. Whether social or political, to persuade readers and publish the copy to advertise a product or service to persuade consumers. As Commentary, articles contain articles that revolve around a personal opinion about a current event or issue.

#### **I.2.5.3. Writing for Creativity and Imagination**

Creative writing allows writers to explore their abilities, express their unique voices, and transport readers to worlds beyond the ordinary because it is a world of unlimited imagination. Creative writing also includes a wide range of genres, for example poetry, fiction, and artistic exploration. Essential elements of creative writing Authenticity Creative writing showcases the writers' voice, perspective, and imagination (Egan, 2010). Engaging novels Writing provides readers with engaging stories, unique characters, and imaginative settings, (Mayo, 2015). Effective use of language The writer is creative in

using language, using metaphor, description, and sensory images to arouse emotions and engage the reader's senses (Golden, 2005). Examples of creative writing: Novels they are long complex stories with broad characters and themes. Poetry It is the use of rhythmic language to express exciting ideas, feelings, and experiences. Short stories: are brief, simple narratives with specific themes and characters.

### **I .2.6. Writing strategies:**

#### **I .2.6.1. Pre-writing techniques:**

Among the writing techniques is laying the foundation for success, as effective writing techniques and strategies are used before writing to organize and arrange ideas and provide an organized approach to generating ideas and preparing for the writing process. Likewise, brainstorming is the generation of ideas and concepts without judgment using mind maps, lists, or writing exercises (Murray, 2011). In addition, synthesis is linking ideas into organized and interconnected groups and creating a visual representation of their relationships (Murray, 2011). Which can be represented by broad outlines, which is establishing an organized framework for writing and identifying the main points and supporting details (Flower, 1985). Finally, research, which is collecting and harvesting information from reliable sources to present arguments and enhance credibility (Galko, 2001).

#### **I .2.6.2. Drafting and revising:**

Drafting and revising transform initial ideas into coherent, well-organized writing through repeated repetition of the process. Following the basic steps in drafting is to write freely, which is to focus on putting your ideas on the page without worrying about perfection (Albo, 1998). In addition, maintaining focus, i.e. Avoid distractions and stay on one path with one main idea (Albo, 1998). Which consists of varying the structure of sentences that is, using a variety of sentence lengths and structures to create rhythm and engagement (Flower, 1985). The basics of reviewing include stepping away from the text to allow a new perspective, which is taking a break (Albo, 1998), and reading aloud, meaning reading the draft aloud to identify inappropriate wording, unclear sentences, and inconsistencies (Albo, 1998). In addition, to sharing work with trusted mentors to obtain constructive criticism (Flower, 1985).

### **I .2.6.3. Editing and proofreading:**

Editing and proofreading accurately remove errors and improve the clarity of the final product. Editing focuses on content and means evaluating the overall structure, arguments, and flow of ideas (Strunk & White, 2009). As for style, which evaluates sentence structure, word choice, and tone to ensure consistency and effectiveness (Strunk & White, 2009), as for grammar and mechanics, where it works to correct grammatical errors, punctuation, and typos (Williams, 2005). Proofreading also emphasizes attention to detail by checking for minor errors such as misspelling, capitalization issues, and inconsistent formatting (Galko, 2001). In addition to consistency, it is ensuring consistency in style, format, and references (Williams, 2005). Without forgetting the facility of reading, this done by reading the text several times to ensure that it is easy to read and understand (Strunk & White, 2009).

### **I .2.6.4. Collaborative writing:**

Collaborative writing means harnessing the power of teamwork among several individuals to produce joint writing with diverse viewpoints and ideas. This writing depends on effective strategies, the most important of which is setting clear goals, which means defining the purpose, audience, and scope of the writing project (Brayn, 2007). It also depends on dividing responsibilities from during the assignment of tasks and based on individual strengths and experience (Bryan, 2007). In addition, it includes the use of collaborative tools, which is the use of online mechanisms and platforms to facilitate document sharing, real-time editing, and exchanging notes (Haycock, 2007).

### **I .2.6.5. Reflective writing:**

Reflective writing is an important means of personal growth and critical thinking. It encourages self-learning and highlights areas for improvement and development. Reflective writing has basic elements such as identifying strengths and weaknesses by analyzing your writing to identify areas that were well implemented and those that require improvement (Moon, 2006). In addition, taking into account the audience and purpose, that is, thinking about the extent to which you meet the needs of your audience and achieve the intended purpose of writing (Moon, 2006). You should also set goals



for improvement by setting firm, actionable goals for future writing endeavors (Moon, 2006).

### **I.2.7. Benefits of creative writing:**

#### **I.2.7.1. Enhanced Imagination and Originality:**

Creative writing expands the individual's imagination and encourages going beyond the boundaries of reality, which prompts the discovery and generation of original and new ideas and stories. The benefits of original writing for the imagination stimulate creativity. The process of crafting creative stories ignites the imagination and encourages individuals to think outside the box and generate unique points of view (Ackerman and Knox, 2016). Creative writing promotes innovation by developing a mentality that helps individuals innovate and deal with problems and challenges from new angles (Box-Trill, 2014). Enriching personal expression, Creative writing provides a venue for individuals to express their unique voices, ideas, and experiences in an imaginative and authentic way (Klein, 2010).

#### **I.2.7.2. Improving emotional expression:**

Creative writing is a powerful means of emotional expression that leads individuals to uncover and express their feelings in a unique way. It also has different benefits.

First Emotional awareness, as creative writing works to enhance emotional awareness by encouraging individuals to think about their feelings and identify the reasons behind their emotions (Golden, 2005). Second, to develop empathy through engaging with characters' feelings and exploring diverse perspectives, creative writing promotes empathy and understanding of others (Glazer, 2017). Finally, creative writing for emotional vent can provide a safe and cathartic outlet for expressing difficult emotions and promoting emotional healing and well-being (Hasson, 2006).

#### **I.2.7.3. Developing critical thinking:**

Creative writing is a creative process that requires critical thinking skills to formulate innovative and organized stories and narratives. It is not just imagination as others think. Creative writing has many benefits for critical thinking; one of these benefits is problem solving, as creative writing

challenges individuals and solves them in the context of their stories, which enhances their ability to solve problems. (Egan, 2010) Creative writing encourages critical evaluation of one's own work and the work of others, which enhances analytical thinking skills (Box-Trilla, 2014).

#### **I .2.7.4. Increase confidence in writing abilities:**

A person can enhance his confidence in his ability to write by practicing written creativity, which pushes him into the world of imagination and other things. One of the benefits of creative writing for confidence is overcoming writing anxiety, as creative writing provides a safe and supportive environment for individuals to practice writing without fear of judgment, which reduces writing anxiety (Glazer, 2017). In addition to expanding writing skills, the creative writing process sharpens various writing skills, including grammar, sentence structure, vocabulary, and storytelling. (Egan, 2010). It also includes transferable skills, meaning skills that are developed through creative writing, such as creativity, critical thinking, and effective communication, are transferable to other forms, which enhances overall writing proficiency (Golden, 2005).

#### **I .2.8. The relationship between reading and writing:**

##### **I .2.8.1. Reading as inspiration for writing:**

Writing has an important source, which is reading, as it is considered a means of inspiration for students of English as a foreign language, which exposes them to creativity in their writing and the use of their methods, vocabulary, and broad literary techniques that make them develop and form a rich tapestry of ideas. It inspires writing with many benefits such as exposure to diverse writing styles. Reading exposes students to a variety of writing styles, from formal essays to engaging novels, and expands their understanding of effective writing techniques (Alderson and Krachan, 2006). In addition, enhancing vocabulary acquisition, i.e. immersion in written language, enriches students' vocabulary and provides them with a treasure trove of words to express their thoughts and writing, (Grabe & Stoller, 2007). That, but also sparking creativity, as reading not only ignites students' creativity and inspires them to experiment with different writing styles, explore new topics, and

develop their unique voices. (Tribble, 1999).

### **I.2.9. Common challenges in Writing for EFL Students:**

Despite their inspired reading, English language students face challenges in their writing resulting from linguistic, cultural, and psychological factors. Common writing challenges for EFL students are limited vocabulary and grammar. Inadequate Mastery of English vocabulary can hinder students' ability to express their ideas clearly and concisely. Written (Belvidor, 2016).

In addition to cultural differences, cultural nuances and unfamiliar writing conventions can pose challenges for EFL students, which may lead to misinterpretations and ineffective communication (Byrne, 2009). In addition to a lack of confidence, the fear of making mistakes or expressing themselves inappropriately can erode students' confidence in their ability to write, stifling their creative expression (Hampden\_turner & Thompson, 2009).

### **I.2.10. Strategies for Overcoming Writing Challenges:**

Empowering EFL Students As mentioned (Alderson and Crashon, 2006), EFL students can successfully overcome writing challenges using effective strategies that remove these barriers. To overcome writing problems, you should follow a set of tips.

First, Extensive Reading Structured and varied reading provides students with a variety of writing styles, builds vocabulary, and increases understanding of grammar and structure. Second, active reading Engaging in active reading techniques such as note-taking, analysis, and summarizing leads to deeper understanding. Third, students retain written materials (Grabe & Stoller, 2007). Fourth, English immersion, which means being surrounded by the English language through conversations, films, and music, enhances fluency and familiarity with the nuances of the language (Tribble, 2015).

In addition to seeking feedback, it is useful to get constructive comments from teachers, colleagues, or native speakers Students also identify areas for improvement and improve their writing skills (Belvedere, 2016). Finally, regular writing practice Regular writing practice, even in short periods,

allows students to apply their knowledge, try different approaches and build confidence (Byrne, 2009).

### **I.2.11. Short stories as a catalyst for Creative Writing:**

#### **I.11.1. The Influence of the Short Stories on Writing Style:**

Influential short stories in writing include literary skills such as figurative language, as short stories demonstrate figurative language, including metaphor and personification, which helps add vivid images, evoke emotions, and add depth to prose (Anderson, 2012). One of the basic principles that short stories teach is the ability to “show” rather than “tell” (Ford, 2018). By immersing the reader in images and experiences, short stories incorporate emotions and emotions and create an engaging story (Ford, 2018). Likewise, brevity and precision, as the brevity of short stories requires economy of language. Moreover, writers learn to convey their messages clearly, precisely, and with impact, as every word is important in constructing a compelling narrative (Pohl, 2016). In addition to effective pacing and plot development, short stories excel at demonstrating nuances of pacing, as authors skillfully build suspense and tension and provide satisfying plot developments in a limited space (Flahiff, 2018).

#### **I.2.11.2. Elements of short stories that enhance writing:**

The short story is considered one of the basic structures for writing skills in terms of: character development, as short stories provide a platform for creating comprehensive characters with motivations, flaws, paths and growth associated with them. This aspect of storytelling also enhances empathy and depth in character portrayal (Anderson, 2012). In addition, the setting and atmosphere are captured through careful manipulation of the place. Writers learn how to utilize setting as a dynamic element that enhances storytelling (Flahive, 2018). In addition to dialogue, writers gain insights into creating authentic dialogue that resonates with readers (Biehl, 2016).

#### **I.2.11.3. Incorporating short stories into writing instructions:**

Interest in passionate writers allows for the incorporation of short stories into writing instruction as an effective platform for enhancing creative writing skills. Firstly, short story analysis involves

engaging students in the critical analysis of short stories and encourages the exploration of various literary techniques, plot elements, and character development methods, which enhances their understanding of the art of narrative (Anderson 2012). Secondly, short story writing exercises, as directing students to write short stories implements their literary knowledge, applies narrative expression within a given organization, and enhances blogging skills (Burhl, 2016). Thirdly, short story discussion and collaboration, that is, through discussions and collaborative projects related to short stories, develops A sense of community among students as they exchange opinions and experiences in order to learn from them (Falahief, 2018). Finally, short story anthologies and contests. Involving students in short story anthologies and contests opens their literary horizons and becomes a source of inspiration for their creative writing (Ford, 2018).

#### **I .2.11.4. Benefits of using short stories to practice writing:**

Releasing the freedom of creativity allows short stories to be used as a place to practice writing, because they have broad benefits for writers seeking to reach the top. They help overcome obstacles to creativity, stimulate thinking, and get rid of fatigue while working. It enhances people's self-confidence (Pohl, 2016). Short stories also become a platform for exploring and experimenting with different writing styles, which enhances creativity and enriches the diversity of writing skills (Flahive, 2018). The benefits of using short stories lead to the development of narrative skills, as short stories contribute to the development of narrative skills, including plot construction and character creation, and writers can improve their narrative techniques through continuous training and receiving feedback (Anderson, 2012). Receiving and sharing drafts of short stories with peers or mentors also provides the opportunity to receive constructive criticism and feedback and identify areas for improvement, which contributes to the growth and improvement of narrative skills (Ford, 2018)

#### **Conclusion**

At the end of this journey into creative writing, we have discovered the power of words and the magic of imagination. We have looked at different parts of writing and learned that it is not just about

communication but also a way to express ourselves and be creative. By seeing how short stories can improve our writing skills, we understand why it is important to include them in our writing practice. We have also learned that storytelling helps us develop our writing abilities and guides us towards excellence. Reading and writing are deeply connected, each helping to improve the other and enrich our imaginations. Short stories have opened new ways for us to express ourselves and improve our narrative skills, making our writing more rich and deep. Our journey into writing has been transformative and inspiring. It has allowed us to unleash our creativity and strive for continuous improvement. As we keep, facing challenges and enjoying the beauty of creative writing, let us continue to use our pens with passion and our imagination with limitless creativity, making our journey full of inspiring experiences and discoveries

# **Chapter Two**

## **FIELD WORK**

## **Introduction**

Studying this work theoretically only is not enough to reach clarity of results, as the previous two chapters reviewed the literature related to the study. The second chapter is the practical part of the study, and includes presenting the elements of the research, , in addition to defining the sample and population. Also a simple explanation about data collection. It also includes presenting the interpretation and analysis of a questionnaire designed for English language students. This study aimed to identify the role of reading short stories in enhancing students' written creativity.

### **II.1. Methodology**

This study investigate the impact of reading short stories on enhance creative writing for Master one students literature and civilization at Mohamed kheidar in Biskra . We have using mixed method qualitative and quantitative, this method allows for systematic data collection and objective analysis.

### **II.2. Population and sample:**

As for the students targeted by this research, they are LMD Master's students at Mohamed Kheider University in Biskra during the academic year 2023-2024. The questionnaire was applied to a randomly selected sample of 28 participants, who answered the questionnaires online.

### **II.3. Data gathering tools:**

Instrumentation involves the use of tools and methods for collecting, measuring, and analyzing data within research. The precision and dependability of the data collected is secured by using appropriate instruments, which is essential for deriving valid and significant results from the research. The following tools were utilized for data gathering in this study is a questionnaire, this questionnaire aims to evaluate how reading short stories impacts students ability to boost their creative writing and improve their English writing skills.

### **II.4. Description of the questionnaire:**

The questionnaire covers several key areas:



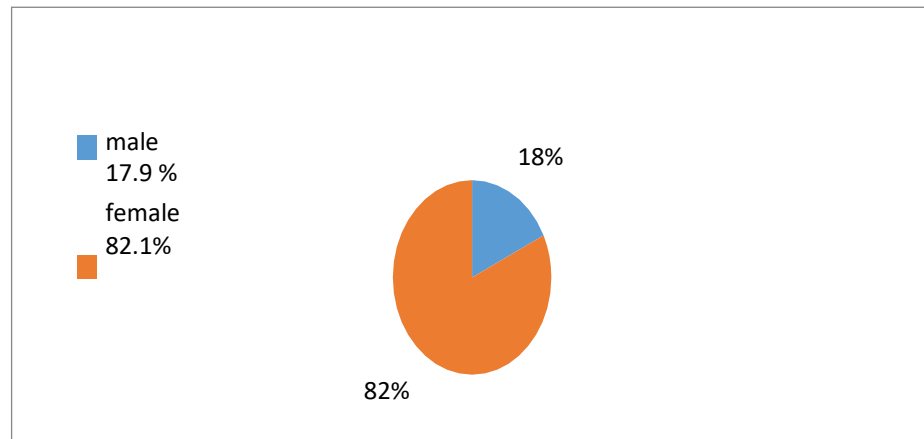
- Demographic information (gender, age, occupation, educational level) Frequency and nature of engagement with short stories;
- Perceived impact of short stories on creative writing and skill development Experiences with translating short
- Stories from the mother tongue to English

This questionnaire will contribute to a better understanding of the effectiveness of using short stories as a medium in language learning and the development of strategies to enhance students' writing skills.

### **II.5. Analysis of Student's Questionnaire:**

The questionnaire used for this research at Mohamed Kheider University, Biskra, consists of various questions aimed at understanding the demographic profile and perceptions of Master 01 students regarding their language learning journey, specifically focusing on how reading short stories influences their writing skills and creativity. The following analysis is based on the responses collected from 28 students.

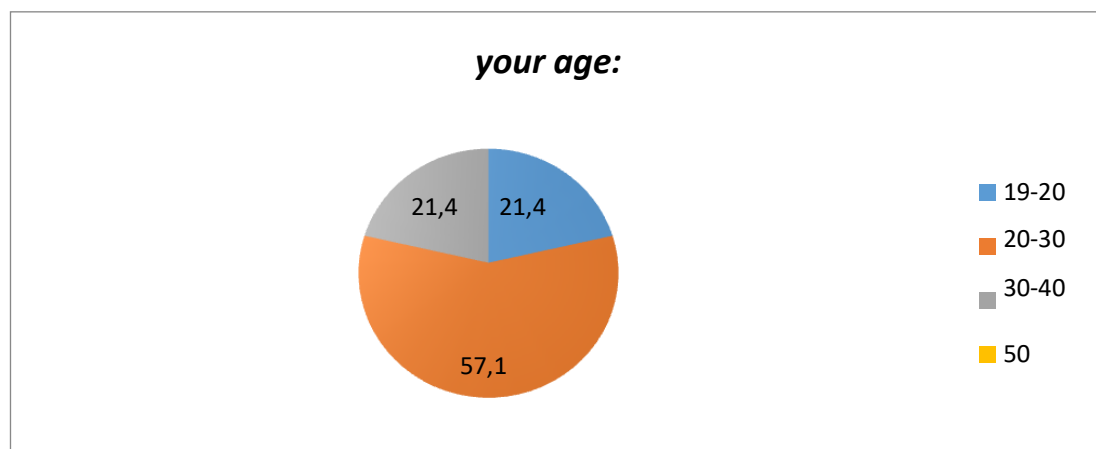
### II.5.1. Students' Gender:



**Figure II.1.** The percentage of Students' Gender.

From the corresponding pie chart, it is evident that a substantial majority of the respondents are female, constituting 82.1% of the sample, while males represent 17.9%. This indicates a higher level of participation from female students in the study.

### II.5.2. Students' Age:

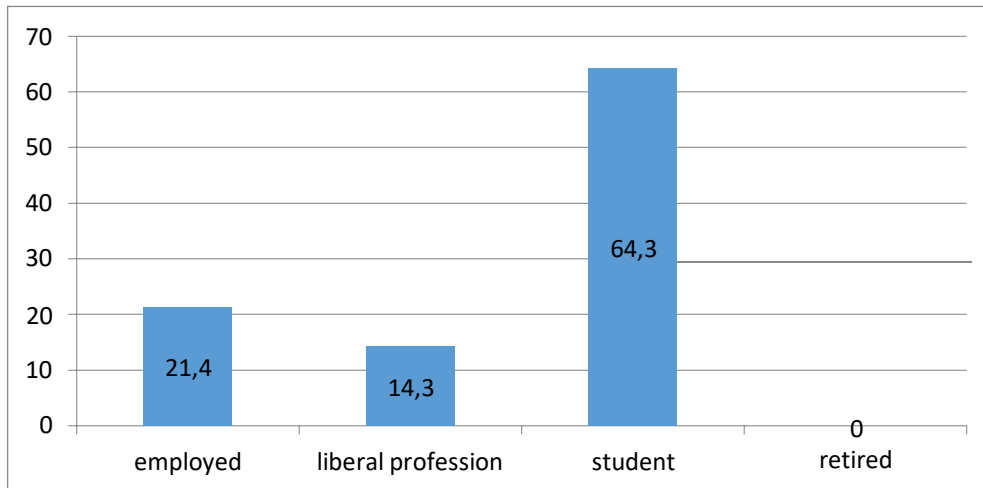


**Figure II.2.** Percentage of Students Age.

The age distribution shows that the majority of the respondents (57.1%) are in the 20-30

age group, followed by 21.4% in the 19-20 age group. The rest are distributed between the 30-40 and over 50 age groups, with 14.3% and 7.2% respectively.

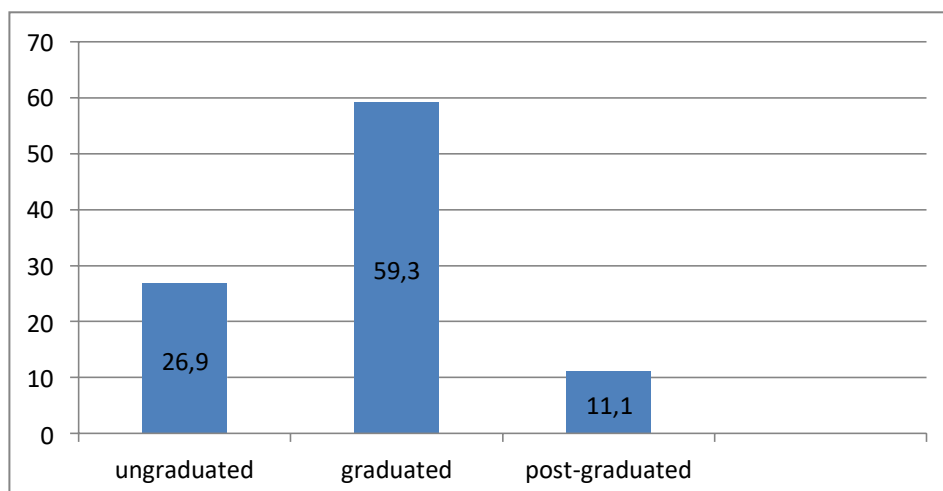
### II.5.3. Students Occupation:



**Figure II.3.** The percentage of Students Occupation.

The bar chart indicate that the majority of the respondents are students (64.3%), followed by employed individuals (21.4%). A smaller percentage are engaged in liberal professions (14.3%). There were no retired individuals among the respondents.

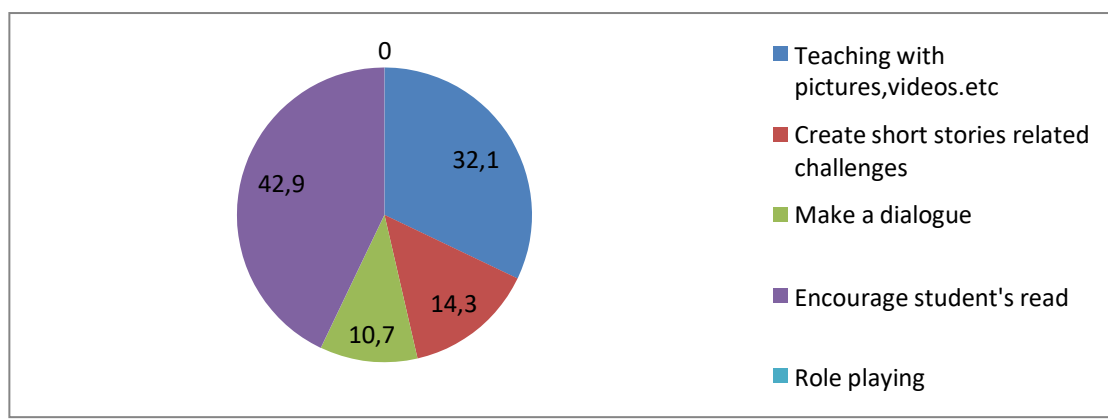
### II.5.4. Educational level of students:



**Figure II.4.** The percentage of educational level of students.

The corresponding chart indicates that the majority of the sample (59.3%) are graduates. This indicates that most of the participants had completed their university studies and obtained a bachelor's degree. The next largest group is non-graduate students, who make up 29.6% of the sample, indicating that a large proportion of participants are still in the process of completing their university education. Smaller groups of participants, 11.1%, are postgraduates, reflecting those who pursued their education beyond university level, such as a Master's or doctoral degree.

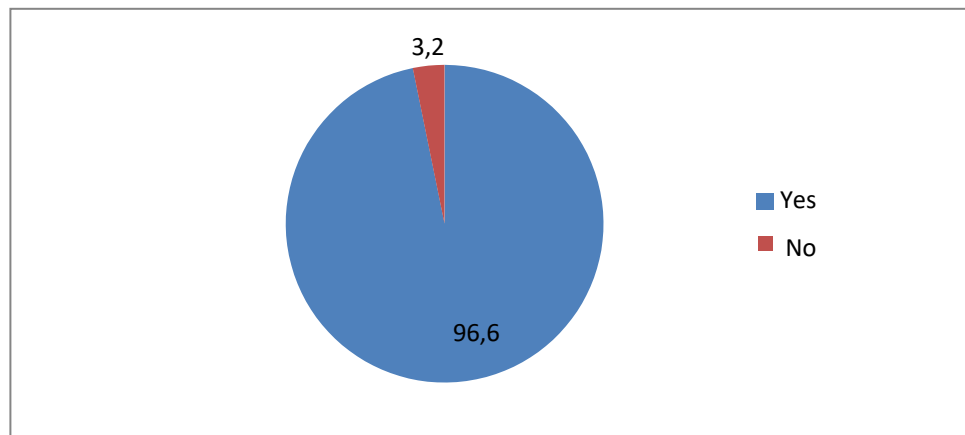
#### II.5.5. Methods to Help Students Understand and Write Short Stories:



**Figure II.5.** The percentage of Methods to Help Students Understand and Write Short Stories.

The most favored method for helping students understand and write short stories is encouraging students to read (42.9%), indicating that reading is perceived as a crucial activity for improving writing skills. This is followed by teaching with pictures and videos (32.1%), suggesting that visual aids are also considered highly effective. Creating short stories related challenges (14.3%) and making a dialogue (10.7%) are less popular but still noteworthy. No respondents chose role-playing, indicating it might not be seen as relevant or effective in this context.

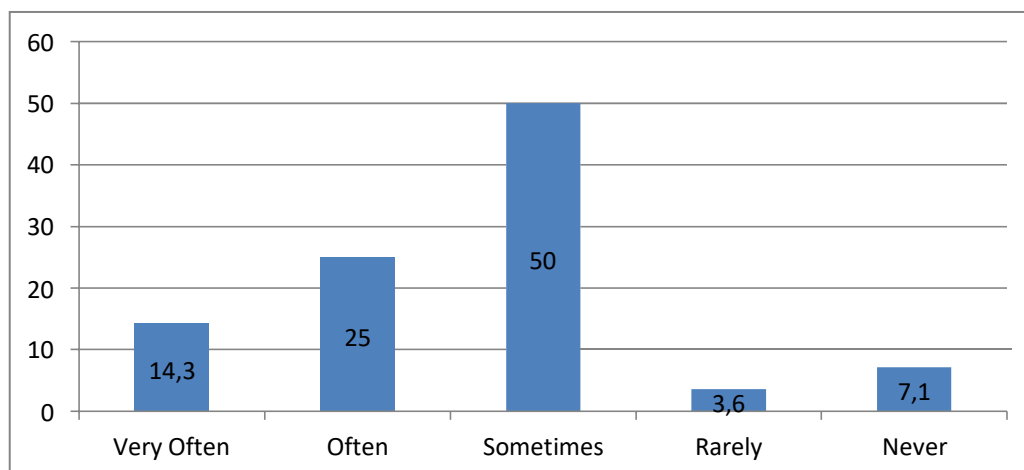
#### II.5.6. Impact of Reading Short Stories on Creative writing:



**Figure II.6.** The percentage Impact of Reading Short Stories on Creative writing.

A vast majority of respondents (96.6%) believe that reading short stories enhances their creative writing. This overwhelming positive response highlights the importance of integrating short stories into language learning curricula to boost creative writing skills.

#### II.5.7. Frequency of Engaging in Creative Writing Activities:

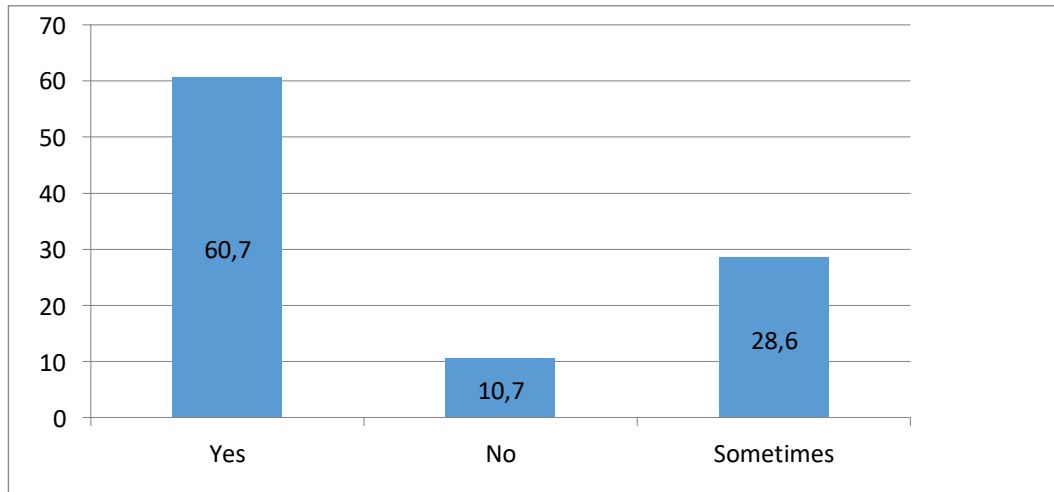


**Figure II.7.** The percentage of Frequency of Engaging in Creative Writing Activities.

The data indicates that 50% of the respondents sometimes engage in creative writing activities after reading short stories, suggesting a moderate level of engagement among most students. A quarter of the respondents (25%) often engage in such activities, and 14.3% do so very often, showing that significant portions of students are frequently inspired to write creatively after reading. Conversely, only 3.6% rarely engage, and 7.1% never engage in creative writing activities

after reading short stories, indicating that a small minority are less inclined to participate in creative writing. Overall, the data reflects a positive trend towards using short stories as a stimulus for creative writing among students.

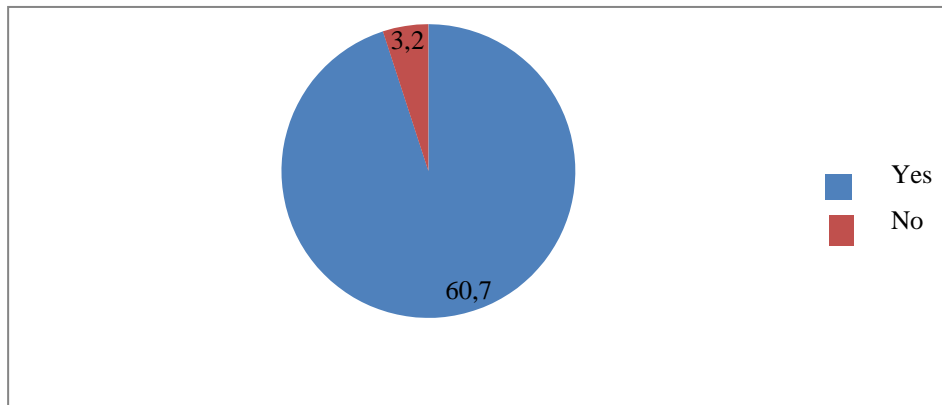
#### **II.5.8. Perception of Reading Short Stories on Developing Writing Skills:**



**Figure II.8.** The percentage of Perception of Reading Short Stories on Developing Writing Skills.

The majority of the respondents (60.7%) believe that reading short stories helps develop their writing skills in English. This suggests that most students perceive a direct positive impact of engaging with short stories on their ability to write effectively in English. Additionally, 28.6% of the respondents sometimes feel that their writing skills improve, indicating that while they see some benefits, the effect may not be consistent or significant for them. Only a small fraction (10.7%) do not believe that reading short stories contributes to the development of their writing skills.

#### **II.5.9. Experience in Translating Short Stories from Mother Language to English:**



**Figure 2.9.** The percentage of Experience in Translating Short Stories from Mother Language to English.

The data shows that a significant majority (60.7%) of the respondents have experienced translating short stories from their mother language to English. This indicates that translation activities are relatively common among the students, possibly as part of their coursework or language learning exercises. The remaining 39.3% have not encountered such tasks, which could suggest variability in the types of assignments or learning experiences students are exposed to.

## II.6. Discussion of the Questionnaire:

In this questionnaire, we will look into the results of the questionnaire we gave to the participants.

The questionnaire was designed to gather details about the participants' backgrounds and their views on the impact of reading short stories on their English writing abilities. It included questions about gender, age, job, educational level, and specific questions related to reading and writing. By analyzing these responses, we want to understand better, how short stories can help improve students' creative writing and skills

The study surveyed 28 participants, predominantly female (82.1%), suggesting a gender imbalance in the interest or exposure to short story reading in educational settings. Regarding age groups, the majority fell between 20-30 years (57.1%), indicating a strong inclination among young adults towards enhancing English language skills, possibly for academic or vocational purposes. Most participants were students (64.3%), underscoring a youthful presence in the survey and a keen interest in developing language abilities. Furthermore, the majority were graduates (59.3%), highlighting a correlation between higher educational attainment and participation in activities like reading short stories to improve linguistic and writing skills. Participants favored teaching methods such as using pictures and videos (32.1%) and encouraging reading (42.9%) to aid comprehension and writing of short stories, aligning with preferences for multimedia and interactive learning approaches. Additionally, a significant majority (96.6%) believed that reading short stories enhances creative writing, which may motivate students to engage more frequently in creative writing activities (88.4% reported doing so sometimes or more often). Overall, these findings underscore the potential of short story reading as a powerful tool in educational contexts, fostering both language development and creative expression among students.



## **Conclusion**

To conclude, the results of the questionnaire showed several important points about how reading short stories affects students' writing skills. Most participants, whether they were students or graduates, believe that short stories help enhance their creative writing and improve their language skills. The variation in teaching method preferences suggests that using pictures and videos can be very effective, as well as encouraging reading and designing writing challenges.

The findings also indicate that students positively respond to creative writing activities after reading short stories, implying that incorporating these activities regularly can be beneficial. Despite the differences in educational and professional backgrounds, all participants see clear benefits from short stories in improving writing skills.

Based on these results, teachers can develop more effective teaching strategies that support students in their learning journey and help them improve their English proficiency. We hope that these findings contribute to enhancing the educational process and making learning more enjoyable and effective for students.

## **General Conclusion**

## General Conclusion

In this work, we looked at how reading short stories can make writing more creative. Most people in our questionnaire think that reading short stories helps improve their English writing skills. Many of them also do creative writing after reading these stories. The results show a strong connection between reading and writing, and that short stories are useful for improving language skills. Most of the participants were young female students, which helps us understand the context of how short stories are read and enjoyed. Based on the results, we suggest that teachers use more short stories in their lessons and encourage students to read them often. Using pictures and videos, promoting a reading habit, and creating writing challenges can also help. Additionally, practicing translation can help students understand different writing styles and improve their language skills. In conclusion, reading short stories positively affects creative writing. By using short stories, teachers can help students improve their writing and language skills.

In conclusion, our exploration of creative writing has illuminated the transformative potential of language and the boundless realm of imagination. Throughout this journey, we have dissected the intricacies of writing, recognizing its dual function as a tool for communication and a medium for self-expression and creativity. The examination of short stories has underscored their pivotal role in enhancing our writing proficiency, underscoring the necessity of integrating them into our writing routines. Moreover, storytelling has emerged as a catalyst for honing our narrative skills, guiding us towards achieving higher standards in our craft. The symbiotic relationship between reading and writing has become evident, each reinforcing the other to broaden our imaginative faculties and refine our storytelling prowess. Short stories, in particular, have provided us with new avenues for artistic expression, enriching the depth and complexity of our narratives. This journey into creative writing has been not only enriching but also empowering, enabling us to unleash our creative potential and strive for continual growth. As we navigate future challenges and revel in the beauty of creative expression, let us approach our writing endeavors with unwavering passion and unfettered imagination, ensuring that our journey remains replete with inspiration and discovery.

**Recommendations:**

- Use pictures and videos to make short stories more engaging.
- Encourage regular reading by recommending interesting short stories.
- Create writing assignments that inspire creativity and challenge students.  
Include more activities that involve writing and speaking dialogues.
- Have students translate short stories to improve their language skills.
- Hold regular creative writing sessions after reading short stories to help develop writing skills.

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# Appendices:

## Appendix A: Questionnaire

**1. Your gender is:**       Male               Female

**2.Age:**       19-20       20-30               30-40               over50

**3.Occupation:**    Employed       Liberal profession       Student               Retired

**4.Educational level:**    Ungraduated       Graduated               Post-graduated

**5.How can teachers help students better understand and write short stories in their language-learning journey?**

Teaching with pictures, videos .etc.               Create short stories related challenges

Make a dialogue       Encourage student's read               Role playing

**6.Do you find that reading short stories enhances your creative writing?**    Yes               No

**7.How often do you engage in creative writing activities after reading short stories?**

Very often       Often       Sometimes       Rarely               Never

**8.Do you think that reading short stories helps develop your writing skill in English?**

Yes               No               Sometimes

**.If yes, how?**

.....  
 .....

.Have you ever been in a situation where asked to translate a short story from your mother language to English?       Yes               No

**This questionnaire is aimed at Master 01 students specializing in Literature and Civilization.**

**Thank you for your participation.**

## الملخص

تعد قراءة القصص القصيرة نشاطاً قيماً للغاية بالنسبة للكتابة الإبداعية للطلاب، وخاصة للأشخاص الذين يتعلمون اللغة الإنجليزية كلغة أجنبية. إنه يستكشف كيف ترتبط القراءة والكتابة وكيف تساعد الناس على أن يصبحوا كتاباً أفضل. توضح هذه الدراسة المهم في استخدام القصص القصيرة في المدارس لإلهام الطلاب ومساعدتهم في مهاراتهم في الكتابة. يركز البحث على فهم كيفية تأثير أنواع مختلفة من القصص على مدى جودة كتاب الطلاب الذين يكتبون حول كيفية قراءة القصص القصيرة التي تجعل الناس أكثر إبداعاً وأفضل كتاباً باللغة الإنجليزية. تخمن الدراسة أن قراءة القصص القصيرة بانتظام يمكن أن تحسن مهارات الكتابة الإبداعية للطلاب. لمعرفة ذلك ، قدم الباحثون دراسة استقصائية لطلاب LMD في السنة الأولى في جامعة محمد خيضر في بسكرة. لقد استخدموا استبياناً عبر الإنترنت مع 28 طالباً تم اختيارهم عشوائياً. تظهر النتائج أن معظم الطلاب يعتقدون أن قراءة القصص القصيرة تساعدهم على الكتابة بشكل أفضل ، مع فوائد مثل تعلم المزيد من الكلمات ، وتحسين كيفية كتابتهم ، والأكثر إبداعاً. تشير الدراسة إلى أن المعلم يستخدم قصصاً قصيرة في الدروس لمساعدة الطلاب على التعلم بشكل أفضل. ينتهي الأمر بقوله أن قراءة القصص القصيرة تلعب دوراً كبيراً في جعل الناس أكثر إبداعاً وأفضل كتاباً باللغة الإنجليزية.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** طلاب اللغة الإنجليزية، قراءة القصص القصيرة، الإبداع الكتابي.