

THE ANALYSIS OF TEACHING CHALLENGES FACED BY ENGLISH TEACHERS IN IMPLEMENTING THE MERDEKA CURRICULUM

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the challenges faced by English Teachers in implementing the Merdeka Curriculum at SMA Negeri 1 Tanjung Raja. The findings reveal that teachers experienced multiple challenges: students' low motivation to learn English, lack of foundational knowledge, and difficulties in adapting to the learning material. Teachers also struggled with students' diverse learning styles and characteristics, which demanded varied instructional strategies. In addition, teachers faced time constraints in preparing lesson plans, *ATP*, and teaching modules aligned with *Capaian Pembelajaran (CP)*. The integration of the Pancasila Student Profile into English lessons was another challenge, as it required the incorporation of values such as faith, cooperation, critical thinking, and global diversity within limited class time. Designing appropriate diagnostic, formative, and summative assessments also posed a difficulty, especially in ensuring that the assessments matched students' actual learning progress. This study recommends more strategic support from schools and education authorities to ensure successful and sustainable implementation of the Merdeka Curriculum.

Keywords : *Merdeka Curriculum, English Teachers, Challenges, Teaching*