

**A MULTIMODAL SEMIOTIC ANALYSIS OF THE REPRESENTATION
OF 21st-CENTURY SKILLS IN THE *LIFE TODAY* GRADE 12 ENGLISH
TEXTBOOK**



A THESIS

By

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**ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
FACULTY OF TEACHER AND EDUCATION
WIDYA MANDALA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
SURABAYA**

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A THESIS

Presented to Teacher Education Faculty
Widya Mandala Surabaya Catholic University
In partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of
Sarjana Pendidikan in English Language Education



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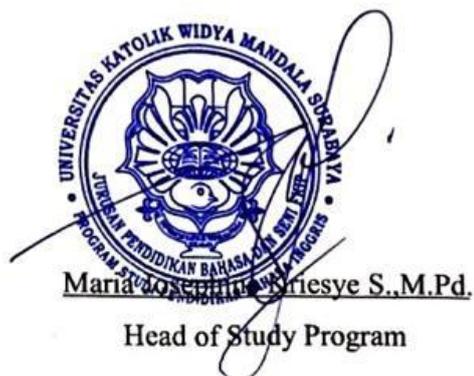
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I declare that this thesis is my own writing, and it is true and correct that I did not take any scholarly ideas or work from others dishonestly. All the cited works were quoted in accordance with the ethical code of academic writing. I will take all the consequences if plagiarism is found in this thesis.

Surabaya, July 11th 2025

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Yoel Satria Nugroho', with a horizontal line underneath.

Yoel Satria Nugroho
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ABSTRACT

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This study investigates how the Grade 12 English textbook *Life Today*, developed under Indonesia's Merdeka Curriculum, represents 21st-century skills through multimodal elements such as text, visuals, and layout design. Using a qualitative content analysis method guided by Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), Kress and van Leeuwen's Visual Grammar, and the P21 Framework, this study analyzes the integration of six core skills: critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity, information literacy, and media literacy. The findings reveal that *Life Today* effectively incorporates these skills across all units through well-structured multimodal resources. The frequency analysis shows that critical thinking (50 instances) and communication (48 instances) are the most dominantly represented skills, followed by collaboration (35 instances), information literacy (29 instances), creativity (24 instances), and media literacy (21 instances). These results indicate that the textbook places a strong emphasis on fostering students' analytical thinking and communication abilities while consistently supporting collaborative learning, creative expression, critical information evaluation, and responsible media engagement. In conclusion, *Life Today* provides a comprehensive platform for developing 21st-century skills through the synergy of linguistic and visual elements, offering valuable insights for textbook developers, curriculum designers, and English educators.

Keywords: Multimodal Semiotic Analysis, 21st-Century Skills, English Textbook, Systemic Functional Linguistics, Visual Grammar.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SURAT PERNYATAAN JALUR SKIRPSI	iii
APPROVAL SHEET (I)	iv
APPROVAL SHEET (II)	v
SURAT PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN PUBLIKASI KARYA ILMIAH .	v
STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY	vii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	viii
ABSTRACT	ix
TABLE OF CONTENTS	x
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1. Background of the Study	1
1.2. Research Questions	4
1.3. Research Objectives	5
1.4. Theoretical Framework	5
1.5. Significance of the Study	6
1.6. Definition of Key Terms	6
1.7. Scope and Limitation	8
1.8. Organization of the Thesis	9
CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	10
2.1 Literature Review	10
2.1.1 Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL)	10
2.1.2 Multimodal Semiotic Theory	11
2.1.3 The 21st Century Skills Framework	12
2.1.4 The Role of Textbooks in English Language Teaching (ELT)	14
2.2 Previous Studies	15
CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHOD	17
3.1 Research Design	17
3.2 Site and Context	17
3.3 Data Source	18

3.4	Data Collection Procedure	19
3.5	Data Analysis Technique	20
CHAPTER IV FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION		32
4.1	Type of 21st Century Skills in Textbook	32
4.1.1	Critical Thinking	32
4.1.2	Communication	36
4.1.3	Collaboration	39
4.1.4	Creativity	42
4.1.5	Information Literacy	46
4.1.6	Media Literacy	51
4.2	Collaboration of M-M Elements to Support 21st-Century Skills	54
4.2.1	Unit 1	54
4.2.2	Unit 2	55
4.2.3	Unit 3	56
4.2.4	Unit 4	57
4.3	Cross-Unit Summary and Discussion	58
4.4	Addressing the Research Questions	59
CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND RECOMENDATION		61
5.1	Conclusion	61
5.2	Implications of the Study	61
5.3	Recommendations	62
5.3.1	Recommendations for Textbook Designers and Authors	62
5.3.2	Recommendations for Curriculum Developers	63
5.3.3	Recommendations for Educators	63
5.3.4	Recommendations for Future Research	64
REFERENCES		65
APPENDICES		68