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# The Effect of Using Comic Books in Turkish Language Lessons on Teaching of Phonological Phenomena

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### **Abstract**

Phonetic phenomena are one of the most challenging topics for students in Turkish language classes. Comic books are considered a genre that captures students' attention with their illustrations and humorous language. Therefore, this study aimed to examine the effect of comic books designed and published by researchers on the teaching of phonetic phenomena. The research was conducted using a mixed-methods approach with an explanatory sequential design. A quasi-experimental design was adopted for the quantitative dimension and a phenomenological design for the qualitative dimension. The study group consisted of 76 5th-grade students. The quantitative data were obtained using a phonetic phenomena achievement test developed by the researchers, while the qualitative data were collected through a semi-structured interview form conducted with 10 volunteers in the experimental group. In the analysis of quantitative data, an independent groups t-test was performed using the SPSS program. Qualitative data were analyzed through content analysis with the MAXQDA 24 program. According to the pre-test data, no significant difference was found between the experimental and control groups, while the post-test data showed a significant difference in favor of the experimental group. Students found the comics enjoyable and helpful for reading and comprehension. They frequently expressed opinions stating that the use of comics designed by researchers in Turkish lessons was positive and effective in teaching phonics, highlighting elements such as cover design, character drawing, and plot as appealing. Based on the research findings, it is recommended that comic books be used in teaching phonics.

**Keywords:** Comic books, phonological phenomena, secondary school students.

# Introduction

One of the most important characteristics of human beings is that they are social beings. Various elements of communication play a role in the process of socialization, and among these, verbal communication takes place through language. Language is the primary means by which individuals convey their feelings, thoughts, and impressions. The relevant literature contains many definitions of language. In short, language can be defined as a natural means for expressing desires, wishes, feelings, and thoughts; it is a system of written or spoken signs that enables individuals to understand each other and is governed by various rules (Aksan, 2000; Banguoğlu, 1986; Ergin, 2002). Language, described as a system of signs, facilitates individuals' lives, allows them to share their experiences, and constitutes a predominantly intellectual form of production that deepens relationships between individuals (Bilgin, 2006). According to Ciftci (1998), language teaching involves transmitting a nation's culture, teaching how to think, expanding vocabulary, and developing these skills. The most important component of language teaching is mother tongue education. Therefore, in the Turkish Language Curriculum, language teaching is structured around the four core skills of reading, listening, speaking, and writing (Ministry of National Education [MoNE], 2019). Balcı (2012) emphasizes that teaching grammar is another key factor in acquiring these four skills. Similarly, Temizkan (2012) notes that grammar plays a crucial role in instructional activities targeting these four core competencies. According to Özbay (2006), grammar is a field of science that examines the various aspects of sounds, words, and sentences. It plays a vital role in language use and its systematic acquisition. Erdem and Celik (2011) define grammar as the scientific discipline that studies a language's sounds, word types, the structural features of these words, their arrangement and functions within a sentence, as well as their inflectional forms.

One of the sub-branches of this discipline is phonology. Okur and Yılmaz (2006) describe it as a subfield that investigates the phonological phenomena of a language, the characteristics of these sounds, and their conditions in every aspect. Phonological phenomena are generally the field that analyzes the smallest units of language. Because they deal with these minimal sound units, phonological phenomena are one of the subfields that require the most attention in linguistics. However, as studies on this subject are often addressed superficially, it remains one of the areas in which students most frequently make errors (Efendioğlu & İşcan, 2010).

Various studies can be conducted when teaching phonological phenomena to students at a basic level. A review of the literature reveals different approaches to grammar instruction. Derman (2008) argues that grammar should be taught integrated with language skills such as speaking, writing, listening, and reading. When grammar instruction is separated from these skills, it becomes less functional and artificial, causing learners to merely memorize rules. A crucial consideration in grammar teaching is that it should occur within the context of natural communication and using language patterns that students encounter in their daily lives (Larsen-Freeman, 2011; Nunan, 1991). According to Yenen Avcı (2014), the teaching of phonology, a sub-branch of grammar, is often addressed in textbooks and other grammar resources without proper classification. It is typically presented with cursory information, failing to account for whether sound phenomena occur simultaneously or sequentially. Onan (2012) states that grammar instruction in Turkish language textbooks is approached in various ways, such as directly presenting grammar rules, conducting awareness-raising activities, implementing exercises to reinforce the topic, integrating grammar within different skill areas, and addressing it through end-of-unit assessment questions. However, employing diverse teaching materials and incorporating elements that capture students' interest can lead to more effective outcomes in grammar instruction.

Advancements in technology, individuals' engagement with diverse fields, and the development of children's literature products in terms of both quantity and quality have a positive impact on educational and instructional processes. Comic books, sometimes considered a form of children's literature, can also be utilized in educational settings. McCloud (1994) defines comics as juxtaposed pictorial and other images in deliberate sequence, intended to convey information and/or to produce an aesthetic response in the viewer.

According to Drucker (2008), comics blend the language of cinema, the sensitivity of contemporary literature, and the appeal of mass media, presenting these to the reader with an emphasis on their artistic and technical qualities. Mulligan (2014) describes comics as a medium or a distinct form of visual storytelling; while some strive to depict reality as faithfully as possible, most blend reality with imagination. Baetens and Frey (2015) argue that even a previously told story can be reimagined in comics under different conditions and through different narrative approaches. This is because comics constitute a distinct narrative form in which the creative potential of literature can be fully realized. It can be argued that comic books

are a genre that combines reality with fiction, possessing an aesthetic concern that is often expressed through images and text in speech bubbles.

In their early stages, comic books were not classified as a literary genre and remained in the shadow of text-based novels and other forms. According to Lo et al. (2018), for many years there was a tendency among educators and parents to believe that comic books were produced solely for entertainment and recreational purposes, lacking genuine educational and literary value. Stephens (2014) notes that many educators and librarians resisted including graphic narratives or comic books in school libraries and dismissed the reading habits of students who preferred visual texts. Similarly, Jacobs (2007) states that comic books have long been devalued as a low-quality, second-rate literary form. However, this genre carries both educational and aesthetic value due to its diverse characteristics. According to Miller (2005), the use of comic books in educational environments supports students' language development, enhances their visual literacy and critical thinking skills, improves their reading ability, and enables students who struggle with reading to make progress. Furthermore, the recent adaptation of comic books into major motion pictures has increased public interest in this medium. Therefore, using comic books as educational materials is also considered highly beneficial.

A review of the relevant literature reveals numerous studies examining the effect of comic books on reading motivation and tendencies (Edwards, 2009; Faza, 2020; Kennedy & Chinokul, 2020; Schwertner, 2008; Wong et al., 2023), on students' reading comprehension skills (Aldahash & Altalhab, 2020; Bosma et al., 2013; Cook, 2016; Faza, 2020; Jennings et al., 2014; Kennedy & Chinokul, 2020; Sabbah et al., 2013; Smetana, 2010; Wong et al., 2016; Wong et al., 2023), on students' academic achievement and motivation in various subjects (Ilhan & Oruç, 2019; Topkaya, 2014; Ünal & Demirkaya, 2019), on attitudes toward books and libraries (Stephens, 2014), on their application in instructional settings (Clark, 2013; Lapp et al., 2012; Mathews, 2011), and on the inclusion of comic books in libraries and students' demand for them (Lo et al., 2018; Schneider, 2014; Simmons & O'Bryant, 2009). A further review of the literature indicates that comic books have been used across various disciplines, with most studies focusing on reading comprehension and perceptual outcomes. In this study, the effects of using comic books in teaching phonological phenomena in Turkish language lessons were explored. The study sought answers to the following questions:

- 1. What is the effect of using comic books in Turkish language teaching on the teaching of phonetic phenomena?
  - 2. What are middle school students' views on their experiences reading comic books?
  - 3. What are middle school students' views on the functionality of comic books?
  - 4. What are middle school students' views on the appealing aspects of comic books?
- 5. What are middle school students' views on the use of comic books in Turkish language classes?
- 6. According to middle school students' views, what are the effects of comic books on teaching phonics?

### **Method**

#### **Research Model**

The research was conducted using a mixed-methods approach with an explanatory sequential design. According to Maxwell (2016), mixed-methods research allows for the systematic integration of quantitative and qualitative approaches. A quasi-experimental design was adopted for the quantitative dimension, and a phenomenological design for the qualitative dimension. Quasi-experimental designs include both control and experimental groups, and the data are analyzed based on the differences between pre-test and post-test results (Trochim & Donnelly, 2008). To obtain students' opinions about comic books and the learning process, interviews were conducted, and their responses to the questions in the semi-structured interview form were analyzed.

### **Study Groups**

The study groups consisted of 76 fifth-grade students attending a middle school in Kırşehir. In this study, the groups could not be assigned as matched pairs; instead, they were randomly assigned as experimental and control groups. Information regarding the study groups is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Study Sample

<i>J</i>			
Group	Gender	n	%
	Male	18	47.36
Experimental group	Female	20	52.74
	Total	38	100
	Male	17	44.73
Control group	Female	21	55.27
	Total	38	100

Table 1 shows the statistical data for the study sample. The study included a total of 76 students: 18 male (47.36%) and 20 female (52.74%) in the experimental group, and 17 male (44.73%) and 21 female (55.27%) in the control group. In addition, focus group interviews were conducted with a group of 10 volunteer students from the experimental group.

Before conducting the instructional intervention on the teaching of phonological phenomena using comic books, an independent samples t-test was applied to the experimental and control groups to determine whether there was a significant difference between them. The analysis of the independent samples *t*-test data is presented in Table 2.

**Table 2.**Analysis of Pre-test Data for the Experimental and Control Groups

Group	N	M	SD	df	t	p
Experimental	38	6.87	2.66	74	-1.410	.162
Control	38	7.69	2.37			

An examination of the data in Table 2 indicated that there was no significant difference between the experimental and control groups (t=-1.410, p>.05). This situation indicates that the experimental and control groups were equivalent prior to the study.

#### **Data Collection Tools**

In this study, two instruments developed by the researchers were used for data collection: a Phonological Phenomena Achievement Test and a Semi-Structured Interview Form. The achievement test, prepared by the researchers, consisted of 25 multiple-choice items. The test was first piloted with 111 sixth-grade students, and the items were subsequently analyzed. The item analysis results for the achievement test are presented in Table 3.

**Table 3.** *Item Analysis of the Achievement Test* 

Items	Item discrimination	Item difficulty	Itoma	Item discrimination	Item
	index (rjx)	(pj)	Items	index (rjx)	difficulty (pj)
1	.91	.73	14	-35	.33
2	.82	.68	15	.09	.82
3	.59	.82	16	.71	.61
4	.97	.69	17	.65	.47
5	.68	.64	18	.65	.58
6	.12	.61	19	.79	.63
7	.94	.63	20	.91	.61
8	.47	.34	21	.12	.25
9	.44	<b>.</b> 37	22	.71	.68
10	.76	.56	23	.71	·55
11	.59	.78	24	.68	·57
12	.74	.71	25	.56	.66
13	.76	·55			

Based on the item statistics in Table 3, three items (6, 15, and 21) were removed from the original 25-item test. According to Büyüköztürk et al. (2017), any item with a discrimination index below 0.20 should be excluded from a test. After removing these items, the final version of the achievement test used in the study consisted of 22 multiple-choice questions.

In addition to measuring students' learning outcomes, the study also aimed to explore their views on the comic books and the learning process. For this purpose, semi-structured interviews were conducted. Semi-structured interviews are among the most commonly used data collection techniques in qualitative research (Patten & Newhart, 2018). The questions for the semi-structured interview form were developed by the researchers after reviewing the relevant literature. To ensure clarity of meaning and to prevent ambiguity, the form was reviewed by three Turkish language teachers who are experts in the field. The final version of the interview form contained five questions. The interview form questions are listed in Table 4.

**Table 4.**Semi-Structured Interview Form Questions

No.	Question
1.	Have you ever had prior experience reading comic books? How would you evaluate this
	experience?
2.	Do you think comic books make reading and comprehension easier? Why?
3.	Which elements in the comics capture your attention the most?
4.	How would you evaluate the comic books used in Turkish language lessons overall?
5.	What are your views on the contribution of the instructional comics to learning about
	phonological phenomena?

### **Data Collection**

The researchers first contacted the designated school and the classroom teacher, shared the necessary permissions with the relevant stakeholders, and provided information about the study. Subsequently, meetings were held with students from different classes, during which the importance and purpose of the study were explained. It was emphasized that participation was entirely voluntary. After obtaining consent forms from students who wished to participate in the research, the study was initiated.

Once the data collection process began, during the section of the Turkish language course covering the teaching of phonological phenomena (specifically consonant softening and consonant hardening), comic books designed by the researchers using Adobe InDesign and Adobe Illustrator were distributed to each participant in the experimental group. Visuals of the designed comic books are presented in Figure 1.

**Figure 1.**Visuals of the Designed Comic Book



#### **Data Analysis**

In this study, which employed a mixed-methods research design, the quantitative data were analyzed using the SPSS program, while the qualitative data were analyzed using MAXQDA 24. Before analyzing the quantitative data obtained from the participating students, the normality of the data distribution was examined. To determine whether the data followed a normal distribution, the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was applied. According to Mertler et al. (2016), the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test provides evidence regarding whether a dataset is normally distributed. After analyzing the collected data, it was determined that the dataset exhibited a normal distribution (p=.051). Following this finding, an independent samples t-test was applied to the data, and the results were analyzed. In the qualitative part of the

research, that is, in the interpretation of the semi-structured interview data, content analysis was employed. According to Büyüköztürk et al. (2017), codes generated during content analysis can be grouped into certain categories, and these categories can then be organized under various themes. In this study, similar concepts and words were first identified and coded; from these codes, categories and broader themes were then established.

To ensure the reliability of the qualitative analysis, the formula proposed by Miles and Huberman (1994) was used. According to this formula, the percentage of agreement is calculated as  $Agreement / (Agreement + Disagreement) \times 100$ . The inter-coder agreement for the codes, themes, and categories determined in this study was calculated as 82%. This value is considered reliable, as Miles and Huberman (1994) state that at least 80% agreement between coders should be achieved.

Additionally, a code map was created for the qualitative data, and the frequencies of the codes, themes, and categories were reported. Selected student responses are presented in the relevant section, with pseudonyms (S1, S2, S3, S4, etc.) assigned to protect participant identities.

#### **Ethical Permits of Research:**

In this study, all the rules specified to be followed within the scope of "Higher Education Institutions Scientific Research and Publication Ethics Directive" were complied with. None of the actions specified under the heading "Actions Contrary to Scientific Research and Publication Ethics", which is the second part of the directive, have been taken.

#### **Ethics Committee Permission Information:**

Name of the committee that made the ethical evaluation = Kırşehir Ahi Evran University Social Sciences and Humanities Scientific Research and Publication Ethics Committee

Date of ethical review decision = 16.10.2024

Ethics assessment document issue number = 204/11/13

# **Findings**

### **Findings of Quantitative Research**

To determine whether there was a significant difference between the experimental and control groups based on the students' scores from the achievement test administered after the instruction of phonological phenomena using comic books, independent samples t-test was conducted. The findings from this analysis are presented in Table 5.

**Table 5.**Analusis of Post-test Data for the Experimental and Control Groups

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Group	N	M	SD	df	t	p
Experimental	38	14.08	3.77317	74	2.596	.011
Control	38	12.13	2.67290			

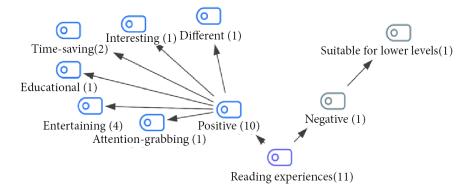
An examination of the data in Table 5 revealed a statistically significant difference between the experimental and control groups (t=2.596, p<.05). According to the results of the achievement test, the mean score of the students in the experimental group (M=14.08) was

higher than that of the students in the control group (M=12.13). In other words, teaching phonological concepts using comic books has a positive effect on students' academic achievement.

### **Findings of Qualitative Research**

The data obtained from the semi-structured interviews conducted with middle school students regarding the impact of comics on their reading experiences are presented in Figure 2.

**Figure 2.** *Middle School Students' Perspectives on Their Comic Book Reading Experiences* 



According to the analyses presented in Figure 2, middle school students' opinions about their comic book reading experiences were grouped under two categories. The "Positive" category contained 10 codes, while the "Negative" category contained 1 code. The most frequently mentioned code in the "Positive" category was "Entertaining" (f=4). The "Negative" category included only one code: "Suitable for lower levels" (f=1). Some of the middle school students' opinions regarding their comic book reading experiences are presented below:

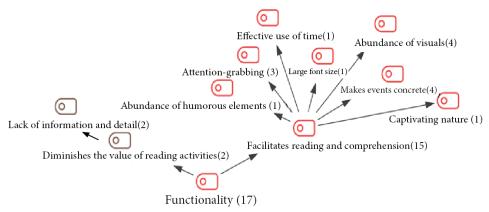
"Teacher, I've read books with various characters like these before. Actually, it's more entertaining than reading regular books. Because long texts sometimes get boring and tiring. But it's not like that with comics. So, I think reading comics is quite nice." (S1)

"I had read them before, in primary school. These books are more attractive. In other books, the long texts and pictureless sections start to become boring. I like books that have plenty of pictures much more." (S2)

"I have experience reading comic books. I especially read some series. There was a series called Kerem and the Little Monsters. I really enjoyed reading it. Things like that seem quite interesting to me." (S4)

"I don't really like reading comics. They seem childish to me. Instead, I prefer reading storybooks." (S7)

**Figure 3.** *Middle School Students' Perspectives on the Functionality of Comic Books* 



According to the analyses presented in Figure 3, middle school students' opinions regarding the functionality of comic books were grouped under two categories. The "Facilitates Reading and Comprehension" category contained 15 codes, while the "Diminishes the Value of Reading Activities" category contained 2 codes. The most frequently mentioned codes in the "Facilitates Reading and Comprehension" category were "Makes Events Concrete" and "Abundance of Visuals" (f=4). The "Diminishes the Value of Reading Activities" category included only one code: "Lack of Information and Detail" (f=2). Some of the middle school students' opinions regarding the functionality of comic books are presented below:

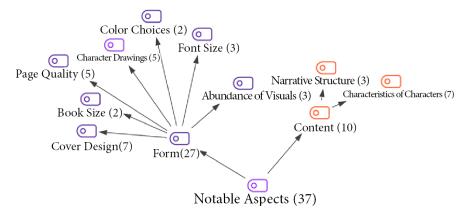
"The abundance of pictures helps me understand everything more easily. The drawings also capture my attention. If the text in the speech bubbles were written larger, I could read even more easily. In short, it makes both reading and comprehension easier." (S1)

"It grabs my interest and makes comprehension easier because there are so many drawings. But is this really reading? Here, there's little text and many pictures. In other books, there are few pictures and much text. I think it's different." (S3)

"It makes my comprehension and reading easier because there are visuals and cartoons everywhere." (S6)

The data obtained from semi-structured interviews with middle school students regarding the notable aspects of comic books are presented in Figure 4.

**Figure 4.** *Middle School Students' Views on the Notable Aspects of Comic Books* 



According to the analyses presented in Figure 4, middle school students' opinions regarding the notable aspects of comic books were grouped under two categories. The "Form" category contained 27 codes, while the "Content" category contained 10 codes. The most frequently mentioned codes in the "Form" category were "Cover Design" (f=7) and "Character Drawings" (f=5). In the "Content" category, the most frequently mentioned code was "Characteristics of Characters" (f=7). Some of the middle school students' opinions regarding the notable aspects of comic books are presented below:

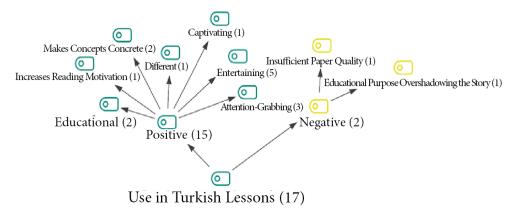
"The characters really catch my attention. Especially fantastic characters and the events they experience can be very appealing. Also, I think the colors and paper quality are important too. I prefer the ones printed on glossy paper rather than regular paper." (S5)

"The covers attract my attention. I immediately flip through the pages, and if I find the characters appealing, I'll choose that book." (S8)

"First, I look at the cover of the book I'm going to read. Then I browse through it and check the characters and how the pages look. These aspects draw my attention." (S10)

The data obtained from semi-structured interviews with middle school students regarding the use of comic books designed for this study and other comic book types in Turkish language courses are presented in Figure 5.

**Figure 5.** *Middle School Students' Views on the Use of Comic Books in Turkish Language Lessons* 



According to the analyses presented in Figure 5, middle school students' opinions regarding the use of comic books in Turkish lessons were grouped under two categories. The "Positive" category contained 14 codes, while the "Negative" category contained 2 codes. The most frequently mentioned codes in the "Positive" category were "Entertaining" (f=5) and "Attention-Grabbing" (f=3). In the "Negative" category, the most common codes were "The Educational Purpose Overshadows the Story" and "Insufficient Paper Quality" (f=1). Some of the middle school students' opinions regarding the use of comic books in Turkish lessons are presented below:

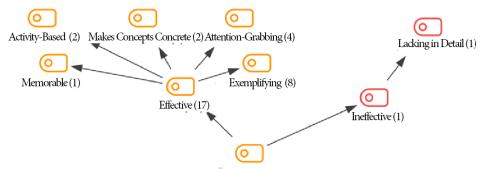
"Such things attract my attention. As I read, I become more curious. And I also enjoy it. Other storybooks usually have long texts, and the textbooks don't contain many entertaining texts." (S2)

"It wasn't bad, but the pages could have been made of a different kind of paper. The number of characters could have been increased as well. My interest in the lesson improved. Maybe different elements could have been added, but this is fine-it's enough." (S6)

"I thought it was nice. Such books should be used more often in lessons and reading hours. They capture my interest." (S7)

The data obtained from semi-structured interviews with middle school students regarding the effect of comic books on teaching phonological phenomena are presented in Figure 6.

**Figure 6.** *Middle School Students' Views on the Effect of Comic Books on Teaching Phonological Phenomena* 



Effect on Teaching Phonetic Phenomena (18)

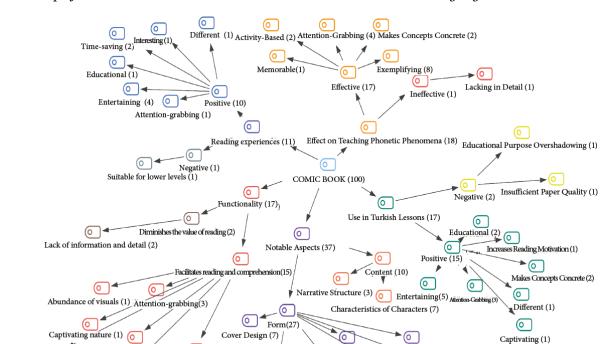
According to the analyses presented in Figure 6, middle school students' opinions regarding the effectiveness of comic books in teaching phonological phenomena were grouped under two categories. The "Effective" category contained 17 codes, while the "Ineffective" category contained 1 code. The most frequently mentioned codes in the "Effective" category were "Exemplifying" (f=8) and "Attention-Grabbing" (f=4). The single code in the "Ineffective" category was "Lacking Detail" (f=1). Some of the middle school students' opinions regarding the effectiveness of comic books in teaching phonological phenomena are presented below:

"I think it's good that some pages include information and that there's a section where the characters help each other. I especially noticed the inclusion of commonly confused words in the consonant softening and assimilation sections. It increased my interest in the topic." (S1)

"I could have learned more detailed information from different books. The content here was quite limited." (S3)

"I found it effective because there were many examples, and the characters demonstrated the rules in different ways." (S8)

A comprehensive map of the codes, categories, and themes obtained from the semistructured interviews with middle school students is presented in Figure 7.



**Figure 7.**Code Map of Students' Views on Comic Books and Their Use in Turkish Language Lessons

An examination of the code map presented in Figure 7 shows that the theme on which students expressed the most opinions was "Notable Aspects of Comic Books" (f=37). The theme with the fewest codes and opinions was "Based on Reading Experience" (f=11).

0

Color Choices (2)

(O)

0

Book Size (2) Page Quality (5) Font Size (3)

Characteristics of Characters (5)

6

Abundance of Visuals (3)

0

Effective use of time (1)

Large font size (1)

Makes events concrete (4)

0

 $\bigcirc$ 

Abundance of humorous (1)

### **Discussion and Conclusion**

An analysis of the quantitative data revealed significant differences between the experimental group, which received instruction on phonological phenomena using comic books, and the control group, which followed the standard curriculum. This finding aligns with the results of other studies in the literature showing that the use of comic books positively affects students' comprehension skills and academic achievement across various subjects (Aldahash & Altalhab, 2020; Bosma et al., 2013; Cook, 2016; Faza, 2020; İlhan & Oruç, 2019; Jennings et al., 2014; Kennedy & Chinokul, 2020; Sabbah et al., 2013; Smetana, 2010; Topkaya, 2014; Ünal & Demirkaya, 2019; Wong et al., 2016; Wong et al., 2023).

An examination of students' opinions about comic books revealed that they frequently stated that comic books positively affected their reading experiences, increased their interest in reading, and facilitated comprehension. A review of the related literature also supports these findings. For example, Edwards (2009) found that middle school students' reading motivation increased after reading comics. Similarly, Jennings et al. (2014) determined that comic books were more engaging than traditional novels, motivating students and improving their reading comprehension skills, which in turn led to greater interaction among students regarding their reading experiences. Smetana (2010) also reported that because comic books contain less written text, readers tend to construct semantic connections based on inferences from visuals, thereby facilitating comprehension of events.

According to students' views, comic books should be used more frequently in Turkish lessons, as their entertaining and attention-grabbing nature increases students' interest in reading. In a study by Schwertner (2008), comic books were introduced to students with low reading motivation; their interest in visual reading was supported, and activities such as literature circles were implemented. The study concluded that students' interest in reading increased. Students also stated that using comic books in other subjects would be beneficial. A review of the literature shows that comic books have been found to be highly effective in improving students' academic achievement in other studies as well (Topkaya, 2014; Ünal & Demirkaya, 2019).

The interviews with students further revealed that comic books were particularly effective in teaching phonological phenomena and that they contained memorable examples. Similarly, Bosma et al. (2013) found in their study with fifth-grade students that a complex and difficult-to-learn topic such as the "American Revolution" became more memorable when taught using comic books.

Considering all these findings, it is also important to address other student opinions about comic books. For example, when examining the notable aspects of comic books, students initially focused more on the "form" category. Elements such as cover design, character drawings, and page quality were highlighted, while in the "content" category, the characteristics of characters and the plot attracted attention. Teachers have important responsibilities in ensuring that students are exposed to appropriate comic books. According to Stephens (2014), the inclusion of comic books in homes and school libraries played a positive role in changing students' overall perspectives toward books and libraries. Additionally, other studies have shown that while some teachers express concerns about how to use comic books in lessons, they also believe that comic books can be beneficial in the educational process (Clark, 2013; Lapp et al., 2012; Mathews, 2011).

### Recommendations

It is considered beneficial to use comic books more frequently in educational settings and teaching phonics. However, teachers should also be provided with opportunities to design their own comic books. They should be informed about how to create comics in both digital and printed formats. Support can be provided on how to use various comic-book-creation programs that utilize Web 2.0 tools. The humorous language of comic books can be used to make the learning process more enjoyable, particularly in developing reading skills. In addition to phonological phenomena, comic books can also be utilized for teaching other grammar rules in Turkish lessons.

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# **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**

### **Contribution Rate of Researchers**

Author 1: 50%

Author 2: 50%

### **Conflict Statement**

There is no conflict of interest that the author will declare in the research.

# **Notice of Use of Artificial Intelligence**

During the preparation of this work, the authors used a grammer check AI tool to enhance readability and language.

# Türkçe Dersinde Çizgi Roman Kullanımının Ses Olaylarının Öğretimine Etkisi



# Özet

Türkçe dersinde ses olayları öğrenciler için öğrenilmesi zor konulardan birisidir. Çizgi romanların çizimleri ve esprili dilleriyle öğrencilerin dikkatini çeken bir tür olduğu düşünülmektedir. Bu nedenle calısmada arastırmacılar tarafından tasarlanan ve basılan cizgi romanların ses olaylarının öğretimine etkisi incelenmek istenmiştir. Araştırma karma yöntemlerden açımlayıcı sıralı desen ile gerçekleştirilmiştir. Nicel boyutta yarı deneysel desen, nitel boyutta olgubilim deseni benimsenmiştir. Araştırmanın çalışma grubu 5. sınıfta öğrenimlerini sürdüren 76 öğrenciden oluşmaktadır. Araştırmanın nicel verileri araştırmacılar tarafından geliştirilen ses olayları başarı testi ile, nitel verileri ise deney grubunda yer alan gönüllü 10 kişiyle gerçekleştirilen yarı yapılandırılmış görüşme formu aracılığıyla elde edilmiştir Nicel kısımdaki verilerin analizinde SPSS programından destek alınarak bağımsız gruplar t testi yapılmıştır. Nitel kısımdaki veriler MAXODA 24 programından yararlanılarak içerik analizi ile çözümlenmiştir. Çalışmanın ön test verilerine göre deney ve kontrol grubu arasında anlamlı bir farklılık bulunmazken çalışmanın son test verilerinde deney ve kontrol grupları arasında deney grubu lehine anlamlı bir farklılık tespit edilmiştir. Öğrenciler, çizgi romanları eğlenceli, okumayı ve anlamayı kolaylaştırıcı bulmuşlardır. Kapak tasarımı, karakter çizimi, olay örgüsü gibi unsurlarının dikkat çekici, Türkçe dersinde araştırmacılar tarafından tasarlanan çizgi romanların kullanılmasının olumlu olduğunu ve ses olaylarının öğretiminde ise etkili olduğunu belirten çeşitli görüşleri daha sık dile getirmişlerdir. Araştırma sonuçlarından hareketle çizgi romanların ses olaylarının öğretiminde kullanılması önerilmektedir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Çizgi romanlar, ortaokul öğrencileri, ses olayları.

# Giriş

İnsanların en önemli özelliklerinden biri, sosyal bir varlık olmalarıdır. Sosyalleşme sürecinde ise iletişim ögelerinden yararlanılır. Bu iletişim ögeleri içerisinde sözel iletişim, dille gerçekleştirir. Dil, bireylerin duygu, düşünce ve izlenimlerini aktarmak için kullandıkları en önemli vasıtadır. Dil; istek, arzu, duygu ve düşüncelerin ifade edilmesinde önemli bir rol üstlenen doğal bir araç, bireylerin anlaşmalarını sağlayan ve çeşitli kurallara bağlı olan göstergeler dizisi olarak tanımlanabilir (Aksan, 2000; Banguoğlu, 1986; Ergin, 2002).

Ses olaylarının temel düzeyde öğrencilere öğretilmesi aşamasında çeşitli çalışmalar yapılabilir. Alan yazını tarandığında da dil bilgisi öğretiminde farklı anlayışların olduğu görülmektedir. Ancak Derman'a (2008) göre dil bilgisi, dilin içerisinde konuşma, yazma, dinleme ve okuma gibi becerilerle birlikte gerçekleştirilmelidir. Dil bilgisi öğretimi bu becerilerden soyutlanırsa işlevsellikten ve doğallıktan da uzaklaşır. Dil bilgisi öğretiminde dikkat edilmesi gereken hususlardan biri de bu öğretimin doğal iletişim içinde yer alması ve öğrencilerin günlük hayatta kullandıkları dil örüntülerini içermesine özen gösterilmesi gerektiğidir (Larsen-Freeman, 2011; Nunan, 1991). Dil bilgisinin alt kollarından olan ses bilgisi öğretiminde Yenen Avcı'ya (2014) göre sınıflandırma yapılmadan, yüzeysel bilgilerle ve ses

olaylarının eş zaman veya art zamanlı oluşları dahi dikkate alınmadan ders kitaplarında veya dil bilgisine ilişkin kaynaklarda yer verildiği görülmektedir.

İlgili alan yazın da incelendiğinde çizgi romanların farklı disiplinlerde kullanıldığı, daha çok okuduğunu anlamaya ve algılara yönelik çalışmalar yapıldığı tespit edilmiştir. Bu çalışmada Türkçe dersinde ses olayları öğretiminde çizgi romanların kullanılmasının sonuçları merak edilmektedir. Araştırmada şu problemlere cevap aranmıştır:

- 1. Türkçe öğretiminde çizgi romanların kullanımının ses olaylarının öğretimine etkisi nedir?
- 2. Ortaokul öğrencilerinin çizgi romanları okuma deneyimlerine ilişkin görüşleri nelerdir?
  - 3. Ortaokul öğrencilerinin çizgi romanların işlevselliğine ilişkin görüşleri nelerdir?
- 4. Ortaokul öğrencilerinin çizgi romanların dikkat çeken yönlerine ilişkin görüşleri nelerdir?
- 5. Ortaokul öğrencilerinin çizgi romanların Türkçe derslerinde kullanılma durumlarına ilişkin görüşleri nelerdir?
- 6. Ortaokul öğrencilerinin görüşlerine göre çizgi romanların ses olaylarının öğretimine etkileri nelerdir?

### Yöntem

### Araştırmanın Modeli

Araştırma karma yöntemlerden açımlayıcı sıralı desen ile gerçekleştirilmiştir. Nicel boyutta yarı deneysel desen, nitel boyutta olgubilim deseni benimsenmiştir.

### **Calisma Gruplari**

Araştırmanın çalışma grubunu Kırşehir'de bir ortaokulun 5. sınıflarında okuyan deney grubundan 18 erkek, 20 kız; kontrol grubundan ise 17 erkek, 21 kız olmak üzere toplamda 76 öğrenci oluşturmaktadır. Başarı testi deney ve kontrol gruplarına ön test olarak uygulanmış ve grupların denk olduğu görülmüştür. Deney grubundaki 10 kişilik bir grupla odak grup görüşmeleri gerçekleştirilmiştir.

### Veri Toplama Araçları

Bu çalışmada veri toplama aracı olarak araştırmacılar tarafından geliştirilen ses olayları başarı testi ve yarı yapılandırılmış görüşme formu kullanılmıştır. Başarı testi soruları 25 soru ve dört seçenekli olarak hazırlanmıştır. Yarı yapılandırılmış görüşme formu beş sorudan oluşmaktadır.

### Verilerin Analizi

Nicel kısma ilişkin verilerin analizinde SPSS, nitel verilerin analizinde ise MAXQDA 24 programından yararlanılmıştır. Nicel verilerin normal dağılım gösterdiği sonucuna ulaşıldıktan sonra verilere bağımsız gruplar t testi uygulanmış ve sonuçlar analiz edilmiştir. Araştırmanın nitel kısmında yarı yapılandırılmış görüşme verilerinin analizinde içerik analizinden yararlanılmıştır.

# Araştırmanın Etik İzinleri:

Bu çalışmada "Yükseköğretim Kurumları Bilimsel Araştırma ve Yayın Etiği Yönergesi" kapsamında uyulması gerektiği belirtilen tüm kurallara uyulmuştur. Yönergenin ikinci bölümü olan "Bilimsel Araştırma ve Yayın Etiğine Aykırı Eylemler" başlığı altında belirtilen eylemlerin hiçbiri gerçekleştirilmemiştir.

## Etik Kurul İzin Bilgileri:

Etik değerlendirmeyi yapan kurulun adı = Kırşehir Ahi Evran Üniversitesi Sosyal ve Beşeri Bilimler Bilimsel Araştırma ve Yayın Etik Kurulu

Etik Kurul Etik inceleme karar tarihi = 16.10.2024

Etik değerlendirme belgesi konu numarası = 2024/11/13

# Bulgular

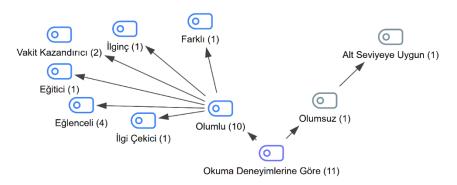
### Nicel Araştırmaya İlişkin Bulgular

Çizgi romanlarla ses olaylarının öğretiminde öğrencilerin başarı testinden aldıkları puanlara göre deney grubu ile kontrol grubu arasında anlamlı farklılığın olup olmadığını tespit etmek amacıyla gerçekleştirilen bağımsız gruplar t-testi sonuçlarına göre deney grubu ile kontrol grubu arasında anlamlı bir farklılığın olduğu tespit edilmiştir (t=2.596, p<.05). Başarı testinin sonuçlarına bakıldığında deney grubundaki öğrencilerin puan ortalamasının (M=14.08), kontrol grubundaki öğrenci grubunun puan ortalamasından (M=12.13) yüksek olduğu belirlenmiştir.

# Nitel Araştırmaya İlişkin Bulgular

Ortaokul öğrencileriyle gerçekleştirilen yarı yapılandırılmış görüşmelerde çizgi romanların okuma deneyimlerine etkilerine yönelik elde edilen veriler, Şekil 1'de sunulmuştur.

Ortaokul Öğrencilerinin Çizgi Romanları Okuma Deneyimlerine İlişkin Görüşleri



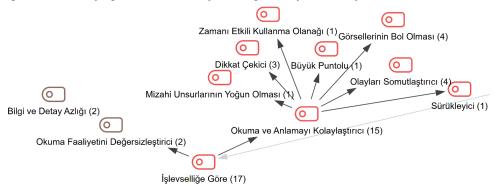
Şekil 1'deki analizlere göre ortaokul öğrencilerinin çizgi romanları okuma deneyimlerine göre görüşleri 2 kategori altında toplanmıştır. Olumlu kategorisinde en sık belirtilen kod ise "Eğlenceli" ifadesi olmuştur. Olumsuz kategorisinde ise tek kod bulunmaktadır. Bu da "alt seviyeye uygun" ifadesidir. Ortaokul öğrencilerinin çizgi roman okuma deneyimlerine ilişkin görüşlerinden örnek da aşağıda yer almaktadır.

"Hocam, daha önce de böyle çeşitli karakterlerin olduğu kitaplardan okuduk. Aslında normal kitap okumaktan daha eğlenceli. Çünkü uzun metinler bazen sıkıcı oluyor, insanı yoruyor. Ama çizgi romanda öyle değil. Yan, çizgi roman okumak bence olukça güzel. (Ö1)"

Ortaokul öğrencileriyle gerçekleştirilen yarı yapılandırılmış görüşmelerde çizgi romanların işlevselliğine ilişkin görüşlerinden elde edilen veriler, Şekil 2'de sunulmuştur.

#### Sekil 2.

Ortaokul Öğrencilerinin Çizgi Romanların İşlevselliğine İlişkin Görüşleri

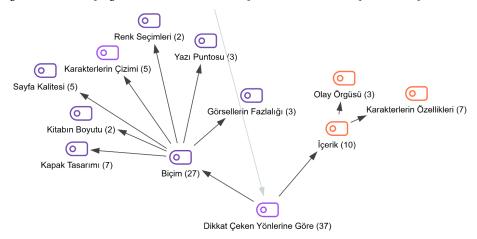


Şekil 2'deki analizlere göre ortaokul öğrencilerinin çizgi romanları işlevselliğine ilişkin görüşleri 2 kategori altında toplanmıştır. "Okuma ve anlamayı kolaylaştırıcı" kategorisinde en sık belirtilen kod ise "olayları somutlaştırıcı" ve "görsellerinin bol olması" ifadeleri olmuştur. "Okuma faaliyetlerini değersizleştirici" kategorisinde ise tek kod bulunmaktadır. Bu da "bilgi ve detay azlığı" ifadesidir. Ortaokul öğrencilerinin çizgi romanların işlevselliğine ilişkin görüşlerinden örnek aşağıda yer almaktadır.

"Resimlerinin çok olması her şeyi daha kolay anlamamı sağlıyor. Bu resimlerin çizimleri, dikkatimi de çekiyor. Karakterlerin konuştukları bölümlerin bulunduğu bölümde yazılar daha büyük yazılırsa daha da kolay okuyabilirim. Kısaca okumayı da anlamayı da kolaylaştırıyor. (Ö1)"

Ortaokul öğrencileriyle gerçekleştirilen yarı yapılandırılmış görüşmelerde çizgi romanların dikkat çeken yönlerine ilişkin görüşlerinden elde edilen veriler, Şekil 3'te sunulmuştur.

Şekil 3. Ortaokul Öğrencilerinin Çizgi Romanların Dikkat Çeken Yönlerine İlişkin Görüşleri

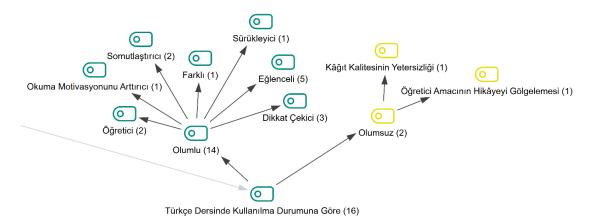


Şekil 3'teki analizlere göre ortaokul öğrencilerinin çizgi romanların dikkat çeken yönlerine ilişkin görüşleri 2 kategori altında toplanmıştır. "Biçim" kategorisinde en sık belirtilen kod ise "kapak tasarımı" ve "karakterlerin çizimleri" ifadeleri olmuştur. "içerik" kategorisinde ise "karakterlerin özellikleri" ifadesi en sık yer alan koddur. Ortaokul öğrencilerinin çizgi romanların dikkat çeken yönlerine ilişkin görüşlerinden örnek aşağıda yer almaktadır.

"Karakterler çok dikkatimi çeker. Özellikle fantastik karakterler ve onların yaşadığı olaylar çok güzel olabiliyor. Bir de renkler ve kâğıdın özelliği de önemli bence. Normal kâğıt değil de parlak kağıtlarda olanları daha çok seviyorum. (Ö5)"

Ortaokul öğrencileriyle gerçekleştirilen yarı yapılandırılmış görüşmelerde bu çalışma için tasarlanan çizgi romanların ve diğer çizgi roman türlerinin Türkçe dersinde kullanımına ilişkin görüşlerinden elde edilen veriler, Şekil 4'te sunulmuştur.

**Şekil 4.** Ortaokul Öğrencilerinin Çizgi Romanların Türkçe Derslerinde Kullanılma Durumlarına İlişkin Görüşleri

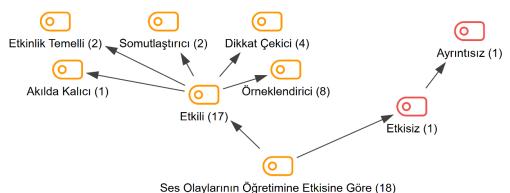


Şekil 4'teki analizlere göre ortaokul öğrencilerinin çizgi romanların Türkçe derslerinde kullanılma durumlarına ilişkin görüşleri 2 kategori altında toplanmıştır. "Olumlu" kategorisinde en sık belirtilen kodlar ise "eğlenceli" ve "dikkat çekici" ifadeleri olmuştur. "Olumsuz" kategorisinde ise "öğretici amacının hikâyeyi gölgelemesi" ve "kâğıt kalitesinin yetersizliği" ifadeleri en sık yer alan kodlardır. Ortaokul öğrencilerinin çizgi romanların Türkçe derslerinde kullanılma durumlarına ilişkin görüşlerinden örnek aşağıda yer almaktadır.

"Bu tür şeyler dikkatimi çekiyor. Merak ediyorum okudukça. Bir de eğleniyorum. Öbür hikâye kitapları falan hep uzun metinler var. Ders kitaplarında ise eğlenceli metin pek yok. (Ö2)"

Ortaokul öğrencileriyle gerçekleştirilen yarı yapılandırılmış görüşmelerde çizgi romanın ses olaylarının öğretimine etkisine ilişkin görüşlerinden elde edilen veriler, Şekil 5'te sunulmuştur.

**Şekil 5.** Ortaokul Öğrencilerinin Görüşlerine Göre Çizgi Romanların Ses Olaylarının Öğretimine Etkisi



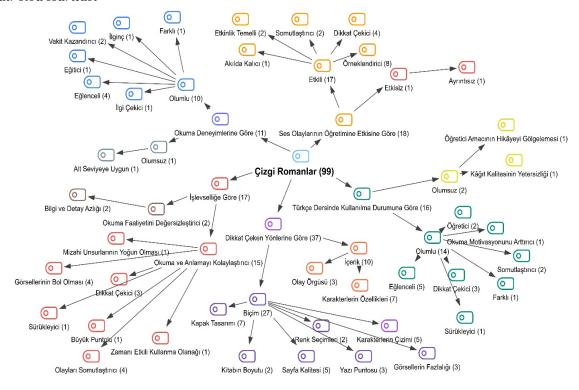
Şekil 5'teki analizlere göre ortaokul öğrencilerinin çizgi romanların ses olaylarının öğretimine etkisine ilişkin görüşleri 2 kategori altında toplanmıştır. "Etkili" kategorisinde en sık belirtilen kodlar ise "örneklendirici" ve "dikkat çekici" ifadeleri olmuştur. "Olumsuz" kategorisinde ise yer alan tek kod "ayrıntısız"dır. Ortaokul öğrencilerinin çizgi romanların ses olaylarının öğretimine ilişkin görüşlerinden örnek aşağıda yer almaktadır.

"Bazı sayfalarında bilgilerin olması, karakterlere yardım bölümü gibi bölümün de bulunması güzel bence. Özellikle bazı sayfalarda ünsüz yumuşamasında ve ünsüz benzeşmesinde karıştırılan kelimelerin verilmesi de dikkatimi çekti. Konuya ilgimi artırdı. (Ö1)"

Ortaokul öğrencileriyle gerçekleştirilen yarı yapılandırılmış görüşmelerde elde edilen kodlar, kategoriler ve temalara ilişkin genel bir harita Sekil 6'da sunulmuştur.

#### Şekil 6.

Öğrencilerin Çizgi Romanlara ve Çizgi Romanların Türkçe Dersinde Kullanımına İlişkin Görüşlerine Dair Kod Haritası



Şekil 6'daki kod haritası incelendiğinde öğrencilerin en fazla görüş bildirdikleri temanın çizgi romanların dikkat çeken yönleri olduğu görülmektedir. En az kodun ve görüşün bulunduğu tema ise "okuma deneyimine göre" olduğu belirlenmiştir.

## Tartışma ve Sonuç

Araştırmanın nicel kısmındaki veriler incelendiğinde çizgi romanlarla gerçekleştirilen ses olayları öğretiminin uygulandığı deney grubu ve öğretim programına uygun bir şekilde devam edilen kontrol grubunun başarı testinden aldıkları puanlar arasında anlamlı farklılıklar tespit edilmiştir. Alan yazın incelendiğinde çizgi romanlarla gerçekleştirilen çalışmalarda öğrencilerin anlama becerilerinin ve herhangi bir dersteki başarılarının arttığı bulgusu da diğer çalışmaların bulgularıyla örtüşmektedir (Aldahash & Altalhab, 2020; Bosma vd., 2013; Cook, 2016; Faza, 2020; İlhan & Oruç, 2019; Jennings vd., 2014; Kennedy & Chinokul, 2020; Sabbah vd., 2013; Smetana, 2010; Topkaya, 2014; Ünal & Demirkaya, 2019; Wong vd., 2016; Wong vd., 2023).

Öğrencilerin çizgi romanlara ilişkin görüşleri incelendiğinde çizgi romanların öğrencilerin okuma deneyimlerini olumlu bir şekilde etkilediği, okumaya yönelik ilgilerini arttırdığı, anlamalarını kolaylaştırdığı gibi görüşlerin daha sık dile getirildiği görülmüştür. İlgili alan yazın incelendiğinde de benzer sonuçlara ulaşılan çeşitli çalışmaların bulunduğu tespit edilmiştir. Örneğin Edwards'ın (2009) çalışmasında ortaokuldaki öğrencilerin çizgi romanları okuduktan sonra okumaya yönelik motivasyonlarının arttığı, Jennings vd. (2014) de benzer şekilde, çizgi romanların geleneksel romanlara göre daha ilgi çekici olduğunu ve öğrencileri daha çok motive ettiğini, hatta öğrencilerin okuma anlama yeteneklerini arttırarak birbirleriyle okuma deneyimleri hakkında daha çok etkileşime girdiklerini tespit etmiştir. Ayrıca Smetana (2010) çalışmasına göre de çizgi romanlarda yazılı metinlerin daha az olması nedeniyle okuyucuların görsellerden elde ettikleri çıkarımlara göre anlamsal bağlantılar oluşturdukları ve bunun da olayları anlamalarını kolaylaştırdığını tespit etmiştir.

Öğrenci görüşlerine göre Türkçe dersinde çizgi romanların daha sık kullanılmasının istendiği, çizgi romanların eğlenceli ve dikkat çekici olmasından dolayı okumaya yönelik ilgiyi arttırdığı bildirilmiştir. Schwertner (2008) tarafından gerçekleştirilen çalışmada okuma istekliliği düşük olan öğrencilere çizgi romanları tanıtılmış, onların görsel okumaya olan ilgileri desteklenmiş ve edebiyat çemberi gibi uygulamalar yaptırılmıştır. Çalışma sonunda öğrencilerin okumaya yönelik ilgilerinin arttığı belirlenmiştir. Öğrenciler diğer derslerde de çizgi romanların kullanılmasının faydalı olacağını dile getirmişlerdir. Alan yazın incelendiğinde öğrencilerin doğrudan akademik başarısına yönelik diğer çalışmalarda da çizgi romanların oldukça etkili olduğu belirlenmiştir (Ünal & Demirkaya, 2019; Topkaya, 2014).

Öğrencilerle yapılan görüşmede özellikle ses olaylarının öğretiminde çizgi romanların etkili olduğu belirlenmiş çizgi romanda akılda kalıcı örneklerin yer aldığı dile getirilmiştir. Alan yazın incelendiğinde Bosma vd. (2013) tarafından beşinci sınıf düzeyinde gerçekleştirilen çalışmada "Amerikan Devrimi" gibi karışık ve öğrenilmesi zor olan konunun çizgi romanlarla öğretildiğinde daha akılda kalıcı olduğu belirlenmiştir.

Bütün bunlar göz önünde bulundurulduğunda öğrencilerin çizgi romanlara ilişkin diğer görüşleri de ele alınmalıdır. Örneğin çizgi romanların dikkat çeken yönleri incelendiğinde

öğrenciler, ilk olarak biçim kategorisine daha çok yönelmişlerdir. Burada, kapak tasarımı, karakter çizimi, sayfa kalitesi gibi unsurlar ön plandayken içerik kategorisinde karakterlerin özellikleri ve olay örgüsü kısımları dikkat çekmektedir. Öğrencilerin uygun çizgi romanlarla buluşturulması açısından öğretmenlere çeşitli sorumluluklar düşmektedir. Stephens'in (2014) çalışmasına göre öğrencilerin genel olarak kitaplara ve kütüphanelere bakış açılarının değişmesinde evlerinde ve okul kütüphanelerinde çizgi romanların bulunmasının olumlu rol oynadığı tespit edilmiştir.

# Öneriler

Çizgi romanların eğitim-öğretim ortamlarında daha sık kullanılmasının yararlı olacağı düşünülmektedir. Ancak öğretmenlere de kendi çizgi romanlarını tasarlayabilmeleri için çeşitli fırsatlar sunulmalıdır. Öğretmenler, çizgi romanları hem dijital ortamda hem de basılı ortamda nasıl oluşturabilecekleri konusunda bilgilendirilmelidirler. Web 2.0 araçlarından yararlanılarak çeşitli çizgi roman oluşturma programlarının nasıl kullanılacağı konusunda destek verilebilir. Özellikle okuma becerilerinin geliştirilmesinde, sürecin daha eğlenceli bir hâle getirilmesinde çizgi romanların esprili dillerinden yararlanılabilir. Türkçe dersinde ses olayları dışında diğer dil bilgisi kurallarının öğretiminde de çizgi romanlara başvurulabilir.