

**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF TEACHING  
VOCABULARY USING SONGS AND HAND  
PUPPETS: AN EXPERIMENTAL STUDY AT THE  
FOURTH YEARS OF SD NEGERI GENTAN 02 BAKI,  
SUKOHARJO**



**RESEARCH PAPER**

Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements  
for Getting Bachelor Degree of Education  
in English Department

by

**KADINA KESUMA ILHAM**

**A.320 050 105**

**SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION  
MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA  
2009**

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### **A. Background of the Study**

Language cannot be separated from human's life; it almost becomes air to breath. By using language, people can do many things such as sharing their feeling and setting information, knowledge and anything they want. It can happen because language is a means of communication that "bridges" one's mind to others'.

There are five international languages, namely Japanese, Chinese, Arabic, France, and English. Of these international languages, English becomes the most widely used in all over the world since most of the source of knowledge is written in English. Because of these reasons, learning English becomes a very important thing.

In Indonesia, English becomes the foreign language that has an important role to the development of country and reforming in its teaching learning process. It has been introduced from elementary school to university that gives an opportunity to carry out the English instructor. Even some kindergartens in big cities have introduced it as one of the subjects. On the other hand, many formal education institution and courses also offer the same programs as the formal education do.

Teaching to children Elementary School is not an easy job. The students sometimes face some problems in acquiring English as their foreign language. Consequently, the teacher should be creative and be good model in teaching English for their students. The objective of teaching English in Elementary school

is to prepare children to have comparative value in the globalization era and introduce English at early ages (GBPP Mulok SD, 1995: 2)

By studying English, students are expected to have a means to develop their knowledge of science, technology and culture so that they can grow up with Indonesia personality. It means Indonesia whose manner and behavior in their daily life reflect the values contained Pancasila. The students are also expected to be able to support the development of tourism (GBPP Mulok SD 1995: 1)

As the basic components of the four language skills (listening, reading, writing and speaking) vocabulary has to be mastered by learners. Vocabulary is the main point to learn English. Without having adequate vocabulary we will get difficulty to learn English. In Elementary School, vocabulary is the first step to learn English, because without knowing a lot of vocabulary in English the children will get difficulties in mastering English. Thus, vocabulary should be the first priority in English language teaching and learning.

Vocabulary is central of language teaching and learning. It means that by mastering vocabulary, of course with grammar, the learners will produce so many sentences easily either in spoken or written one. They can also communicate with other people fluently and express their opinion or ideas conveniently.

Teaching English to the students of Elementary School is presenting vocabulary since they learn English for the first time. The students are introduced with simple things around them, which are familiar to them. Meanwhile, curriculum of Elementary Education also contains a number of vocabulary to learn besides expression and simple sentences about things around the children, family, school, geography and their communication to the environment.

To teach vocabulary in Elementary school, especially for children, is not an easy way. Teaching children is different from teaching adults. We must have extra power to teach them, because the children have certain characteristics and need certain treatment. So we must give basic vocabulary to make them understand English. Before continuing the next step the teacher must have preparation to teach children. Sometimes the teacher uses a media as the teaching tools.

In this study, the writer is interested in teaching vocabulary by using English songs and through hand puppets as the media. Dealing with the characteristics of young learner students, as it is stated by Murphey (1996: 10) teachers can use songs to teach vocabulary to students. He states that “an additional thing we might do with song and music in teaching is teach vocabulary”. Griffee (1992: 41) also states that, “songs are especially good for introducing vocabulary because songs provide a meaningful context for the vocabulary”. According to Gwin (1972: 60), puppets is a wonderful toy that can be controlled by an operator and can teach both kids and adults. By using puppets, it is expected that the teacher will be able to motivate them to learn and pay attention to the material, so that they will not get bored. Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested in conducting a research about, THE EFFECTIVENESS OF TEACHING VOCABULARY USING SONGS AND HAND PUPPETS: AN EXPERIMENTAL STUDY AT FOURTH YEARS OF SD NEGERI GENTAN 02 BAKI, SUKOHARJO

## **B. Problem Statement**

The study is about the difficulties of the third grade language learners, especially Indonesian learners. In improving vocabulary mastery, the writer

attempts to answer the following question *How is the effectiveness of teaching English vocabulary using songs and hand puppets viewed from students' achievement?*

The writer raises some subsidiary question as follows:

1. How is the procedure of teaching vocabulary using songs and hand puppets?
2. Is teaching vocabulary by using English songs and hand puppets effective to improve students' vocabulary?
3. What are the strength and weaknesses of teaching vocabulary by using songs and hand puppets for students' achievement?

The three questions were formulated as two research hypotheses:

1. Hypothesis 0: the teaching of vocabulary using hand puppets and songs is not effective to improve the students' vocabulary.
2. Hypothesis 1: the teaching of vocabulary using hand puppets and songs is effective to improve the students' vocabulary

### **C. Objective of the Study**

This study aims to:

1. Describe the procedure of teaching vocabulary using songs and hand puppets.
2. Describe the effectiveness of the teaching vocabulary using songs and hand puppets viewed from students' achievement.
3. Find out the strength and weaknesses of the teaching vocabulary by using songs and hand puppets.

#### **D. Limitation of the Problem**

To make the problem is easy to be discussed deeply; the writer focuses the problem as follows:

1. The subject of the research is the fourth year students of SD Negeri Gentan 02 Baki, Sukoharjo academic year 2008/2009, in teaching vocabulary using songs and hand puppets. The numbers of the fourth year students are twenty three.
2. The research is focused on the effectiveness of teaching vocabulary using hand puppets and songs.

#### **E. Benefits of the Study**

The writer really hopes that this research has some benefits to the writer herself and the reader as general. The benefits of the study as follows:

##### 1. Theoretical Benefit

- a. The writer hopes that the result of the experiment is useful for teachers, so that they understand that English teaching in elementary schools is good. Up to now, there are some people who believe that it is impossible to give children foreign language teaching. Moreover, they see no advantages of teaching them the language because they do not feel the need for it yet.
- b. By committing this research, the writer can know whether or not the technique of teaching English vocabulary by using song is suitable to the students of elementary school.

##### 2. Practical Benefit

- a. The reader will get large knowledge about teaching vocabulary using songs and hand puppets.

- b. The finding of this research will be useful to the readers who are interested in analyzing teaching vocabulary of Elementary School.
- c. This study can be used by the teachers to provide the better technique for teaching vocabulary in Elementary Class.
- d. The result can be used by the writer to evaluates the students' vocabulary mastery.

## **F. Research Paper Organization**

The writer organizes this research paper in order to make the readers understand easily. The following shows the content covered in this research.

Chapter I is introduction. This chapter explains the background of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, limitation of the study, benefit of the study, and research paper organization.

Chapter II presents underlying theory. It covers review of related literature, English teaching for children, general concept of teaching vocabulary, general concept of teaching vocabulary for elementary school, general concept of teaching English using hand puppets, and general concept of teaching English using songs

Chapter III presents research method. It covers type of research, subject of the research, object of research, data and source data, method of collecting data, and technique of analyzing data.

Chapter IV presents the result of the study. This chapter deals with the discussion and analysis of the data.

Chapter V deals with conclusion and suggestion. This chapter consists of research and completed by suggestion to make the research better.

