

**AN ANALYSIS OF THE COMPATIBILITY OF *LOOK AHEAD*:
AN ENGLISH COURSE 1 TEXTBOOK WITH THE SCHOOL
LEVEL-BASED CURRICULUM**



RESEACRH PAPER

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

English has important role because it is particularly used in almost all of the countries as native and international language. Because of previous statement above English becomes a foreign language that has been mastered by most of people in the world. That is the reason why English is taught in all level of education in Indonesia.

English is the foreign language in Indonesia; because the background of Indonesian society does not use English in their daily communication. In Senior High School, it hopes that English can be used as second language in teaching-learning process. To support the demand of good English ability, education needs something to support the teaching-learning process. Textbook is one of media to answer the needs above.

Textbooks are the important media of learning process and also as the media of the curriculum material in the education system. In curriculum standard, the meaning of the English textbook is the handbook for the learners arranged based on national curriculum standard and it is appropriate with the education system in Indonesia. Its purpose is to improve the knowledge and skill for communication using English.

Textbooks are course textbook in a certain study as a standard book, made by specialist and it has instructional purpose to make easy to be

understood by learner at school or university so it can support the education programs (Tarigan and Djago, 1992: 13). As an English teacher, they cannot avoid using textbook in giving instruction at school. Good textbooks are very important for teacher, because textbook is the source of teaching learning activities in the classroom. So the teacher and learner can build and develop their language skills better if they use qualified textbook which provide and support the material needed.

Nowadays there have been many English textbooks published to fulfill the need of teaching-learning process and as an English teacher should choose the textbook that is appropriate to the students. The textbook should hold all instrument based on curriculum needed by the students. However, there is no perfect book that can fulfill various kinds of students needs. Sometimes some of them are not appropriate with the standard of curriculum yet.

In 2006, the curriculum used in Indonesia is School Level-based Curriculum; it is the curriculum arranged and realized in each education institution, it consists of purpose of (1) education; (2) organization of the curriculum in each institution; (3) education calendar, and (4) syllabus. Syllabus is the lesson plan of the certain lesson or certain topic/ theme which consists of standard of competence, basic competence, main material, teaching-learning activity, indicator, time allocation, source of material and the media (Khaerudin, 2007: 80-81)

Look Ahead is a series of English course books for Senior High School. The materials developed in this book have been adapted from the teaching-

learning cycle method which puts genres as the main tool in language learning. The book is published in line with the 2006 curriculum or in Indonesian it is called *Kurikulum Tingkat Satuan Pendidikan (KTSP)*. All the activities in this book cover the of four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. They encourage students to develop their competence in phonological/graphological and lexicogramatical levels, as well as their discourse and cultural levels.

The English textbooks for the learners of the Senior High School are various and the writer wants to investigate to what extend *Look Ahead* textbook design can develop the learners' four language skills. The writer chooses *Look Ahead* as English textbook to be analyzed because many schools used this textbook.

Considering the problem above the writer wants to analyze material development to improve students' four language skills in *Look Ahead* textbook. The writer wants to know whether the *Look Ahead* textbook is designed to improve students' language skills or not. So the writer decides to conduct a study entitled "AN ANALYSIS OF THE COMPATIBILITY OF *LOOK AHEAD AN ENGLISH COURSE 1* TEXTBOOK WITH THE SCHOOL LEVEL-BASED CURRICULUM".

B. Problem Statement

The problem that the writer investigates is "Are the materials of English textbook entitled *Look Ahead: An English Course for Senior High*

School Students Year X compatible with the guidelines of School Level-based Curriculum?" The writer raises several subsidiary study questions as follows;

1. Are the listening materials of English textbook entitled *Look Ahead* compatible with indicators of School Level-based Curriculum?
2. Are the speaking materials of English textbook entitled *Look Ahead* compatible with indicators of School Level-based Curriculum?
3. Are the reading materials of English textbook entitled *Look Ahead* compatible with indicators of School Level-based Curriculum?
4. Are the writing materials of English textbook entitled *Look Ahead* compatible with indicators of School Level-based Curriculum?

C. Limitation of the Study

From the problems statement above, the writer limits the study about how far the materials of English textbook of Senior High School develop with indicators of the School Level-based Curriculum. The writer analyses on the material content of textbook *Look Ahead: An English Course 1* written by Th. M. Sudarwati, Eudia Grace and published by Erlangga in 2007.

D. Objective of the Study

Based on the problems statement, the objectives of this study are:

1. To investigate whether or not the listening materials in *Look Ahead* textbook is compatible with indicators in the School Level-based Curriculum.
2. To investigate whether or not the speaking materials in *Look Ahead* textbook is compatible with indicators in the School Level-based Curriculum.
3. To investigate whether or not the reading materials in *Look Ahead* textbook is compatible with indicators in the School Level-based Curriculum.
4. To investigate whether or not the writing materials in *Look Ahead* textbook is compatible with indicators in the School Level-based Curriculum.

E. Benefit of the Study

The writer hopes that this study contributes two advantages:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The result can give some information to other writers who are interested in analyzing English textbook based on the School Level-based Curriculum. Based on the result of this study it also can give contribution to material design and material development in teaching English

2. Practical Benefit

The writer and reader will get knowledge about good materials of the English teaching. It gives information to the teacher about the appropriate

textbook that can be used to support the teaching-learning process, and also to know how far the English textbook follows the School Level-based Curriculum.

F. Research Paper Organization

Research paper organization is given in order to the readers could easily understand the research paper. In this case, the writer organizes her study into five chapters.

Chapter I is Introduction. It consists of Background of the Study, Problem Statement of the Study, Limitation of Study, Objective of Study, Benefit of Study, and Research Paper Organization.

Chapter II is Review of Related Literature. It consists of the Previous Study, Underlying Theory; English Textbook (definition textbook, function of textbook, criteria of good English textbook, the advantages and disadvantages use textbook in teaching), the English textbook "Look Ahead", the School Level- based Curriculum (definition of the School Level –based Curriculum, characteristic of the School Level-based Curriculum), textbook analysis (*Brian Tomlinson's evaluation*), syllabus.

Chapter III is Research Method. This chapter consists of Type of the Study, Object of the Study, Data and Data Source, Method of Collecting Data, and Technique for Analyzing Data.

Chapter IV is Research Finding and Discussion. It consists of material of listening skill, speaking skill, reading skill, and writing skill found in the

content *Look Ahead; An English Course I* textbook, analysis and compatibility of skills indicators in textbook with the School Level-based Curriculum indicators, and discussion.

Chapter V is Conclusion and Suggestion.