TEACHING VOCABULARY TO JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS BY USING KICK ME TECHNIQUE

Paper

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Written by

Afdal Yuliansyah 2012 / 1201006

Advisor:

Fitrawati, S.S., M.Pd.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND ARTS
STATE UNIVERSITY OF PADANG
2016

HALAMAN PERSETUJUAN MAKALAH

Judul

: Teaching Vocabulary to Junior High

School Studen by Using Kick Me

Technique

Nama

: Afdal Yuliansyah

NIM/BP

: 1201006/2012

Program Studi

: Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris

Jurusan

: Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris

Fakultas

: Bahasa dan Seni

Padang, Agustus 2016

Disetujui oleh:

Ketua Jurusan

Pembimbing

<u>Dr. Refnaldi, M. Litt.</u> NIP. 19680301.199403.1.003

Fitrawati, S.S., M.Pd NIP. 19801119.200812.2.002

HALAMAN PENGESAHAN LULUS UJIAN MAKALAH

Dinyatakan Lulus Setelah Dipertahankan di Depan Tim Penguji Makalah Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni Universitas Negeri Padang

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Jurusan

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Fakultas

: Bahasa dan Seni

Padang, Agustus 2016

Tim Penguji

Tanda Tangan

Ketua

: Fitrawati, S.S., M.Pd.

Anggota : Drs. Saunir Saun, M.Pd.

Leni Marlina, S.S., M.A.



UNIVERSITAS NEGERI PADANG FAKULTAS BAHASA DAN SENI JURUSAN BAHASA DAN SASTRA INGGRIS

Jl. Belibis. Air Tawar Barat. Kampus Selatan FBS UNP. Padang. Sumatera Barat Telp/Fax: (0751) 447347

SURAT PERNYATAAN TIDAK PLAGIAT

Saya yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini:

Nama

: Afdal Yuliansyah

NIM/TM

: 1201006/2012

Program Studi

: Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris

Jurusan

: Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris

Fakultas

: FBS UNP

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Diketahui oleh,

Ketua Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris

Saya yang menyatakan,

BFE64ADF646067208

Afdal Yuliansyah NIM. 1201006

Dr. Refnaldi, S.Pd., M.Litt. NIP. 19680301 199403 1 003

ABSTRAK

Yuliansyah, Afdal (2016) Teaching Vocabulary to Junior High School Students by Using Kick Me Technique". *Paper*. Padang: Faculty of Language and Art, State University of Padang.

Kosakata (vocabulary) merupakan faktor penting dalam mempelajari bahasa. Orang tidak bisa mendengar, berbicara, membaca, dan menulis tanpa mengetahui kosakata. Begitu juga dalam mempelajari bahasa asing seperti bahasa Inggris, kosakata memegang peran yang sangat penting.

Namun tidak semua siswa sekolah menengah pertama mempelajari kosakata dalam bahasa Inggris dengan mudah. Hal ini disebabkan oleh beberapa faktor di antaranya media pembelajaran yang kurang menarik sehingga anak cepat bosan, metode atau teknik mengajar guru yang tidak kreatif dan monoton, serta kegiatan belajar mengajar yang lebih didominasi guru tanpa melibatkan atau mengikutsertakan anak didik untuk ikut berpartisipasi.

Teknik *Kick Me* merupakan salah satu strategi yang bisa digunakan guru dalam mengajar kosakata untuk anak sekolah menengah pertama. Teknik *Kick Me* adalah semacam kegiatan belajar di mana siswa mencari kata – kata yang kosong dalam lembar kerja yang diletakan di punggung teman mereka. Analogi dan hubungan kata dijadikan sebagai petunjuk untuk siswa menyelesaikan lembar jawaban tersebut. Dengan menggunakan teknik ini penulis berharap guru bisa menambah kreatifitas pembelajaran kosakata kepada siswa dengan kegiatan yang efektif dan menarik.

Kata Kunci: vocabulary, analogy, word relationships

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The writer

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem.

As a fundamental aspect to learn language, vocabulary is important to be mastered for junior high school students. As a reason, vocabulary mastery has much impact for the students when they use four language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. It is difficult to master those skills without mastering and understanding the vocabulary. Rivers and Nunan (1991: 117) argues that the acquisition of an adequate vocabulary is essential for successful language use because without an extensive vocabulary, we will be unable to use the structures and functions of the language.

When discuss about learning vocabulary it will be related to understand the vocabulary meaning. "A person said to "know" a word if they can recognize its meaning when they see it" (Cameron, 2001: 75). It means that in learning vocabulary, we need to know the meaning of it and also can use it in contexts of the four language skills. Based on the statements below, vocabulary is very important to learn language. Moreover, although it is important, many students cannot master it easily and they face problems occur in learning English.

The first problem is when the students lack of vocabulary in speaking, they will not be able to realize what message they have in mind into the language that they are using to express it orally. They waste their time to think and recall about what vocabulary they are going to use on that chance. Also in listening, they will also not able to decode what does someone trying to say to them through the vocabulary he is using. If they try to recall the vocabulary on their mind, they will miss the information. As result the students do not get the whole information from the speaker.

The problem also occur in reading and writing, if one does not know about the vocabulary on the text, they could be difficult to comprehend the message from text they read such as purpose of the text, chronological order, and other details of the text. Even though, the students try to find the meaning of the vocabulary on the text in dictionary, they will waste much time. In the case of writing, they will also difficult to convey their ideas to written text well. Students might have good ideas to write, however, because they are not mastering vocabulary well, their good ideas might not be delivered.

Therefore, in order the junior high school students can have good ability in the four language skills, they should have good ability in vocabulary. In order the students have many vocabularies in their mind the students need to be taught with an appropriate technique. The problem in teaching vocabulary to students who are at age eleven to fifteen is to keep their focus, in other words they can get bored easily.

As Harmer (2001: 38) stated that young learners especially those up to the ages of eleven to fifteen learn differently from older learners, adolescents, and adults. They easily get bored; lose their interest after ten minutes or so. In other words, after several minutes, the junior high school students will lose their focus. Therefore, the teacher has to find the technique to make the students keep focus along the lesson.

As a solution, the students, between ages eleven to fifteen, have to be provided an enjoyable activity in learning which is able to keep their focus longer in order to not make the student feel bored. Moreover, it will have influence to ease them to master vocabulary. Therefore the teachers should choose the best method which is capable to lead the students to have good understanding of the vocabulary that will be taught.

In this paper the writer will discuss about "Kick Me Technique" that could be the solution for the problem occurred in teaching vocabulary to junior high school students. The "Kick Me Technique" is an activity that invites students to learn vocabulary by finding them out on their classmates' backs. The students are given clues such as analogy and the words relationship of the words that they are going to find on their classmates' back. As the time set, the students must find by moving to everyone in the class, even the teacher, to see the words that has been stick to their back. After that, the students consider if the word on their friends back is related to the word on their worksheet. If they think the word is related, they write that word on it. Based on the statement above the writer wants to clarify that there is absolutely no kicking in this activity like its name.

Hence, the "Kick Me" activity is a fun and enjoyable activity for teaching vocabulary for junior high school students. As a reason, the activity demands the students to move around the class to find the pair of the word on their worksheet on their classmates' back. Because of the students move, not only sit and listen to the teacher, the writer believes that the students will learn vocabulary with fun. Therefore, "Kick Me Technique" can be the solution to overcome the students' boredom in learning vocabulary.

B. Limitation of the Problem

Based on background of problem above, the problem in this paper is limited to using "Kick Me Technique" for increasing junior high students' vocabulary mastery.

C. Formulation of the Problem

Related to the identification and limitation of the problems above, the problem of this paper is formulated as follow "How does the "Kick Me Technique" gives good effect in teaching vocabulary for junior high school students. "

D. Purpose of the Problem

The purpose of this study is to provide useful information to the reader about the use "Kick Me Technique" and its good impact for teaching vocabulary for junior high school.