

Reviewing Elementary School Students' Vocabulary through Paper
Airplane Game

PAPER

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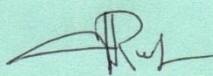
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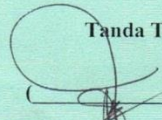
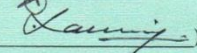
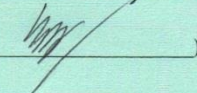
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ABSTRAK

Okselina, Mutia. 2018. "Reviewing Elementary School Students Vocabulary through Paper Airplane Game". *Paper*. Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris. Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni. Universitas Negeri Padang.

Makalah ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan penggunaan *Paper Airplane Game* dalam meningkatkan kemampuan bahasa Inggris siswa. Kemampuan siswa Sekolah Dasar dalam berbahasa Inggris (mengetahui dan memahami kosa kata) masih sangat kurang karena disebabkan oleh beberapa hal yang terkait dengan proses mengajar dan belajar didalam kelas yaitu kurangnya motivasi belajar siswa dan kurangnya aktivitas belajar didalam kelas. *Paper Airplane Game* adalah salah satu jenis aktivitas pengajaran yang dapat digunakan oleh guru didalam kelas untuk meningkatkan kemampuan serta minat belajar siswa dalam mempelajari kosa kata baru dalam bahasa Inggris. *Paper Airplane game* membantu siswa untuk meningkatkan pemahaman kosa kata baru secara menarik dan membantu siswa untuk mengingat kembali kosa kata yang telah dipelajari sebelumnya. Langkah-langkah dalam pengajaran *vocabulary* dengan menggunakan *Paper Airplane Game* yaitu brainstorming, discussing about the material, playing the paper airplane game dan concluding. Pada langkah brainstorming, guru memperlihatkan beberapa gambar yang terkait dengan materi yang akan diajarkan dilanjutkan dengan beberapa pertanyaan umum yang berhubungan dnegan gambar. Langkah selanjutnya discussing about the material, guru akan menempatkan siswa kedalam grup dan meminta mereka untuk mendiskusikan hal-hal yang berkaitan dengan materi, dan guru akan memberikan panduan dalam diskusi berupa pertanyaan yang akan dijawab siswa dalam kelompok. Langkah selanjutnya adalah playing paper airplane game, guru membimbing siswa untuk bermain paper airplane game yang akan membantu mereka untuk mempelajari dan mengingat kembali materi yang telah mereka pelajari. Dan langkah terakhir adalah concluding. Pada tahap ini guru memberikan kesimpulan mengenai pembelajaran yang dilakukan.

Keywords: paper airplane game, vocabulary

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The writer

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the problem

In learning language including English, vocabulary is one of the essential aspects that should be considered before learning the other skills like listening, speaking, reading, and writing. According to Wilkins in Thornburry (2002: 13) “Without grammar very little can be conveyed, without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed”. It can be said that vocabulary is the most important thing when learning a language. Without having sufficient amount of vocabulary mastery, it is unlikely that one can communicate fluently for verbal and written communication. The reason is before mastering the other skills in English, students first have to understand and keep in mind a range of vocabulary. Therefore, to avoid the language problems caused by lack of vocabulary in English, students should learn vocabulary at their very early stage of their education such as in kindergarten and elementary schools.

In Indonesia, the new national curriculum does not included English as a compulsory subject to be taught in both kindergarten and elementary schools. However, each school is free to decide to include English lesson as a local content or called *Mulok* or Muatan Lokal. Thus, the goal of the learning English in this early education is not to master the four language skills namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing, but to enable the

students to know and understand certain words or vocabulary in English related to their surroundings.

However, lots of elementary students still face some difficulties in learning new vocabulary. The factors that caused the difficulties may come from both the teacher and the students themselves. From the students' side they find difficulties in memorizing the words and they also lack of motivation to learn it. Meanwhile from the teacher's side the problem may lay on the teaching techniques that the teachers apply in the classroom. The combinations of these problems cause the students unable to acquire English vocabulary effectively.

The first difficulty faced by the students is the difficulties in memorizing the words and its meaning. In learning vocabulary, the goal is to have the students getting familiar with the words and its meanings and then to use them in the proper context. In addition, later on, they can memorize the words because they have already been familiar with the words. However, most of the students find it difficult to memorize them because it is not their native language. In addition, the students also do not get enough exposure of the words being taught. Meanwhile, the acquirement of vocabulary should be during the process of language acquisition as they learn their first language, but in the classroom usually the students learn the language in the process of language learning, which includes instruction to memorize list of vocabulary. For the students, remembering the vocabulary has become so difficult so if they also need

to memorize the meaning, it will be more difficult especially because they do not get enough exposure of the language.

The second factor that contributes to the lack of vocabulary acquirement is the students' lack of motivation to learn English in the classroom. It is indicated by some students who do not pay attention during the lesson in the classroom. Even though most of the students at the beginning of the lesson pay attention to the teacher, they later lose their interest on the lesson. In addition, it cannot be avoided that one or two students in the classroom do not pay attention since the very beginning of the lesson. These students can make other students' attention distracted from the teacher as well. This difficulty occurs because English is a foreign language that is needed to be learned by them. English is not familiar to the students so that they do not have enough motivation since they never have been exposure about it before..

The last reason why the students have difficulties in learning vocabulary is that the teacher usually use the inappropriate way in teaching vocabulary in the classroom. In the learning process, the teacher usually lists set of vocabulary and their meanings, then read how to pronounce the words correctly and the students are asked to repeat after the teacher. After that the students need to memorize the list of vocabulary. This process of teaching makes the students lost their attention to the teacher since the process is difficult and not interesting for them. Because of this reason the goal of the lesson that is to make the students understand and familiar with

the words cannot be achieved. Instead of using this way to teach, the teacher can use other techniques that can interest the students so the goal of the learning can be achieved.

There are several ways for the teacher to make the lesson become more interesting for the students, for instance by using more pictures that describe the words or by using videos related to the words so the students can understand more about the words that have been taught. In addition, there are also many game activities that can be used as one of the teaching techniques in the classroom. The teacher can use game as an activity in the classroom to make class more interesting because each game has their own advantages to attract the students' attention during the learning process in the classroom. It can be concluded that Paper Airplane Game is one of the ways that can be used by the teacher as the teaching technique to review the vocabulary mastery in the elementary school. The reason is because it will make the class more interesting and the use of this game can make the teacher review the material taught easily.

Applying Paper Airplane Game in the classroom can be done to increase the interest of the students to learn about the vocabulary. It is believed that this game is effective to help the students learn vocabulary words as well as reviewing new words. Therefore, through Paper Airplane *Game* the teacher can see clearly whether the students have learned the new words or not. Through this game, the teacher not only can review the vocabulary mastery of the students but also make the students feel relax in

the classroom. Therefore, the students will find interest in learning English and feel free from learning pressure in the classroom. In addition, the teacher will avoid the cause of the difficulties of the students in the classroom such as difficulties in memorizing the vocabulary words, the lack of motivation and the boredom in the classroom.

B. Formulation of the Problem

The problem of this paper is formulated as follows: “How is the Paper Airplane Game used to review the vocabulary of the elementary school students?”

C. Purpose of the Paper

The purpose of this paper is to explain how to use Paper Airplane Game to review the vocabulary of the elementary school students.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

In order to teach vocabulary effectively to the students, teacher should use effective teaching techniques in the classroom and one of them is by using Paper Airplane Game. By using this game, the teacher will be helped in the term of creating fun learning in the classroom and for the students it will help them to recollect their memory about the material that have been learned before in a fun activity.

There are some advantages of using Paper Airplane Game as a teaching technique in the classroom. The first one is the students will have a fun learning. This game will prevent the students from boredom and the students can have activity that is much related to their nature that is to play game. It will make the learning process run well and the goal of the learning can be achieved since the students have learning in the environment that makes them comfortable and the learning activity they prefer. The second one is this game will give motivation to the students in learning and acquiring new words. The teacher will say in the beginning of the learning that they will play a game related to the material they will learn that day.

B. Suggestion

Through this paper, the writer suggests the teachers to use Paper Airplane Game as an activity to review elementary school students' vocabulary. It is suggested that the teacher to use the teaching technique that is interesting and effective. So the teaching and learning process in the classroom can run well and the students can learn in comfortable atmosphere. In addition, it is important for the teacher consider the important aspect in choosing the material and organizing the activity in the classroom. Therefore, the teacher should put more effort in the preparation before teaching.

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