INVOLVING JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ACTIVELY IN SPEAKING ACTIVITY BY USING DICE GAME

PAPER

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ABSTRAK

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Berdasarkan pengamatan, dalam proses belajar mengajar sebagian siswa mengalami kesulitan dalam berbicara bahasa Inggris. Khususnya bagi siswa Sekolah Menengah Pertama (SMP), mereka merasa malu dan takut untuk berbicara dalam bahasa Inggris. Salah satu penyebab permasalahan ini adalah kegiatan belajar mengajar yang monoton sehingga siswa merasa bosan dan kurang termotivasi untuk berpartisipasi dalam berbicara di kelas bahasa. Selain itu, banyaknya kapasitas siswa didalam kelas menyebabkan kurangnya kesempatan bagi semua siswa untuk berbicara dalam bahasa Inggris. Oleh sebab itu, guru harus bisa mencari solusi yang tepat untuk meningkatkan partisipasi siswa dalam berbicara dengan bahasa Inggris.

Salah satu cara untuk mengatasi permasalahan tersebut yaitu melalui "dice game". Permainan ini menggunakan dadu yang setiap sisinya ada gambar yang akan dijelaskan oleh masing-masing anggota kelompok. Siswa dibagi menjadi enam kelompok sesuai dengan banyak sisi dadu. Setiap sisi ditutup dengan nomor yang berupa kumpulan titik menyerupai bentuk dadu dengan warna titik yang berbeda. Kelompok akan mendapatkan gilirannya untuk menjelaskan gambar dengan menggilir dadu dan mengambil gambar yang sesuai dengan warna titik dadu. Kelompok yang lain harus menebak gambar sesuai dengan penjelasan kelompok dan meyesuaikan penjelasan dengan beberapa gambar yang ditempel dipapan tulis. Permainan ini menjadikan siswa bersaing untuk berbicara, menjelaskan gambar,serta menebak gambar sehingga menjadikan siswa berpartisipasi secara aktif dalam kegiatan berbicara dengan bahasa Inggris.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

Speaking is a communicative and productive skill because it aims at assisting students in interacting with others orally. Speaking gives the students opportunity to express their ideas, feelings, and thought and share information through communicating with others. During the learning process, students are expected to participate actively in order to be able to speak naturally. Thus, the teacher has a purpose to improve student's ability to communicate actively and naturally.

Based on school based-curriculum (KTSP 2006), English should be thought communicatively at all levels starting from elementary, junior and senior high school. This curriculum has a standard competency that must be reached by the students in all kinds of skills including speaking skill. Standard competency is used as teachers' reference in teaching process. The consideration of this curriculum has the purpose to make students speak. It is expected that they can speak to others, express their ideas, feelings and thought orally.

In fact, although students have learnt English for some years at school, most of them are still unable to speak the language. The students tend to use their mother tongue rather than English though they are in English speaking activity. They find it difficult to deliver their ideas while speaking in a foreign language so that the students prefer to use their own mother tongue. Based on writer's experience while doing teaching practice in a junior high school in Padang, there were some problems that were faced by teachers and students of that school in first grade. From the students' side, firstly, there were monotonous activities in English class. The common activities in the class were almost same in every meeting with different topic of the lesson. It made students feel bored so that they were not interested in getting involved in speaking class. Secondly, the students had limited time to practice their English with teacher or their friends because most of classes in Indonesia are big which consist of 40-45 students. It made only a few students active to speak. Most of the students would rather keep silent than communicate because of the fear of making mistake and being laughed by their friends. Deckert (2004) stated that the students' fear or making mistake may be stronger than their desire to speak. He added that in this problem, only the bright students will talk much in the class. It means that only the clever students would get more chance to participate in the classroom.

From the teachers' side, firstly, they had lack of idea to use interesting activities to break a boring atmosphere. The teacher could not create a fun and active learning that is suitable for children. In teaching speaking, teacher gave students activities such as asking students to read the school book about the topic and practicing the dialogue together by reading the book. However, these techniques made the students bored. They just remembered every word that was printed on the text book. Students were afraid when practicing in front of the classroom. They were also doubt to make an improvisation in practicing because they just focused on memorizing every word in the dialogue. Therefore, the students did not really show their competence in using the language.

To overcome these problems, teachers are required to create fun and active learning, especially in speaking activities. The activities should reflect interesting atmosphere. When it happens, students may use their brain, speak in delivering their ideas and may apply what they learn in their real-life. It will also make students not easily forget what they have learnt. Because of this reason, students need interesting activity to be motivated in involving them to speak.

One of ways in order to make students involved actively is through game. Game is an activity which can encourage students in learning, because they can study while they are playing the game. Game is one of potential activities that give students feeling of freedom to express themselves. For this reason, the writer offers one of the games namely "dice game". Dice game is a communicative game that used dice as a tool. This game brings some benefit in speaking activity such as creating fun and active learning and making a good atmosphere in the class. It is expected that by using dice game, the students will speak and involve actively is speaking activity especially in first grade to junior high school.

B. The Limitation of the Problem

From the explanation above, this paper discusses one of games in speaking activities namely "dice game". This game is applied to make junior high school students involved actively in speaking activities.

C. Formulation of the Problem

The problem mentioned at the background is stated as follows: "How can "dice game" be used in involving junior high school students in speaking activities?"

D. The Purpose of the Paper

This paper is expected to give a good contribution and consideration for teachers in involving students actively in speaking activities.