

**TEACHING SPEAKING BY USING THE SNOWBALL THROWING
ACTIVITY AT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

PAPER

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ABSTRAK

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Makalah ini membahas salah satu teknik pengajaran bahasa Inggris khususnya bagi siswa sekolah dasar melalui teknik “Snowball Throwing Activity”. Rangkaian kegiatan pada teknik ini dapat menjadi salah satu kegiatan yang menarik karena membawa siswa tertarik untuk belajar bahasa Inggris dengan berani. Dalam kegiatan ini siswa dapat menyampaikan idenya dan semua siswa memperoleh kesempatan yang sama untuk berbicara dalam setiap kali pertemuan. Kegiatannya merupakan kegiatan oral yang rileks, gembira dan menyenangkan.

Teknik ini diharapkan dapat bermanfaat bagi para guru Bahasa Inggris, sehingga memperkaya mereka akan teknik pengajaran berbicara. Dan juga bagi siswa diharapkan agar dapat meningkatkan kemampuan berbahasa Inggris, motivasi dan percaya diri, serta menyayangi bahasa Inggris di sekolah maupun diluar sekolah.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

Speaking is one of the important skills that should be mastered by the students besides three other skills in learning a language. Speaking is quite different from other language skills, because speaking requires the ability to perform in public. It means that speaking requires a lot of more power when it performs in public. Through speaking people could express and deliver feeling and ideas directly. They make speaking be more natural than other form of communication. However, to speak well is not easy because someone who wants to speak should be able to give understanding to people who listen to them and express their ideas.

Based on the curriculum 2006, well known as KTSP (the educational unit level curriculum) one of the aims of the English teaching in Elementary School level is that the students have to be able to develop their own competence of oral communication for language accompanying action in the school context. In the standard competencies for elementary students in grade five semesters 1 point 2, the students have to be able to utter the instruction and information that are very simple in the school context.

As a local content, speaking in Elementary school is different from Junior High School. In junior high school, the students have to be able to understand the meaning of the text and acceptable in the context of environment. But, in Elementary school, the students only imitate what the

teachers say and acceptable in the context of school. In short, speaking for elementary school is simpler than junior high school.

In connection with the explanation above, some of elementary students still have problem and get difficulties in the mastery of speaking. According to Shumin (1997) it is true. He says most language learners are poor at spoken language. They cannot speak English well. This is caused by some factors. The first factor is the students are ashamed to speak in English. They are afraid of making mistakes and being laughed by their friends. Only clever students are brave to participate in the class. On the other hand, most of elementary students are lack of play. The teachers often ignore that teaching young learners should apply an interesting play for them.

In teaching elementary students, teachers have to consider their background knowledge. In this case, children still want to play in learning English. They need a kind of activity that is interesting and fun which can motivate them to study. In fact, the teachers do not understand what their students need in learning. They still use the old way which is monotonous and boring. They lack of creativity in improving their technique. They are also lazy to use some tools or media to support their teaching. As a result, the atmosphere of the class can also influence interest of the students and it can cause boredom among class.

In order to solve the problem above, it is important to find effective and innovative ways to improve the students' interest in speaking in order to increase their speaking ability. The writer tries to propose the *Snowball Throwing Activity* to improve Elementary School students' speaking ability.

Snowball Throwing Activity is a good strategy in teaching speaking because this activity is like playing a ball in getting a chance to speak. In this activity the students have to be active in speaking and they are more creative to express their thought, feeling, and idea through their own words related to the topic. In *Snowball Throwing Activity* the students work independently. It gives maximum language practice and the students have opportunity to see how effective they can communicate in English. The students also feel enjoyable while studying because the activity is like playing a game and the students also feel fun.

The basic assumption of applying the *Snowball Throwing Activity* in speaking class is that the activity is interesting and can attract the students' attention and activeness in speaking class. In addition, the *Snowball Throwing Activity* is very useful and applicable; it will increase the student's ability in speaking without being afraid of making mistakes. The students will have self confidence and the teacher will not find difficulties to ask students to speak because they have got chance to do so.

B. Limitation of the Problem

Related to the background of problem above, this paper is focused on how solving the students' speaking ability problem in Elementary School by using Snowball Throwing Activity.

C. Formulation of the Problem

The problem of the paper is formulated in this following question: "How is Snowball Throwing Activity implemented in teaching speaking to Elementary School?"

D. The Purpose of the Paper

This paper is expected to give some contributions to the English teachers about the way of improving students' speaking ability by using *Snowball Throwing Activity*. The writer hopes that the students will give more attention to the subject and improve their motivation and ability in learning process.