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IMPROVING STUDENT'S WORD UNDERSTANDING THROUGH LISTENING TO SONGS

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this study is to implement the song on improvement students' vocabulary at MTs Ikhlas Jawilan. In constructing this study, the researcher collected data from the Classroom Action Research. The subjects of this study were 30 students and the researcher used listening test method. The action was done in two cycles and each step has four steps. They were planning, acting, observing and reflecting. Based on the result of cycle I and cycle II that mean score in cycle I is 67 with percentage of passing KKM is 33,33%. In cycle II mean score is 80,33 with percentage of passing KKM is 83,33%. The use of song in teaching English is effective to improve the students' vocabulary understanding at class VIII A of MTs Ikhlas Jawilan.

Key words: *Improving Vocabulary, Vocabulary, Classroom Action Research, Listening Song*

INTRODUCTION

Vocabulary is the entire words that make up a language. Before someone studies about the English skill, he should learn about vocabulary as the first step, like a statement on Harmer's book that „without grammar very little can be conveyed, without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed“¹. Vocabulary is one of the important factors in all language teaching, student must continually learning words as they learn structure and as they practice sound system. But the researcher see that the teacher's way of teaching the material is conventional and make the students bored with monotonous class atmosphere, teaching vocabulary only write in the whiteboard, and then they asked the student to read it after them, the teacher thought that the student memorized it, the students asked to copy it to their note book.

Based on observation at MTS Ikhlas Jawilan the researcher believed that one of the thriving techniques to support active and fun language learning is by using songs. Learning a foreign language with something familiar such as songs is helpful because songs are familiar in our daily life.

THEORIES

A. Vocabulary

According to Ozgur Celik, Fatih Yavuz in *“An Extensive Review of Literature on Teaching Vocabulary Through Mobile Application, (Bilecik Seyh Edebali University Journal of Social Sciences Institute, 2018) p. 61”* that vocabulary is defined as the words in a language.

While trying to explain the difference between the terms vocabulary lexicon, lexis, and dictionary, Jackson and Amvela define vocabulary as the total words stock in a language. Also Barcroft, Sunderman and Schmitt stated a similar definition of the word „lexis“ as the entire of a language. On the other hand, Oxford Learner's Dictionary lists three definitions for the word „vocabulary“, which are (1) all the words that a person knows or uses, (2) all the words in a particular language, (3) the words that people use when they are talking about a particular subject.

B. Importance of Vocabulary

Vocabulary is an important part of language learning. Teaching vocabulary requires the students' ability to understand the words and to use the words appropriately. According Dellar H and Hocking D, *Innovations, LTP* „If you spend most of your time studying grammar, your English will not improve very much. You will see most improvement if you learn more words and expressions. You can say very little with grammar, but you can say almost anything with words!“²

C. Listening

Gary stated, “Listening comprehension is the process, a very complex process, and if we want to measure it, we must first understand how that process works. An understanding of what we are trying to measure is the starting point for test construction. The thing we are trying to measure is called a construct, and our test will be useful and valid only if it measure the right construct. Thus, the first task of the test developer is to

understand the construct, and then, secondly to make a test that somehow measures that construct. This is construct validity, and ensuring that the right construct is being measured is the central issue in all assessment.

D. Song

Song is the art of tones or sounds in the sequences, combination, and temporal relation are usually accompanied with musical instruments in order to produce sounds containing of rhythm or rhythmic sound. According to Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008) P. 423 "Song is short piece of music with words that you sing.

RESEARCH METHOD

In this research design of this study was an classroom action research, according to Suharsimi that Action Research Class is a joint exposure to the definition of three words "research, action, and class". Research is the activity of looking at a object, using certain methodological rules obtain data or information that is useful for researchers or people who have and interest in order to improve quality in various fields. Class action is a deliberate movement of activities carried out with a specific purpose in the implementation in the form of a series of periods or cycle of activities. Meanwhile the class is a group of students who at the same time and the same place receive the same lesson from the same teacher.

The research was conducted at MTs Ikhlas Jawilan, which was located on Jln.Raya Cikande-Rangkasbitung KM.10 No. 1 Ds.

Pasirbuyut Kecamatan. Jawilan Kabupaten. serang Provinsi. Banten, 42177. Tlp/Fax: (0254) 480600. The researcher was conducted the research in this school for about a month in second semester of the academic year 2018/2019.

THE COLLECTING DATA

A. Observation

It is to get information about situation and condition in teaching and learning process, especially for eighth class of MTs Ikhlas Jawilan.

B. Test

Test is procedure for critical evaluation: means of determining the presence, quality or truth of something. Test is series of questions, problems, or physical responses designed to determine knowledge intelligence or ability. In using the test method, the researcher used the instrument in fill in blank of song lyric.

C. Documentation

The documentation is a acknowledging sources that we have used in our research. According to Sugiyono that documentation can be in the form of writing, images, or monumental works from someone.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Based on the data and Minimum Mastery Criterion (KKM) 73, there were 10 students had passed Minimum Mastery Criterion and still a lot of less score. It was needed

to improve in the next cycle. Improved students activity in vocabulary through listening song in cycle I.

CONCLUSION

A. Result

Result of the research shows that by using a song in teaching. Based on the result of cycle I and cycle II that mean score in cycle I is 67 with percentage of passing KKM is 33,33%. In cycle II mean score is 80,33 with percentage of passing KKM is 83,33%. So, song is effective to improve the students' vocabulary achievement. It can be concluded that Song can improve students' vocabulary at class VIII A of MTs Ikhlas Jawilan. It means the students who are better in vocabulary understanding. And it can be concluded that song are suitable in teaching vocabulary because the students' score are higher than the target (75%). The used of song in teaching learning process have some benefits for students. The students felt enjoy, confidence, active and have motivation to study English.

B. Suggestion

In the end of this chapter, the researcher would like to give suggestions related to this research which will hopefully be useful for other English teachers in Junior High School and other researchers. The suggestions are as follows:

1. Suggestion for the teacher

- a. The researcher suggested the teacher to use song as an alternative media in teaching vocabulary. Since song can be used to improve the students' vocabulary achievement and can

motivate the students to learn new vocabularies from the lyric of song.

- b. Implemented song in the classroom needed good audio sound system to be applied, because the students should listen to the song clearly to make it easier for the students to understand the words that they had listened.
- c. The teacher should be able to manage the time when using song as media in teaching vocabulary and the teacher should choose the right song that has a simple word and has interesting tone in order to attract students' attention in teaching learning process.

2. Suggestion for further research

- a. In this research, the researcher only focused on finding out the increase of the students' vocabulary achievement using of songs only. Therefore the researcher recommended for further researchers find out the increase of the students' vocabulary achievement using another genre of song, for example beat song, jazz song, hp hop song, R&B song, since song can help students to develop their vocabulary.
- b. Further research should conduct this media on different level of students. It can be at the other grade of junior high school or senior high school.

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