
THE USE OF MUSIC AS A SUPPORTING TOOL IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING

Anggita Pebrianti

Universitas Muhammadiyah Muara Bungo

Jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Universitas Muhammadiyah Muara
bungo

e-mail: *anggitafebrianti914@gmail.com

ABSTRAK

Bahasa Inggris adalah bahasa internasional yang paling banyak digunakan untuk berkomunikasi. Pembelajaran bahasa Inggris merupakan suatu hal yang harus dipelajari pada masa modern ini. Proses pembelajaran tersebut juga memainkan peran penting dalam memperoleh bahasa tersebut. Sekolah memerlukan penambahan pelajaran bahasa Inggris karena minimnya jam pengajaran dari guru setempat. Kebutuhan anak-anak di sekolah tersebut merupakan hal yang harus di selesaikan oleh karena pembelajaran bahasa Inggris harus ditingkatkan kepada siswa. Kehadiran para pengajar bahasa Inggris di sekolah akan sangat membantu proses pembelajaran ini dari bahasa asing, terlebih apabila pengajar tersebut dapat mengajar bahasa Inggris lewat bermacam cara. Terdapat banyak cara yang dapat digunakan untuk meningkatkan kemampuan belajar siswa, belajar lewat lagu dapat digunakan dalam proses tersebut. Belajar bahasa Inggris lewat lagu dapat menjadi sebuah sarana yang mumpuni dalam meningkatkan daya ingat maupun kemampuan siswa dalam pembelajaran bahasa Inggris, hal ini dapat dibuktikan dengan mudahnya lagu diikuti dan diingat oleh para siswa.

Kata kunci: Media musik, strategi pembelajaran, pembelajaran bahasa Inggris

ABSTRACT

English is the international language most widely used for communication. Learning English is something that must be learned in this modern era. The learning process also plays an important role in the acquisition of the language. The school requires additional English lessons due to the lack of teaching hours from local teachers. The needs of the children at the school are something that must be resolved because English learning must be improved for students. The presence of English teachers at school will really help the early learning process of a foreign language, especially if the teacher can teach English in various ways. There are many ways that can be used to improve students' learning abilities, learning through songs can be used in this process. Learning English through songs can be an effective means of improving students' memory and ability in learning English, this can be proven by the ease with which students can follow and remember songs.

Keyword: music media, learning strategies, english teaching



E-ISSN 2621-3796

JOURNAL OF LANGUAGE EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT

Vol. 1 No. 2 (2019)

INTRODUCTION

English is the most widely spoken language in the world. This language is the mother tongue of more than 400 million people worldwide. Every day millions of people use English at work and in social life. When people from different nations meet each other, English is the only connecting language used by them.

The importance of English education for students cannot be denied in the life of our society. English has been recognized as an international language that should be mastered by the public, so that they can communicate in the global world. Thus, English language education starting from an early age is not something that can be taken lightly.

Education that starts early has several advantages, including that students can learn more efficiently and gain more knowledge through interesting activities, especially those related to visuals, color, acting, music and student social activities. students in general. Second, the knowledge gained during student

Now is the era of globalization. Almost everything can be obtained instantly. Indirectly, we are part of the modern world. So that we are not left behind, we must master the language used. English is a

universal language that is used by almost all countries as a first or second language, you could say that English is a global language.

In Indonesia where we live, we don't use English as a first or second language. So in order for us to master English we have to learn it first. Learning English at an early age is the right step for us to take. We can teach you to use full English easily. Using English as a whole means that students not only understand what they read in English, but students can also understand what they hear, can speak and write their thoughts and ideas in English. English should be taught from an early age. The reason is that students' brains are still fresh, so the language absorption process is easier and smoother. Students' language absorption capacity can function very well.

The first thing to pay attention to is the atmosphere of the room where students carry out learning activities. We must be able to create a relaxed atmosphere during the learning process. Apart from that, the material must be packaged as attractively as possible because students tend to get bored easily with monotonous activities.

As an initial introduction to English, we can use English songs. This is one way to insert

language elements into students' minds so that students will get used to hearing the words sung in the song. It is indeed not easy to teach English as a second language to our students because we live in an environment that does not use English as a means of communication. This is different for Indonesian students who live in America, Australia or England. They live in an environment that uses English as a means of communication, so it will be easier to master this foreign language. However, we can introduce foreign languages to students from an early age. At this age, students still have the ability to master a second language more easily.

The ability to speak English well requires a long process to master, but basic skills can be learned and mastered in a short time. These basic abilities have conveniences that can be learned quickly according to a person's ability to catch. The criteria and indicators used to declare the success of the activity are: (a) the team's ability to gather elementary school students as teaching and training participants; (b) establishing mutually beneficial two-way communication on the theme raised; (c) creating social networking ties between

participants and the teaching team.

Language is a sound communication system using sound symbols that have meaning based on agreement (Widyamartaya, 1989). Furthermore, Trudgill (1974) stated that language is used by humans as a tool to communicate something meaningful. Communication skills in English are a learning process that must be done step by step. This learning process requires a different amount of time in each individual's education.

Studying the daily communication processes carried out by language speakers and then simulating them in the classroom as a tool for teaching and learning will familiarize students with mastering foreign language skills. Repetition of daily conversation simulations in the classroom, assisted by adequate teaching materials and equipment, will speed up the teaching and learning process to achieve maximum results from students. Reading English books is also very helpful in the learning process which is applied to simulate everyday conversations (Murcia 2000; Nurhadi 1987; Tarigan 1993;).

A wise solution that can be taken is to provide partners with an understanding of the

importance of communication skills in English to welcome the free market era and prepare children who are ready for the modern era. The output targets to be achieved are: 1. Increasing students' ability to communicate in everyday English both basic abilities and advanced abilities. Basic abilities, among others, are measured by students' ability to introduce themselves in English, tell the time, show directions, show sympathy and empathy. 2. Increased percentage of understanding of the material with correct answers to questions demonstrated in communication. 3. Increased interest in reading at the advanced stage, students can demonstrate advanced abilities by demonstrating communication of everyday problems in English and being able to explain activities carried out in one day.

METODE

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Based on the partners' priority problems, teaching, training, simulations and assistance are needed for students to improve their English language skills to master everyday conversations. The target for teaching, simulation and training is 2 months. The approach used mainly focuses on skills or mastery of English with certain techniques and strategies (Murphy, 1995; Opp-Beckman & Klinghammer, 2006).

DISCUSSION RESULT

The concept of teaching (foreign) languages cannot be

separated from the concept of learning itself. The increasing understanding of the nature of child development has given rise to a constructivist view of learning. Regarding language learning, the most important thing that must be understood is that language learning is an acquisition process with the aim of achieving communication skills. Second language learning theory (SLA Theory) shows that a child learns because there is a need for it, and they can fulfill it through language learning. This theory also says that language skills develop gradually from easy to more complex. By paying attention to the characteristics of the development of children's language skills, language teaching must be carried out by paying attention to the following concepts: a. Teacher as a model b. Present a natural situation where English is used as everyday language c. Present English as a language, not as a useless lesson d. Mistakes made by children are not failures, but rather show that they are developing e. Focus more on meaning, not on language form f. Communicate, even with very simple sentences, and the student's answer may be as simple as a word g. Rules (grammar) are important, but in the early stages, avoid teaching

grammar explicitly/directly to avoid frustration for students.

The essence of a song means a collection of words that are sung and accompanied by using certain musical instruments. In line with this, an expert expressed his opinion about songs as short musical works, with poetic texts, where music and words are equally important. The work can be written, some in sound form and usually accompanied by instruments (Encyclopedia in Ifadah and Aimah, 2012: 365).

.....songs are an important part of learning English because songs make students more sensitive to sounds, and learning English is nothing but learning various types of meaningful sounds. Songs can also make class more interesting and lively. When children like the songs taught by the teacher, they will happily and enthusiastically do them. And that's when they indirectly learned something (Sophia, 2013: 8).

From the quote above, it can be concluded that there are several reasons why songs are considered to be quite an effective medium for teaching English to elementary school students. Apart from that, it is necessary to realize that the target audience for teaching English is students in Indonesia

where English is a foreign language, so that selecting appropriate English song media can create a joyful learning atmosphere. More than that, words used in songs tend to be simpler, making that easier for students to learn English easily.

It is one of the methods / ways of teaching English by using singing / songs as the medium. Considering that English is a foreign language in Indonesia, of course the learning process requires a proper and effective approach. The success of English learning in early childhood is greatly influenced by a teacher's ability to present a teaching and learning process that is interesting and fun for children. In line with the existence of a child who likes to sing and move, movement and song are one of the most appropriate approaches if used as a means of presenting the English learning process at an early age. Presenting an interesting and fun learning process for children by not leaving good and correct English rules.

Music can enrich spiritual life and provide a balance of life for children. Through music, humans can express their thoughts and feelings and can control their emotional aspects. As for singing is part of music. Chanting serves

as a tool to pour out thoughts and feelings to communicate.

Based on the experience of English teachers and according to linguists as stated by Abdulrahman Al-Faridi English songs can help teachers to create active, creative and fun learning (Alfaridi, 2006). Singing and music are used as techniques in the English learning process. Music that has various elements in it can be used as a form of facility to develop children's cognitive abilities. The high tone gives the child the opportunity to practice his hearing sensitivity. Changes in rhythm or musical rhythm Train children to distinguish internal rhythms (inner rhythm) and motor skills (for example, if combined with motion exercises according to the lyrics).

CONCLUSION

The emphasis on learning English is on the most basic and most necessary elements of language, namely: vocabulary, pronunciation, simple grammar, and simple conversation. Besides these language elements, one thing that should always be remembered by English teachers is the importance of creating a comfortable situation and arousing interest and motivation to learn English. English is a foreign language that is difficult for most Indonesian children to

learn. Therefore, if children learn English from scratch, they should learn in a pleasant situation at the hands of competent teachers, so that it becomes their capital to learn English at a further level. We don't want the opposite to happen, instead students have been antipathetic to English since elementary school, which is caused by an unpleasant learning experience when in elementary school.

The author expects educators and students to be aware and understand and strive to be able to improve the quality of knowledge on English learning in a fun and easy-to-understand way, always providing the best in accordance with what has been set. Our advice is that teachers should be able to determine methods before learning English, because that way teachers can evaluate the results of the learning. Because method is a series of processes from the beginning to the end of learning. That's why the method in a learning is very important for a teacher.

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