

APPRENTICESHIP REPORT AT BPPK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

In the era of globalization, language represents a very important aspect as a medium of communication. English is used in a lot of countries, and is regarded as an international language which everyone is hoped to master. Therefore, nowadays parents expect their children to learn English since they are in pre-school or elementary schools. The purpose is that their children can communicate and compete in global competition in the future.

The reason I am interested to become an English teacher is because I want to have an experience in education field, especially in teaching English to children in elementary school. I choose BPPK Elementary School as the place of my apprenticeship because at BPPK English has been early introduced from the first until the sixth grade.

BPPK Elementary School started to operate on 1 July 1950 and was located at Jl. Pajajaran 83 Bandung. The first headmaster was Mr Yacub Sutampi Empi. At that time, BPPK only had one class and 30 pupils. In 1985, BPPK Elementary School was relocated to Jl. Pasirkaliki 93 Bandung. Then in 1999, BPPK Elementary School moved to Jl. Pajajaran 91 Bandung, joining BPPK Junior High School. Now the headmistress is Dra Aminah Sairoen. There are six classes, 13 teachers, and 153 pupils.

Through this apprenticeship programme, I have been given an opportunity to work as an English teacher in BPPK Elementary School. The requirements to be an English teacher at BPPK Elementary School are:

1. Like children
2. Possess both oral and written English fluency
3. Dress properly and politely
4. Have initiation and creativity
5. Have educational background of minimum D-III graduates of any major

During my apprenticeship programme, I am given a chance to teach the first until sixth grades, except fourth grade students, for one and a half months. I come to school to teach 3 times per week. The schedule of teaching and the duration of each session is presented on the following table:

DATE	TIME	GRADE
Tuesday	09.30-11.15	6
Thursday	07.45-09.00	3
	09.30-11.15	5
Friday	08.30-09.30	2
	10.00-11.00	1

As for my routine, first I prepare the material, explain the lesson material for 20 minutes, and then give notes for 15 minutes. I continue by giving an exercise and checking it for the next 25 minutes and sometimes I give a quiz for 30 minutes, and give or check homework for 15 minutes. This is only for grade 5 and 6. My dominating jobs are to prepare the material that will be given to the students, to give exercises and check them. I also face a lot of difficulties at the beginning of teaching such as lack of self confidence and I am a little nervous because I do not have such experience in teaching before. Besides, I feel confused when I have to handle naughty students. They often make some troubles by talking with their friends loudly when I am teaching. Sometimes they

fight in class during the lesson. Therefore I have to warn or give punishment when the children make some troubles in the classroom, such as standing in front of the class during the lesson.

The percentage of English skills used during the apprenticeship are, 50% speaking, 35% reading, 15% listening, while writing is not used as I use handouts to teach them. Speaking aspects is used when I teach the material such as when I give examples of pronunciation of words or sentences in English. Reading aspects is used when I read and study the material that I want to teach. Listening aspect is used when I listen to the children's pronunciation.

In doing the apprenticeship programme, I can apply the knowledge that I get from some subjects taught in my study as follows:

- Preparation for Oral Presentation, Psychological Approach to Teaching, Teaching English to Young Learners, Techniques for TEFL are used when I teach and speak in front of the class.
- Speech in Action, Pronunciation in Phrases are used when I give pronunciation examples.

During the lesson, I use both Indonesian and English. Indonesian is used to assist children who do not understand the lessons.

After the apprenticeship programme, I get many positive changes. My strength is on speaking because I can pronounce words or sentences well. On the other hand, I have a weakness in vocabulary, because sometimes when I study the material, I have a difficulty on understanding the vocabulary about, for example, the sea animals like ray fish, cuttlefish, and so on.

My conclusion is that this apprenticeship programme is very useful for me. I get knowledge, skills, and a lot of experience to be used later in I work.

I want to suggest the English teacher at BPPK Elementary School to help the students further improve their skills through English extracurricular classes, so that the students can communicate better in English with others. Especially for D-III networking, I want to suggest to differentiate the proposals for educational institutions with the proposals for business institutions because the English teacher at BPPK Elementary School says that the current proposal is more suitable to be used in business institutions than educational ones.