

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Most teachers use various ways to help students pay attention to the lessons. Students can easily get bored with the lesson that the teacher gives them. This is especially true for kindergarten students, who cannot concentrate on one thing for a long period (Mustafa, 2010, p. 5). Consequently, they can easily get distracted because they are not interested in the lesson. In this situation, teachers need to have a strategy to help the students focus on the lesson.

Nowadays, most kindergartens have accommodated the students with English for their learning. It is included in the lesson because based on Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 8th edition, *English* is "... used as a language of international communication throughout the world..." (Hornby, 2010, p. 504). Therefore, teachers need to give interesting lesson that can help the students to build up their motivation in learning English.

Teachers sometimes only focus on giving their students some activities and assignments. Teachers think that the students will not get bored with the lesson by learning English through activities. However, the result is the students still get bored with the lesson. Teachers have to find a solution to this problem.

Instead of giving a lot of activities, a teacher can give feedback or compliments to motivate the students when they are learning English. By getting compliments, students can gain confidence in their English learning. The students will not feel embarrassed to give answer when the teacher asked them about something.

Teachers sometimes forget to give compliments or praise to all of the students. Using rewards such as stickers and drawing stars on their worksheet can also be a way for students to get praise. Based on Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 8th edition, *reward* is "a thing that you are given because you have done something good, work hard,..." (Hornby, 2010, p. 1313). Moreover, it can make the students pay more attention to the teacher. The students answer the question that the teacher asks. Thus, rewards can make students motivated in learning. This study will investigate the use of rewards to motivate kindergarten students to learn English.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

This study is guided by these research questions:

1. What kinds of rewards does the teacher use to motivate the kindergarten students in the classroom?
2. What are the effects of giving rewards on the kindergarten students' motivation in learning English?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The first purpose of this study aims at finding out the kinds of rewards that the teacher uses to motivate the kindergarten students in the classroom. The second purpose of this study is to identify the effects of giving rewards on the kindergarten students' motivation in learning English.

1.4 Method of the Study

The research method used in this study is a case study. This method is chosen because it can illustrate the real people in the real situation that occurs in this study. There are two types of data collection that this study will use: observation and interview.

1.5 Significance of the Study

There are two significant points of the study. First, the teacher will be informed of the types of rewards that he or she can use in the classroom to motivate his or her students in the future. Second, the teacher will find out the effects of using rewards on kindergarten students.

1.6 Limitation of the Study

This study will focus on the use of reward to motivate the kindergarten students in learning English. This study will be conducted at one kindergarten school in Bandung. This study takes the data from observing a class and interviewing the English teacher. The result should not be generalized as there are other factors, such

as students' learning goal and interest affect the students' motivation in learning English.

1.7 Organization of the Thesis

The first chapter is Introduction, which includes Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Method of the Study, Significance of the Study, Limitation of the Study, and Organization of the Thesis. The second chapter deals with theoretical framework and literature review related to the research. Chapter Three covers the research methodology. Chapter Four presents the data analysis. Finally, Chapter Five contains conclusion and recommendation for this study. This thesis ends with Bibliography and Appendices.

