

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Teaching little children for the first time has a lot of challenges. The teacher should deal with a new class situation and new pupils. Masmasika states that, "Teaching is one of the most challenging professions. The teacher is faced with a lot of challenges that could be very stressful. Teaching young kids is not a walk in the garden but a real job that must be given serious attention" (par.1). Although being a teacher has a lot of challenges, it can be a rewarding and meaningful experience.

In order to teach effectively, a teacher needs to know the characteristics of the little children. Munson explains the characteristics of children aged 18 months – 2 years as follow, "Initially, between the ages of 18 months to 2 years, children find it extremely hard to communicate their needs to their parents, caregivers, and other children" (par. 2). Therefore, it is possible to have parents accompany their little children in

the classroom. Consequently, the teachers will help parents to teach their children to speak effectively.

When I did my internship at TUMBLE TOTS (henceforth, TT) on Jl. Maulana Yusuf no 8 in January - February 2012, I taught little children aged 1-2 years old at Walking-2 class. They were seven pupils accompanied by their parents in the class. They came to class three times a week, and the duration of the class was about one hour each day. The pupils did not only study in the station, but also played in the garden outside the station. At TT, the station is a classroom where pupils learn and play. At TT, every teacher has two roles namely as a leader and a supporter. As a leader of the class, the teacher manages the whole class activities which are related to the lesson plan and class format. As a supporter of the class, the teacher will turn on the music and lead the pupils when they are playing in the station. In general, the supporter will help the leader in the class. TT always has a theme of the lesson in every month, such as Chinese New Year in January and zoo in February.

When becoming a leader, I had a difficulty in teaching the pupils and remembering the class format. Class format is the sequence of class activities. The first part is the opening format, such as having the children sit in a big circle, greeting the children, having the children sing a song, opening rhyme, having parents help the children to clap their hands, singing songs in English and Bahasa, and playing at the station. The

second part is the closing format, such as having children sit in the big circle and say good bye, sing a closing song and rhyme, and eat in dining room. The problem that I had as a leader has influenced my teaching performance, and it has to be solved.

Based on the above explanation, the purpose of this term paper is to analyze how to overcome my difficulty in teaching English to pupils aged 1-2 years in Walking-2 class at TT school when I became a leader. In addition, I would like to present the best solutions to deal with the problem effectively.

## B. Identification of the Problem

In this term paper, I would like to discuss the following research questions:

1. Why did I have a difficulty in teaching English to pupils aged 1-2 years in Walking-2 class at TT school when I became a leader?
2. How would I overcome such problem effectively?

## C. Objectives and Benefits of the Study

The objectives of this term paper are to find out the causes of the problem and to present the best solutions to deal with the problem. The benefit of this term paper for the teachers at TT is it gives information about how to overcome the problem in teaching English to pupils aged 1-2 years old. For the readers, they can learn valuable insights on teaching pupils. The last benefit is, for me as the writer, I hope that I will overcome my difficulties in

teaching English to pupils, I will learn from my mistakes, and I will develop my knowledge about teaching English.

#### D. Description of the Institution

Based on Teacher's Guide which was published by Team Training, it is stated that TT was started by Bill Cosgrave who became a gymnastic training coach in 1968. He had been working at the British Gymnastic Team for about 24 years, and he realized that children needed a basic gymnastic to build basic motor skills. Then, he established TT at Southampton, U.K. The concept of TT program was initially for children aged 6 months - 5 years old then he extended the program for children aged 6 months until they can walk and it was called gymbabes. The purpose of establishing TT was to develop physical, rebound, and social-skills. TT has more than 500 branches in the world. The basic philosophy of TT is: "Give me your child until he is seven, and I shall give you a man." Another philosophy of TT is: "Developing Positive Minds" (3).

In Indonesia, P.T Tunas Mazmur Mandiri is the master franchise of TT in Jakarta, located on Jl. Mangga Besar Raya no. 5F, West Jakarta. It is organized by Mrs. Novita Tandry, as the director, and Mr. Robert Tandry, as the General Manager. In Bandung, TT began in 2000. The main school is on Jl. Maulana Yusuf and the branch is on Jl. Galunggung. The owner of TT in Bandung is Fedya Kertatama.

The number of teachers in Maulana Yusuf is seven, and the number of children is about one hundred.

#### E. Method of the Study

For this term paper, the analysis of the problem is based on my internship at TUMBLE TOTS, Jl. Maulana Yusuf no 8, in January-February 2012. The data is taken from my teaching experience, internship journal, and library research on printed sources and electronic sources. The data is used to analyze the causes, the effects, and the potential solutions.

#### F. Limitation of the Study

This term paper focuses on overcoming my difficulty in becoming a leader of Walking-2 Class at TT. The subjects of the research are seven pupils aged 1-2 years old in Walking-2 Class and I as the leader of the class. The duration of the class was one hour each day. The pupils were learning in the station, having lunch in the dining room, and playing in the garden. I did my internship as a leader and supporter, and I became a leader for six times. The period of internship started from January until February 2012.

#### G. Organization of the Term Paper

The first part of the Term Paper is Abstract, the summary of the whole term paper in Bahasa. It is followed by Declaration of Originality, Acknowledgements, and Table of Contents. Then, there are four chapters. The first one is Introduction, which consists of Background of the Study, Identification of the Problem, Objectives and Benefits of the Study, Description of the Institution, Method of the Study, Limitation of the Study, and Organization of the Term Paper. The second chapter is Problem Analysis, containing the analysis of the problem. The third chapter is Potential Solutions, explaining the potential solutions along with the negative and positive potential effects. The fourth chapter is the Conclusion. The last parts are the Bibliography and the Appendices.