

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In this chapter, I would like to explain the reason for choosing my topic and the definition of the topic. During my internship program in the kindergarten at Little Children Class, I found a problem that as a new teacher there, I was not able to make the children follow the instructions in the classroom. Harmer states that “This issue of how to talk to students becomes crucial when teachers are giving their students instructions. The best activity in the world is a waste of time if the students do not understand what it is they are supposed to do.” (4) Giving effective instructions to children in class helps to get their attention to make them follow the teacher’s instructions when they do their activities.

Being a teacher is not easy. It needs particular skills to manage the classroom, including the way of giving instructions effectively to make the children are able to follow the instructions well. If the children find it hard to do their tasks well, the teacher may need to recheck whether his or her instructions were complete enough or were too complicated to be understood by the children. New teachers do not always come from a background in education or have any experience as a teacher and do not

have the skills that are needed to manage the classroom well. That is why many new teachers find it difficult to have good classroom management, including giving effective instructions to children.

From January 20 until February 20, 2008, I did my internship program as a teacher assistant at Little Children Class. Little Children Class, henceforth (LCC), is an institution which is a kindergarten that gives valuable lessons to the children, and it also gives English lessons twice a week to make the children have a good quality of simple English language to enter their next level of study.

I faced a problem when I did my internship program in the TK A Class at LCC. It was hard to make the children finish their work well in class because I had not understood yet how to give clear instructions to children.

There are some factors that make the teacher not able to make the children follow the instructions in class, such as the teacher is new, the teacher has a soft voice, and the teacher is lenient to the children. Based on my experience when I was doing my internship at LCC, I as a new teacher found that there were some children who could not obey my instruction because I was new and had no experience as a kindergarten teacher. When I was telling a child what to do, the child usually did not respond or do what I said, but if the senior teacher asked him to do something, he did it. Based on this fact, I choose the difficulty of the children to act according to the instructions given by me, as a new teacher at LCC as the topic for my term paper.

B. Identification of the Problem

This term paper aims at providing answers to the following questions:

1. Why is it difficult for me to give effective instructions as a teacher in the TK A class at LCC?
2. How do my ineffective instructions affect the children in TK A at LCC?
3. How can I give effective instructions to the kindergarten children at LCC?

C. Objectives and Benefits of the Study

The objectives of writing this term paper are to analyze the causes and effects of not being able to give effective instructions, to find potential solutions from my ineffective instructions, and to choose the best potential solution to give effective instructions in the TK A class at LCC.

Furthermore, there are also some benefits of the study for the institution, the readers, and myself. It is expected that this term paper can give some positive information for the institution and the teachers at LCC through the potential solutions provided to help teachers give effective instructions to the children in class, even if they are not new teachers.

The benefits for the readers who love children and want to be teachers are, they will get information about how to deal effectively with children in the classroom. More specifically, they will find some ways to give effective instructions to the children.

For me, the benefit is I know more about how to make children follow my instructions. In addition, I hope it will help me to teach the children well if I work as a teacher in the future.

D. Description of the Institution

Little Children Class is a school for children aged 2 – 7. When LCC began, Miss Tini Budiman supported the cost of renting a building for the school, and she also asked Miss Lusiana to become the principal in the LCC. LCC started on 17 July 2002 at Jl. Taman Holis Indah E1-8. At the beginning, Little Children Class opened the school programmes of Pre-school, Playgroup, and Kindergarten.

Teachers at Little Children Class try to speak English in the English classes that are held twice a week. English language is an important lesson in the kindergarten level of LCC, which is the aim of preparing children for the following levels of English in the school. The LCC has opened a programme of home-schooling and also an elementary school from levels 1 to 3.

E. Method of the Study

I compiled the data for this term paper from my internship journal when I did my internship programme in the TK A class at LCC. I wrote the entire teaching and learning activities in class every day, when I was doing my internship there. Besides, the theories for supporting my analysis of the problem I discuss are from the Internet and library research. My internship

journal contains of the information which helps me in writing this term paper.

F. Limitation of the Study

I will focus the analysis on me, a new teacher who finds it difficult to make the children follow my instructions in the TK A class at Little Children Class. The analysis is of the TK A class at LCC, which consists of twenty children aged four years until six. The analysis was carried out from January 2008 to February 2008.

G. Organization of the Term Paper

The term paper is divided into five chapters. Chapter One is the Introduction, which has seven parts, namely, Background of the Study, Identification of the Study, Objectives and Benefits of the Study, Description of the Institution, Method of the Study, Limitation of the Study, and Organization of the Term Paper. Chapter Two contains the analysis of the problem, being specifically the causes and effects of the problem and some theories that will support my data. In Chapter Three, I discuss some possible solutions, as well as the negative and positive effects from the potential solutions. In Chapter Four, I choose the best potential solution for my problem. Finally, this term paper finishes with the Bibliography and the Appendix.