

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Every school has rules that oblige their students to come to school on time, including Tumble Tots, a school for pupils of 6 months to 5 years old. This rule is made so that the classroom activities can be started on time. The importance of coming on time is stated by Robert Fulghum in his statement: "Research strongly supports the connection between academic achievement and attendance. Regular and punctual attendance in school is essential to a student's success" (3). He also states a reason why pupils should have good attendance habits early in life because it helps pupils to "have a habit of good attendance and punctuality for future careers" (3).

Dealing with late pupils at Tumble Tots is the topic of this term paper. I chose this topic because in my class at Tumble Tots there were some pupils who always came late to my class, which is the 2- to 3-year-old class. The class starts at 8 AM until 9.30 AM and consists of 15 pupils. From 15 pupils in the class, 7 pupils often came late every day. They came late for many reasons: traffic jam, busy parents, and so on. Another reason is because Tumble Tots does not have a rule about giving penalty to pupils who come late. These late pupils often affected classroom

activities. For example, pupils who were late did not understand the materials being discussed, so the teacher had to explain the materials all over again. When this happened, others who were in the classroom were also affected because they had to hear the teachers explaining the materials again. This could interrupt classroom activities because it took some time for the teachers to explain the materials again, and they might not have enough time to teach the lessons that had been prepared for that day. Teachers and also pupils who were not late receive some consequences because of this problem. I would like to analyze the problem and find the best solution to solve it.

B. Identification of the Problem

Here are some questions that are going to be discussed in this term paper:

1. Why did the pupils come late to school?
2. How can the teachers make sure the pupils come on time?

C. Objectives and Benefits of the Study

The objective of my study is to find the best solution to the problem of pupils' coming late to class in Tumble Tots. Tumble Tots teachers are the ones who have to deal with these late comers. Therefore, I hope the solution stated at the end of this term paper will help them to manage the pupils in a better way so that classroom activities can go well.

This term paper also provides me an opportunity to analyze and find a solution to a problem which I discovered during my apprenticeship programme at Tumble Tots. I hope that this term paper will be useful for other students of D3 English Programme, Faculty of Letters, Maranatha Christian University, who will do their apprenticeship programme at Tumble Tots. Hopefully they can learn about real work situation, especially the role of a teacher, the responsibility, and the ways to deal with pupils at Tumble Tots.

D. Description of the Institution

Tumble Tots was established by Bill Cosgrave in 1979. He was a former trainer of British Olympic Gymnastics. The word 'Tumble' means to roll over and 'Tots' means pupils. Tumble Tots has a purpose to form pupils' personality through various physical activities so they can become confident, acknowledge themselves, have self discipline, independent, and work together. In order to achieve that purpose, Tumble Tots has some programs which are designed to train pupils. Tumble Tots also educate pupils since 6 months up to 5 years old, and have a motto "Skills for Life", which means Tumble Tots has a purpose to build the personality of the pupils to become more confident, independent, and discipline.

Up until now, Tumble Tots has many branches in countries such as Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, and also Indonesia. In Bandung, Indonesia, Tumble Tots owns two branches: Tumble Tots Maulana Yusuf no. 8 and Tumble Tots Buah Batu no. 18.

E. Method of the Study

The problem which will be analyzed in this term paper is taken from my 30 days experience as a teacher at Tumble Tots. During my apprenticeship, I collected some data by asking the late comers and their parents to know the reasons for their lateness. I discussed with other teachers to find the proper solutions to this problem. I also provide some theories which are taken from textbooks and the Internet.

F. Limitations of the Study

The subject that I analyze is pupils who study in Tumble Tots at the 2- to 3- year-old class. From 15 pupils in the class, I focused my research on the pupils who were late. There were 7 pupils who often came late to class. I also collect some information from the parents of these pupils to know the reasons why they came late to school. I did the observation during my apprenticeship which was from January 27th to February 25th 2009.

G. Organization of the Term Paper

The first part of this term paper is the Abstract, which gives an insight into the problem discussed in the chapters. The Table of Contents consists of the details of the term paper. Chapter I, the Introduction, provides information about the problem, and how the problem is analyzed. It contains Background of the Study, Identification of the Problem, Objectives and Benefits of the Study, Description of the Institution,

Limitation of the Study, and Organization of the Term Paper. Chapter II, Problem Analysis, which discusses things that cause the problem and the effects as results of the problem. Chapter III, the Potential Solutions, provides comparison and contrast of the three potential solutions that can solve the problem. Chapter IV, the Conclusion, provides us with a potential solution to overcome the problem. This solution is proposed based on the analysis of the previous chapters. The final part of this term paper is the bibliography that contains all of the printed sources that I use as a reference in writing my term paper.