

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

English as a foreign language is very important today. Since kindergarten, children have already learned English. Nowadays, some English courses have classes for kindergarten learners. It is because many people start to realize the importance of learning English at early age. According to Kareem, childhood is a potential time to learn. Good education must be given to the children for their future. In addition, providing English education at early age can make children learn foreign language skills in more fun and easy way (par. 8). However, teaching English to the young learner is not an easy job for me. According to Sutrisno, “Teaching English to young learners is not that easy, though interesting. Teaching English to young learners needs good teaching skills, creativity, thorough preparation, and patience.” (par. 6).

Some children may face difficulty in learning vocabulary. Therefore by teaching English started with simple vocabulary, I want to help the children especially aged 3 – 4 years old to understand English vocabulary, because

learning vocabulary is really important. This term paper will discuss about my difficulty in teaching English vocabulary to 11 children, 8 boys and 3 girls, aged 3-4 years old in pre-kindergarten class at BPK Penabur.

The first time I taught English vocabulary there, my first task is to be a teacher assistant. I must help the teacher to deliver the lessons. Initially I was just assigned to distribute books and help children who have difficulty in learning. After two until three sessions, I was assigned to teach English lessons alone unaccompanied by the English teacher. I was nervous and afraid to make mistakes during the teaching. Then I also found that some children could not answer my question during the lesson. It happen because they did not understand the lesson.

In this term paper, I am interested in analyzing this problem because I want to improve my teaching skill especially in teaching vocabulary to children, so that they can understand the material well. Besides, based on my internship experiences, I think teaching vocabulary is quite challenging. Therefore, I am going to analyze this problem to find the best solutions.

B. Identification of the Problem

The analysis of this problem is formulated in the following research questions:

1. Why did I have difficulties in teaching vocabulary for kindergarten?
2. How did this problem influence the teaching and learning vocabulary?

3. How could I overcome my difficulties in teaching vocabulary for kindergarten?

C. Objectives and Benefits of the Study

The objective of the study are to find the causes of the problem of my difficulties in teaching vocabulary in English to pupils of BPK Penabur, to find out how this problem influences the teaching and learning vocabulary process, and to find the best solutions to overcome my difficulties in teaching vocabulary to children.

The benefit of the study for me as the writer is I can use the best potential solutions for my career in the future. Moreover, the readers and the institution will also get some information and explanation concerning how to overcome the problem in teaching English vocabulary.

D. Description of Institution

I did an interview with Ms. Leticia as an English teacher at TKK BPK Penabur Pasirkaliki 164 Bandung to find the information about BPK Penabur school institutions at Pasirkaliki 164 Bandung. TKK BPK Penabur Pasirkaliki 164 was established on July 9, 2012. It is a widening class of TKK BPK Penabur 246 Bandung. In the first year, TKK BPK Penabur Bandung 164 has had 40 students consisting of 13 Toddler students, 17 pre-kindergarten students, and 10 K1 students. TKK BPK Penabur Pasirkaliki 164 Bandung is led by Mrs. Indriane Atmadja who is also the principal of the TKK BPK Penabur 246 Bandung. The number of teachers

working at TKK BPK Penabur Pasirkaliki 164 Bandung is 10 teachers, consisting of: 3 classroom teachers, 1 religion teacher, 1 mandarin teacher, 1 music and sport teacher, 1 admin teachers, and extracurricular teachers. The education system in TKK BPK Penabur Pasirkaliki uses the national curriculum, and the lessons are delivered in Indonesian and English. The English is used to say greetings, give simple commands, prayers, and sing songs. This institution has a vision, mission and also motto. The vision of TKK BPK Penabur is to be a Christian educational institution which excels in faith, knowledge and service. Their mission is to develop the learners, potentials optimally through qualified education and teaching based on Christian values. Moreover, TKK BPK Penabur also has a motto which is faith, knowledge, and service.

E. Method of the study

The data for this study is based on my teaching experiences in BPK Penabur during my internship from 07 January 2013 until 07 February 2013, and the interview with Ms Leticia, the English teacher of the school. The data for library research are taken from electronic sources and printed source. The data that I found is used to analyze the causes, the effects and the potential solutions.

F. Limitation of the Study

In the research, the subjects are me, as the assistant teacher at

BPK Penabur, and 11 children, aged 3-4 years old as pupils in TKK BPK Penabur. The period of teaching is from 07 January - 07 February. The respondent of the interview is Ms Leticia as the English teacher at BPK Penabur. The focus of the study is teaching English vocabulary to the 11 pupils .

G. Organization of The Term Paper

This term paper is divided into several chapters. The first part of this term paper is Abstract, the overall summary of the final paper written in Indonesian. Second is the Declaration of Originality, and then the next parts are Acknowledgements and Table of Contents. Chapter One is the Introduction, containing Background of the Study, Identification of the Problem, Objectives and Benefits of the Study, Description of Institution, Method of the Study, Limitation of the Study, and then Organization of The Term Paper.

Chapter Two is about Problem Analysis, in this chapter I will explain the causes and the effects of my problem. Chapter Three is about Potential Solutions to overcome my problem. In Chapter Four I will explain about the conclusion of the analysis. The last part is the Bibliography and Appendices which contain the flowchart and the transcription of the interview with Ms. Leticia.