

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Vocabulary is an important thing when learning a foreign language, especially when learning English language. It is important because the more words one knows, the better one will be able to understand what one hears and reads in English; furthermore, learning vocabulary needs a good memory in order for learners to be able to use the vocabulary in communication. As Oanh says, “memorization seems to be a valid learning strategy, provided that memorization is used appropriately to help students internalize what they have learned to apply in actual communication” (par. 2). Thus, the students who are good in memorizing English vocabulary will have more advantages than the students who are not good in memorizing.

The topic of this term paper is “I had difficulty in teaching a second-grade student who had a problem in memorizing English vocabulary at SD Sirna Sari Pangalengan”. Based on my experience during my internship in SDN Sirna Sari Pangalengan, I found that there was a student who found it difficult to memorize the English words I taught. Kaye states, “some students find memorizing vocabulary words difficult” (par. 2). Based on the interview with

the principal of SD Sirna Sari, the goal of English for the second-grader is the students will be able to answer some basic English vocabulary on the tests correctly. Thus, as the student found it difficult to memorize the English words, she had difficulty in getting good marks in the English subject.

No matter what I tried to do to help her memorize the words, nothing seemed to be successful. Although I gave her extra assistance during the lesson and I spent more time helping her than the other students, it was still really difficult for her to memorize the vocabulary. Therefore, I found that it was not easy to teach vocabulary to the student who had difficulty in memorizing the words. The vocabulary that I was teaching to the student is the parts of the body

Thus, I decided to discuss how to teach vocabulary to the second-grade student who had difficulty in memorizing the words at SD Sirna Sari Pangalengan. Hopefully, through this paper, I can find out the causes and the effects of the problem. On top of that, I can find out the solutions to the problem. I will present the analysis in the subsequent chapters.

B. Identification of the Problem

The analysis of my problem is formulated in the following questions:

1. Why did I find difficulty in teaching a second-grade student who had a problem in memorizing the English vocabulary at SD Sirna Sari?
2. How did the problem affect the teaching and learning process in second-grade English class at SD Sirna Sari Pangalengan ?
3. How should I overcome the problem?

C. Objectives and Benefits of the Study

The first objective of the study is to find the causes of my difficulty in teaching vocabulary to a second-grade student who had difficulty in memorizing the vocabulary at SD Sirna Sari Pangalengan. The second objective is to find the effects of my difficulty in teaching vocabulary to a second-grade who had difficulty in memorizing the vocabulary at SD Sirna Sari Pangalengan. The third objective is to find the best solutions to overcome my difficulty in teaching vocabulary to the student. Hopefully by writing this term paper, I can learn how to teach vocabulary effectively to second-grade students and also improve my teaching abilities. For the teacher at SD Sirna Sari Pangalengan, I hope the information can be applied and help them to become better teachers. For the readers, I hope this term paper will become an optional reference and give them insights on the topic.

D. Description of the Institution

Based on the profile of SD Sirna Sari Pangalengan, the school was established in 1976. The location of the school is at Jln Sirna Sari, Desa Pulo Sari, kecamatan Pangalengan, West Java. SD Sirna Sari Pangalengan has eight teachers, one librarian, one administrative staff and a principal. The vision of the school is to make the students have faith, have a sense of caring for the environment and have a good life. The school also has some missions, which are maximizing religious education, both theory and practice, providing the teaching of Mathematics and Science, organizing cultural arts education, both on a local and national level, and organizing physical education, both at school and outside school.

E. Method of the Study

I used some resources to support the analysis of this paper. First of all, I attained some data from the Internet and the library. Second, I took the data from an interview with the teacher and principal at SD Sirna Sari Pangalengan. In addition, I took some data from my journal that describe my experiences during my internship at SD Sirna Sari Pangalengan from January 6 until February 8, 2014.

F. Limitation of the Study

In this research, the subjects are me as the teacher and a student in the second-grade at SD Sirna Sari Pangalengan. The respondents of the interview are Ms. Buntari Lasmiana, S.pd, M.M as the principal of SD Sirna Sari Pangalengan and Ms. Tini as the teacher of second grade at SD Sirna Sari Pangalengan. The focus of this study is my difficulty in handling a second grader who had a problem in memorizing English words.

G. Organization of the Term Paper

The first part of this term paper is the Abstract, the overall summary of the final paper in Bahasa Indonesia. The second part is the Declaration of Originality, then the next parts are Acknowledgements and the 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 the Institution, Method of the Study, Limitation of the Study, and Organization of the Term Paper. Chapter Two discusses Problem Analysis.

Furthermore, Chapter Two describes the causes and effects of my problem. Chapter Three is Potential Solutions. It contains some ways to overcome the problem, along with the potential negative and positive effects. Chapter Four is the Conclusion of all the chapters. The last part is the Bibliography and Appendices, which contain the flowchart and the transcription of the interviews.