

CHAPTER III

POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

In this chapter, I would like describe some potential solutions based on my research to solve my problem in handling my difficulties in motivating a 4th grader child to learn English based on my research. There are three potential solutions with their positive and negative effects.

The first potential solution is I will give a fair challenge to the child. In Ron Clark Story Reflection Paper, it is said that by giving a fair challenge to children, the children would actually pay attention and learn (par. 2). Therefore, I will give a fair challenge. For example if the child can memorize at least 15 words of irregular verbs, I will do 10 push ups, but if she cannot memorize the words well then she has to do 10 squats and the child will be motivated.

The first solution has a potential positive and a potential negative effect. The potential positive effect is the child will feel entertained and will pay attention to the lesson. In Ron Clark Story Reflection Paper, it is stated that if the teacher gives a fair challenge to the children keeps the class entertained

and they will pay attention to what the teacher is teaching (par. 2). From this point, I see that this solution can motivate children to learn and also make them entertained.

The potential negative effect of this solution is the child might not have any respect toward the teacher. Turley said that humiliating will make others disrespect us (par. 6). This will happen if the child keeps failing and has to do the penalty again and again and she will feel this as humiliation. If the child feels humiliated, she will not respect the teacher

The second potential solution is I will give the child a reward if she does well in studying. The reward can be : playing games, or something verbal. As it is stated by Wright that using rewards can motivate students (9). If the child is rewarded for her good achievement, she will feel that her hard work is paid off and therefore she will be motivated to learn.

The first potential positive effect of using this solution is the child will do the exercise and learn more seriously and therefore will be more motivated. Druger shares his experiences that if the teacher gives the student reward for her good work, she will be encouraged to learn and become motivated (3). Therefore if I use this solution, the child will be more eager to learn and motivated.

The second potential positive effect of this solution is the child will perform better in learning. Be given a reward, the child will perform better in

learning since she is motivated. Harms in his article stated that "Students who were given money or a trophy to look at while they tested performed better" (par. 5). By giving a reward to the child, according to Harms, may make the child motivated and will perform better in learning.

This second potential has some potential negative effects. First, the child might become dependent on the reward. Linsin states that by offering rewards "the students will demands higher and more frequent rewards" (par. 15). Therefore, by giving the child rewards, she may always expect for a reward and refuse to learn if there is no reward.

The second potential negative effect is the child might not like the rewards and will end up unmotivated. Linsin stated that reward weakens over time and teachers have to increase the payment to keep the student motivated (par. 15). In some ways rewards in a long run is ineffective, and I have to increase the rewards to keep the child motivated.

The last potential solution is I will use the teaching style that is suitable with the child's learning style. According to Griswald, "identifying learning styles and adapting lessons can motivate students" (par. 2). If I can identify the child's learning style and uses the suitable teaching style to teach him or her by using some test or questioners, it will help the teacher to motivate the child to learn. However, there are positive and negative effects of this potential solution.

The positive effect is the child can learn English more effectively. Baker states that “When teachers know their students' best way to learn, they can help their students learn more effectively” (par. 2). When I know the child's learning style and use the suitable teaching style, the child will be more enthusiastic in learning and learning will become more effective as they learn.

The potential negative effect of this potential solution is, the child will lose her interest in learning English. Weimer said that if a learner has already been used to learning with his or her own learning style for example using visual aids, and the teacher tries to use another learning style which she or he thinks is more suitable for the child, the child may not be motivated to learn (par. 5). Therefore if I teach the child using a different learning style that is suitable for her, she may lose her interest, for example, if the child is used to learning with kinesthetic learning style and at the moment the teaching materials need to use visual learning styles she will not be motivated or eager to learn.