

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

English is one of the most language in the world. It has become increasingly clear that English will play an important role in communication in various parts of the world. In Indonesia, students are usually afraid of joining foreign language classes. They may be unmotivated, and discouraged easily. Their mind sets say foreign language is difficult to learn because most of them know nothing from the start. According to Ramelan most learning problem are caused by different elements found in the two languages. When the students learn a foreign language, they will get difficulties. The degree of difficulty is determined by the degree of differences between two languages: the language of the students and the target language.¹

Language consists of words because vocabulary is the collection of the words that an individual knows.² A six-year-old speaker who has a very well-developed vocabulary for someone her age in her native language might know the dynamic words and abstract. Another definition of vocabulary is an important element of language, besides pronunciation and grammar rules. Teaching vocabulary is not easy for the teacher especially to teach arithmetic operation because few students are able to learn easily. Arithmetic is the oldest and the most elementary branch of mathematics, used by almost everyone, for tasks ranging from simple day-to-day counting to advance science and business calculation. In common usage, the word refers to a branch of mathematics which records elementary property of certain operation of numbers.³ The prehistory of arithmetic is limited to a very small number of small artifacts in indicating a clear conception of addition, subtraction,

¹ Ramelan.1999. *English Phonetic*. Semarang : IKIP Semarang Press, p.5

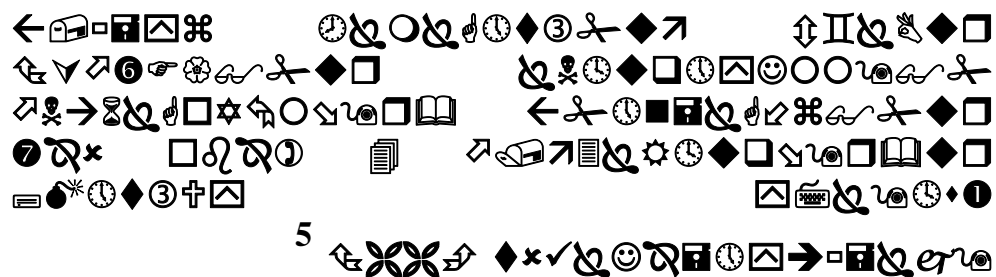
² Linse.T Caroline.2001.*Teaching Language to Young Learners*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, p.121

³Lausen Abrio, Arithmetic Operation.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arithmetic#Arithmetic_Operations. Accssed January 30 2010

multiplication and division. In reality, teacher and students employ a great deal of language in math and science teaching and learning process especially in learning English arithmetic. According to Cocking and Chipman the so-called universal mathematical language is mediated in the classroom through the oral and written language of instruction, and thus proficiency in the language of instruction reasonably is expected to have an effect on the acquisition of concepts and skill.⁴

There are many language in the world. One of them is English Quran verse Ar-rum 22 also say that :



And among his sign is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the variations in your language and colors, verily in that are sign for those who know.

According to Wright, a teacher needs to remember that children may still be finding it difficult to use pronunciation correctly in their first language to control reference across a sequence of events and plot action, and not to demand unreasonable skill in the foreign language.⁶ Teacher in this case needs to be responsive to the classroom situation in order to more enjoyable and to create classroom atmosphere should be sufficiently related so that learners are engage actively in every activities lead to a better performance of their language skill listening, speaking, reading and writing.

⁴ Ovando, Carlos J, Collier, Virginia P, Combs Mary Carol.2003. *Bilingual and ESL Classroom: Teaching in Multicultural Contexts*. New York: Library of Congress Cataloging-in Publication Data, p. 237

⁵ British Library Cataloging in publication data, the qur'an .R. j. Achford Ltd. Chisester.susex, 1981,p..398

⁶ Caroline T, Lynne. 2006.*practicalEnglish language teaching: young learners*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, p. 12

Song is one of the ways to help the students to create contexts in which the language is useful and meaningful. The need for meaningfulness in language learning has been accepted for some years. A useful interpretation of meaningfulness is that the learners respond to the content in a definite way. If they are amused, angered, intrigued or surprised the content is clearly meaningful to them. Thus the meaning of the language they listen to, speak, read and write will be more vividly experienced and therefore, better remembered.

One obvious way in relating music to science is to find songs which relate science to mathematic. A song as media is used to teach arithmetic operation to fourth grade students of elementary school by modifying the song, for example lyrics of DO-RE-MI song is changed to lyrics arithmetic, the aim is to facilitate the students in learning English vocabulary easier and to make them enjoy in classroom situation.

The teacher should give students new methods in order to make them enjoyable, easy and memorable about the material especially vocabulary. In this case, the writer wants to introduce the new method in learning vocabulary (English Arithmetic Terms) by giving “*a songs*”. Song are considered to be effective tool for language teaching. The researcher will introduce the method to students of SD N1 Kutamendala, Kab. Brebes by conducting a research in title “USING SONG TO TEACH ENGLISH ARITHMETIC TERMS” (An Experimental Research with The Fourtth Grade Students of SD N1 KUTAMENDALA Kab. Brebes in the Academic Year of 2009/2010).

B. REASONS FOR CHOOSING THE TOPIC

Here are some reasons the writer want to try using a song to teach arithmetic operation for the students at 4th years :

- a. Vocabulary is an essential component of language so it is important to find out how to teach arithmetic vocabulary using song.
- b. The writer wants to introduce arithmetic vocabulary for Elementary School students’ to improve their skill in English learning process.

- c. Song as media to help them to memorize the word easily and to make the students more interested and enjoyable.

C. QUESTION OF THE STUDY

The problem discussed in this final project is “To what extent is the effectiveness of song to teach arithmetic operation to students in elementary school?”

D. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The objective of the study, which the teacher wants to achieve, is to what extent the effectiveness of song to teach arithmetic operation to students in elementary school.

E. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

In learning English vocabulary is an important thing. Numbering belongs to vocabulary that students have to master. But they absolutely get some difficulties to learn it because English is something new for them. By doing this research actually the writer hopes that it will help :

- a. The students

Students will be motivated in learning English by using a song and they can improve their English effectively and also their vocabulary especially in arithmetic operation.

- b. The teacher

Teacher knows the most appropriate technique that they can apply in teaching arithmetic and he or she can improve her or his quality in teaching learning English especially in doing teaching English arithmetic. On the other hand the teacher uses a song to teach arithmetic operation to help the students get high motivation and more interesting to learn it.

- c. The writer

The writer knows how to teach in any other method that can be applied to teach vocabulary arithmetic operation.

d. The reader

Through this study, the readers are expected to know the advantage of the teaching arithmetic operation and know the ability students' arithmetic vocabulary for the fourth students.

F. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The writer limited this study in Arithmetic only by using a song to improve students' understanding not the whole of vocabulary. This study will be conducted the four grade students of SD N1Kutamendala Kab. Brebes.

G. DEFINITION OF THE KEY TERMS

a. Effectiveness

Effectiveness means the capability of producing an affect⁷. The word effectiveness is noun from the word effective.

b. Song

Song is a short musical work set to a poetic text with equal importance given to music and to the words. It may be written for one or several voices and it is generally performed with instrument accompaniment.⁸

c. Arithmetic

Arithmetic is branch of mathematics that involves combining numbers by addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.⁹

d. Students

Students are people who studying at the school, university or college. In this research students who join at SD N1 Kutamendala Kab. Brebes 4th grades.

⁷ Wiktionary, "Effectiveness", <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Effectiveness#column-one>. 30 January 2010

⁸The Encyclopedia Americana, Vol. 25, (USA: Glolier Incorporated, 1986), p. 220.

⁹ Chuck at SSSoftware, 2000. Glossary of Arithmetic and Math Terms, <http://www.ssoftware.com/docs/wnadoc/glossary.html>, 30 January 2010

e. Understanding

Understanding is mental process of one who comprehends, comprehension, personal interpretation¹⁰.

¹⁰ David Yerkees, *Webster' Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary of the English Language*, (New York: Portland House, 1989), p. 1545