

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Language plays central role in the learners' intellectual development, social development, and emotional development which supports their success in all of school subjects in teaching learning process. Language learning helps learners to be able to communicate their thoughts and ideas, to participate in the society, and even find out and use their analytical and imaginative ability.

English is an oral and written communication. Meaning of communication here is an understanding and conveying information, thought, feeling, developing science, technology, and culture. The ability of communication is the ability to understand and/or produce oral and/or written text which is realized in the form of four English skills; listening, speaking, reading, and writing.¹

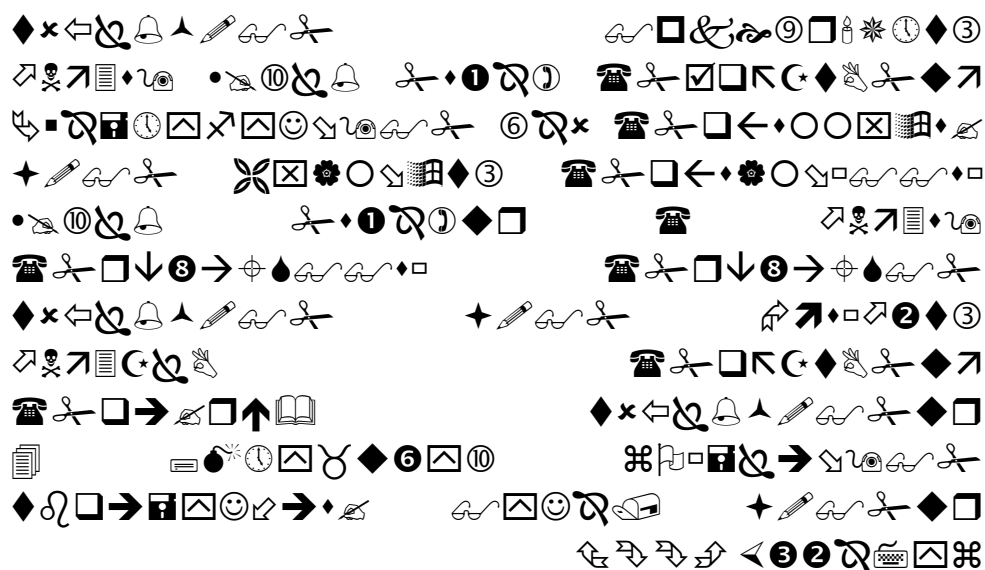
When we talk about developments of technology and information, nowadays, they happened in many aspects without the exception of education side; not only formal but also informal education. It is an effort to connect the present day to the future day by introducing modernities which disposed to achieve the effectiveness and efficiency. The modernity keeps the turn of continuous era which depends on uncertain time. The need of individual service about learners and their learning opportunity improvement had been a main impeller of modernity appearing in education. Therefore, institutions of education have been able to anticipate the development above by seeking any program which is acceptable with children's development, era, situation, condition, and learners' needs continuously.²

¹ Departemen Pendidikan Nasional, *Kurikulum Tingkat Satuan Pendidikan*, (Yogyakarta: 2000), Page 14.

² Udin Saefudin, *Inovasi Pendidikan*, (Bandung: Alfabeta, 2008), Page 2.

Education is an effort which gives values that will be helpers and guides in enduring life and also improves destiny. And civilization which can be done since in the womb until died. Education is very important. We may not imagine what difference is between human lives in past time and this time without education.

A human life in the world needs education or science, not only the general sciences but also Islamic science. We can endure our life and get successful because of them. It stated in holy Qur'an surah al-Mujadalah 11:³



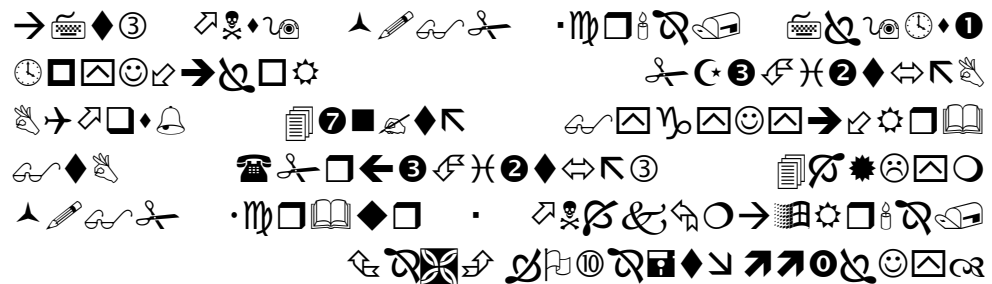
“O ye who believe! When ye are told to make room in the assemblies, (spread out and) make room: (ample) room will God provide for you. And when ye are told to rise up, rise up: God will raise up, to (suitable) ranks (and degrees), those of you who believe and who have been granted (mystic) Knowledge. And God is well-acquainted with all ye do.”⁴

Generally, the modernity happened in all of events. It can change something which happened to be better than before as our hopes in the future. The modernity cannot happen from God without our efforts.

³ Departemen Agama RI, *Alquran dan Terjemahnya*, (Bandung: CV PENERBIT J-ART, 2005), Page 544.

⁴ Ahmad Yusuf Ali, *The Holy Qur'an Text, Translation and commentary*, (Maryland: Amana Corp, 1983), Page 1514.

It stated in holy Qur'an sura al-Anfal 53:⁵



“Because God will never change the grace which He hath bestowed on a people until they change what is in their (own) souls: and verily Allah is He Who heareth knoweth (all things).”⁶

Automatically, the education cannot be apart how the output from education itself is. One of the educational substances which has the important role to determine the graduations' quality is curriculum. So, the good result of the graduations depends on curriculum as the setter in education.

Curriculum is one of the instruments to achieve the goal of education. From it, we can know that curriculum is very important in teaching learning process. Teaching and learning process, and neither is the teacher can explain the materials so that the learners can achieve the materials or education's goal, wether success or not that depends on the curriculum.

Every program which is planned includes curriculum is always ended by an evaluation. In this case, an evaluation may help to know what program is suitable with the plan or not. From this, we can know the

⁵ Departemen Agama RI, *Op.Cit.*, Page 185.

⁶ Ahmad Yusuf Ali, *Op.Cit.*, Page 428.

weaknesses and strengths of the program. Despitefully, the program can be known that it will be continued or not.

In the teaching learning process, there are three related components. They cannot be separated. They are objectives, teaching learning process, and evaluation. The objectives will establish which materials will be taught, which methods will be used, and what media will be chosen. In such way, how the evaluation procedures will be used to measure the product of teaching learning process which has to be keyed to materials, methods, and objectives.

As we know that English subject in schools commonly using School Based Curriculum although there is an addition for combining curriculum in their teaching learning process; not only public school but also private school. But, in Mathali'ul Falah, English teachers only give some materials without implementing the special curriculum. There is no lesson plan in English teaching learning process, whereas lesson plan is the plan to teach materials in their teaching learning process. They improve the materials by themselves, because the time in teaching learning process every period is very limited there. It does not commonly same as other schools.

Finally, the research about curriculum in Islamic School is important because today we face conflicts about the product and outcome of alumnae of Matahli'ul Falah have some troubles to regist in university. This problem needs curriculum evaluation. To solve it, we need worldview that accepts differences. Islamic school as one of Indonesian educational institution has a big role in religion aspect. Eventually, this research is proper to be explored.

B. Reasons for Choosing the Topic

There are some reasons that the writer can present in choosing the topic entitled "The English Curriculum in Islamic School" as below:

1. Curriculum has the important role in the teaching learning system

2. The curriculum development can repair the weaknesses and strengths of prior curriculum
3. The curriculum evaluation can help to know the product of teaching learning process
4. In the Islamic school which has pesantren background has some differences in using English curriculum in the teaching learning process

C. Research Questions

The writer composes the problems that are going to be answered through the following questions:

1. How are the objectives of English curriculum at Madrasah Aliyah Mathali'ul Falah in terms of English learning materials, the implementation of English curriculum and English curriculum evaluation at Madrasah Aliyah Mathali'ul Falah?

D. Objectives of the Study

In general, the research is aimed to solve some problems in curriculum development, these aims of this research are:

1. To find out the data about the objectives of English curriculum at Madrasah Aliyah Mathali'ul Falah in terms of English materials, the implementation of English curriculum and English curriculum evaluation at Madrasah Aliyah Mathali'ul Falah.

E. Limitation of the Study

In conducting this research, the writer has limited the problems as follows:

1. Curriculum

English curriculum XI has the standart of competence that pupils on this grade have to be able to communicate by written and oral language accurately and fluently.⁷

English Skills XI encompasses reading section and lessons that include American literature, context clues, farce and satire, and foreign terms. The usage section includes lessons about infinitives, clauses, verb tenses, and usage problems.

High school English focuses on basic literacy, the proper use of language for personal and public reasons, and the development of an appreciation for various types of literature. Each year in the English curriculum plan of study is meant to build on previously learned skills while expanding the student's exposure to the realm of literature. In fact, the National Council of Teachers of English has defined 12 standards that should be taught in English Language Arts courses. Each of those standards should be addressed every year in a fashion that helps pupils grow in their English language abilities. Therefore, similar units of study can be created for multiple years of English instruction, increasing the complexity and requirements for pupils each year. With this in mind, following is a sample of the courses that a typical English curriculum plan of study might include for each year of high school.⁸

2. Curriculum development⁹

Curriculum development which is the contuning level from curriculum constraction is the efforts to improve the additional values from the activities of potential curriculum which have been used. In developing curriculum, there are some participants, they are administrators of education, experts of science, teachers, parents of pupils, and society.

⁷ Departemen Pendidikan Nasional, *Kurikulum 2004 Standar Kompetensi Mata Pelajaran Bahasa Inggris Sekolah Menengah Atas Dan Madrasah Aliyah*, (Jakarta: 2003), Page 16.

⁸ Melissa Kelly, *English Curriculum for High School*, 2006, http://712educators.about.com/od/languagearts/a/la_planofstudy.htm, Tuesday, 21 Desember 2010

⁹ Nana Syaodih Sukmadinata, *Pengembangan Kurikulum: Teori dan Praktek*, (Bandung: P.T. Remaja Rosdakarya, 2009), Page 155-158.

The administrators of education are the director of education, the center of curriculum development, the leader of district office, the leader of residence and subdistrict office also the headmaster. They participate each others. The administrators of education arrange the basis of curriculum law, design, and programs of main curriculum.

Experts of science develop the concepts of science. Besides that, they give alternative concepts of education and curriculum models which are appropriate with the verbal policy of government, the development of society demands, and inputs from curriculum implementation which is going on.

Teachers' roles are in the planning and implementing curriculum. Teachers not only assess the pupils' behaviour and pupils' achievement in the class but also the curriculum implementation in assessing of curriculum implementation obstacles. Teachers are communicators, motivators in learning activities, developers of media, managers of learning system, good guiders in the school and society.

Parents of pupils as the society have two roles, making and implementing curriculum. In making curriculum, not all of pupils' parents can make the curriculum, only who join in the school committee. In implementing, pupils' parents join and supervise their children in their learning activities at home. Periodically, the pupils' parents receipt the report of pupils learning result. They can know their children development in the school.

3. Curriculum evaluation¹⁰

Curriculum evaluation is a process to establish, to find, and to provide the information needed to establish the alternative decision. In curriculum evaluation, there are four categories in program evaluation, those are: context evaluation, input evaluation, process evaluation, and output evaluation.

¹⁰ Nana Sudjana, *Pembinaan dan Pengembangan Kurikulum di Sekolah*, (Bandung: Sinar Baru Algesindo, 1988), Page 127-128.

Context evaluation provides the reasons as basis in establishing objectives of the program. Input evaluation is purposed to get information and provide the explanation which is able to be a basis in establishing the ways to exploit the resource to achieve the objectives.

Process evaluation has some purposes. The first is to know and predict the weaknesses of planning and implementing. The second is to get information of program activities as the matter in making decision, they are reparation, completion, and program development.

F. Pedagogical Significance

By doing this research, the writer hopes that it will give contribute some benefits for English teachers, school, pupils, the writer and the readers in teaching and learning process in the future. Here, the benefits for each of them are:

1. Teachers

Teachers are able to get information about the English curriculum development; so that they can apply the suitable method in their teaching learning process depends on materials in the curriculum itself.

2. Pupils

Pupils can achieve the materials which are taught in teaching learning process based on the curriculum's objectives.

3. School

The school will make a right decision for applying curriculum which is going to be used to make teaching learning process successfully.

4. The Reader

The reader can know the English curriculum development in Madrasah Aliyah Mathali'ul Falah.