

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. BACKGROUND OF STUDY

Language is only one of the common activities of a society. Every human learns the society in which it grows up. Language is primarily a means of communicating thoughts from one person to another. Obviously, then the major concern of the writer or speaker is to use language in such a way that it will communicate to other people the exact meaning which wishes to convey.

“ Language is a system of symbol through which people communicate.¹ The symbols may be spoken, written or signed with the hands. Language contains two systems rather than one, a system of sounds and a system of meaning. Language is a complex of symbols, or sign, that are shared by members of a community.”²

It means language as a tool of communication and social control has many functions and advantages in the daily life context. With the language we can communicate, express our feeling and can share with other people around the world. According to the philosophy expressed in the myths and religions of many peoples, it is language that is the source of human life and power.³

There are many languages in the world. One of them is English. English is one of the international languages used in countries throughout the world, including Indonesia. As an international language, English is very important because it is required as a bridge of communication.

In Indonesia, English is considered to be the first foreign language. English is not only taught in University, Senior High School, Junior High School, but also in Elementary School. There are four basic skills that must be mastered by English learners in learning English, those are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Four of them have to be mastered by someone who teach and learn English because it is a key to interact with people in the world. So ,

¹ Charles W. Kreidler, *Introducing English Semantics*, (London : Routledge, 1998), p. 19

² *Ibid.* p. 20

³Victoria Fromkin and Robert Rodman, *An Introduction to Language*, (New York : The Dryden Press, 1983), p.3

English should be given when we still early years to learning and later development. In Elementary school, for instance.

Commonly, all learners in elementary school felt difficult to study English, one of the common problems might be a lot of ability construct grammatical sentences.

Grammar is important because it is the language that makes it possible for us to talk about language. Grammar names the types of words and word groups that make up sentences not only in English but also in any language.

In “ The Place of Grammar – Instruction in the second or foreign language curriculum “, Rod Ellis points to much recent research on ESL or EFL Learning and acquisition and notes that “ without grammar instruction, learners frequently fail to achieve advanced levels of grammatical competence”.⁴

In this case, the teacher needs to be responsive to the classroom in order to more enjoy and to create classroom atmosphere well. The teachers should give students new way in order to make them enjoy, relax, and easy to memorize the material, especially in learning English grammar. Because the teacher’s way could be an extrinsic motivation which motivate the students to learn. This statement is supported by Hadith :⁵

عَنْ أَنَسِ بْنِ مَالِكٍ عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ : يَسِّرْ وَ ا وَ لَا تُعَسِّرْ وَ ا
وَ بَشِّرْ وَ ا وَ لَا تُنْفِرْ وَ ا

“ Narrated Annas bin Malik: The Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah by upon for him) said, make things easy to people and do not make them hard for them, give them glad tidings and do not make them run away “⁶

In the hadith above, the Prophet implicitly. Ordered us to carry out a learning activity that is fun and not difficult. This is actually one of the methods is ideal and can provide optimal results. This hadith said that when we teach the lesson to students. We should give them new things or new strategy in teaching to support the teaching and learning process in order to make students interest and enjoyable to the lesson that we teach. One of components in grammar is article. Article is a word that combines with a noun

⁴ Eli Hinkel, *New Perspectives on Grammar Teaching in Second Language Classroom*, (London : Lawrence Erlbaum Associated, inc., 2002), p. 13

⁵ Imam Nawawi, *Riyadush Shalihin*, (Bandung : Irsyad Baitus Salam, 2006) p.387

⁶ Salma Al - Houry, *Selection of Prophetic Hadiths & Muhammadan Wisdom*, (Beyrouth: DAR AL – KUTUB AL - ILMIAH), p.370

to indicate the type of reference being made by the noun. Every noun must be accompanied by the article. A few languages with well developed systems of articles may distinguish additional subtypes. Within each type, languages may have various forms of each article, according to grammatical attributes such as gender, number, or case, or according to adjacent sounds. In elementary school students may be it is new knowledge. So the teachers should teach this material by creative way in order to the students enjoy and easy memorize to the material.

One of the way that can be used by teacher in learning English articles which it is one of grammar component by using “ songs “. Song is a great tool to use in the classroom. Song is one of the ways to help the students to create contexts in which the language is useful and meaningful. English songs can be used for a wide variety of English Second Language learning and teaching activities.⁷ It is Language teaching is influenced a fun way for children learning English to increase their skills in English. Language Teaching is influenced by ideas on the nature language and the learning conditions that make learners to acquire the language.⁸ In this case the teacher can teach grammar, especially article through song in many ways in order to make good atmosphere in the class and students enjoyable to the lesson.

Based on the reasons above, the researcher wants to conduct an experimental teaching English Articles using songs entitled: THE EFFECTIVENESS OF USING SONGS IN TEACHING ENGLISH ARTICLES (An Experimental Research with the third graders of MIN Purwokerto in the Academic Year of 2010/2011)

B. DEFINITION OF THE KEY TERMS

In order to avoid misunderstanding that can happen with the title of this proposal, the writer would like to the terms used as follows:

1. The Effectiveness

Effectiveness is the extent to which an activity fulfils its intended purpose or function.

⁷ <http://www.enhow.com/how-teach-english-kids-using-songs.html>

⁸ Ag Bambang Setiyadi, Teaching English as Foreign Language, (Yogyakarta : Graha Ilmu, 2006),p. 20

2. Songs

Song is short piece of music with words that you sing. Song is a work of art which can be enjoyed by anyone.

3. Teaching

The act or business of instructing or give instruction to somebody by knowledge, skill, etc.

4. Articles

An article is a word that combines with a noun to indicate the type of reference being made by the noun.

5. Elementary School Students

The six up to twelve years old of a child in a formal or institute of education.

C. REASON FOR CHOOSING THE TOPIC

There are some reasons for choosing the topic, they are as follows:

1. Article is the important English grammar that it is considered difficult to learn by the students especially for elementary school.
2. To make the students enjoy, relax and easy to memorize the material especially articles, the researcher uses songs as media.

D. RESEARCH QUESTION

The research question of this study is how is the effectiveness of using songs in teaching English Articles to the third graders of MIN Purwokerto in the academic year of 2010 / 2011?

E. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The objective of this study is to identify the effectiveness of using songs in teaching English Articles with the third graders of MIN Purwokerto in the academic year of 2010 / 2011.

F. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The Limitation of this study can be described as follow:

1. This is an experimental study about the use of songs as media in teaching English article

2. Songs will be used are English children songs because the researcher research the third graders in elementary school.
3. The object of this research is just the third graders of MIN Purwokerto in the academic year of 2010 / 2011.
4. It's only focus on the use a, an, and the in countable and uncountable noun

G. PEDAGOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the study is hopefully used for:

1. For Students

Students will be motivated in learning English by using a song and the students will be able to memorize the lesson easily. So, they can master the grammar well. Besides that, it may help them to disappear their bored in learning.

2. For Teachers

The English teachers need creativity in teaching English as their duties to transfer the knowledge of English to the students.

3. For the writer itself

The writer knows how to teach in any other method that can be applied to teach English article and the writer can get knowledge and experience in teaching English article using song.

4. For the readers

It is hoped can give more information and knowledge from this research.

5. For the school

It can be a supported way to improve teaching and learning process.