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TEACHING VOCABULARY THROUGH SONG AT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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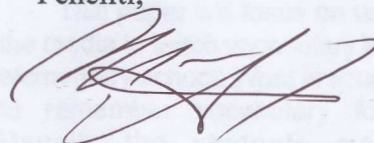
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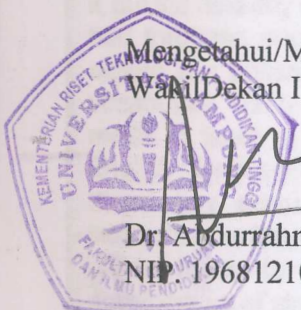


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# Teaching Vocabulary Through Song At Elementary School

By Dedi Supriyadi

## Introduction

Vocabulary is vital to communicating with others and understanding what one is reading. I know that information is known to everyone, but acknowledging it instead of taking it for granted adds important goals to your child's list of basic skills to master. (Megan Sheakoski: 2008). Expressing that vocabulary represents the matter important so that can use the second Language. Without vocabulary wide, somebody will not can use the structure and Language function in Communications comprehensively Rivers (Nunan, 1991: 117).

At the students elementary school English vocabulary has been introduced. Vocabulary is introduced in order to make the student know and can apply it in daily activities. For students at elementary school to memorize the words are difficult, because the activities in their class had been instructed only to read or memorize vocabulary and their meaning. At the time they learned vocabulary, they still remember it, but the next day when we asked again they had forgotten and difficult to remember. It makes the children uninterested to study vocabulary. The teachers also rarely use the media to teach in the class. As I know the English language teaching materials in Elementary schools must be happy and interactive, so the materials and methods are given have to appropriate with the development of student. Dunn (1983) Young learners are very easy to improve their

vocabulary through games or something interest appropriate for their age, but not all games four young students to work for them, therefore the duties and obligations of teachers to be able to select the game that is appropriate for them according to level of cognitive, physical, and emotional child. The result of the data also showed that teacher believe that student should to become attracted the attention and motivation of student themselves. Strongly support this opinion. that the song is good and interactive to make students become interested and curious so increase their motivation to learn vocabulary. It adds that the student would be easier to memorize vocabulary when they listen something interesting like song.

This paper will focus on using song as the media to teach vocabulary to students at elementary school. What is song make easy to remember vocabulary for children? Usually the students more quickly memorizing and remember if the form of teaching using song. It is expected to increase their vocabulary.

## Supporting Theories

Vocabulary is knowledge of words and word meanings. However, vocabulary is more complex than this definition suggests. First, words come in two forms oral and print. Oral vocabulary includes those words that we recognize and use in listening and speaking. Print vocabulary includes those words that we recognize and use in reading

and writing. Second, word knowledge also comes in two forms, receptive and productive (Kamil & Hiebert: 1998). Vocabulary is vital to communicating with others and understanding what one is reading. I know that information is known to everyone, but acknowledging it instead of taking it for granted adds important goals to your child's list of basic skills to master.

According to Biemiller (2001) students' word knowledge at the elementary school level is directly related to students' ability to comprehend texts when they reach high school, thus demonstrating the importance of vocabulary development in the early grades. The average kindergartener enters school with approximately 5,000 words in his or her vocabulary (Blachowicz et al., 2005). Those theories tell if the students elementary easy to develop their vocabulary, they can remember until 5000 words.

Vocabulary is the study of: *The meanings of words*, it means many words have several different meanings each. *How the words are used*, it means study the words in context, apply what you learn by writing sentences with your words. *Root words, prefixes, suffixes* is Studying these will aid in the study of vocabulary and *Analogies* is comparing two pairs of words and choosing the pair that go together (Peterson's:1999). The importance of vocabulary knowledge to school success, in general, and reading comprehension, in particular, is widely documented (Becker, 1977; Anderson & Nagy, 1991).

Vocabulary represents the matter important, so that can use the second language. Without vocabulary wide, somebody can not use the structure and language function in communications comprehensively (Nunan, 1991: 117). Quality has language to somebody of depends on vocabulary quality owned. Rich

more and more vocabulary owned hence more and more big also skillful possibility has language (Tarigan: 1986).

According the theory above I can conclude, if learn vocabulary is very important to know word meaning. Learn vocabulary will increase skill to use second language. Vocabularies have to learn early begun elementary school.

**The importance of vocabulary.** knowledge to school success in general and reading comprehension, in particular, is widely documented. (Becker, 1977; Anderson & Nagy, 1991). The National Research Council (1998) concluded that vocabulary development is a fundamental goal for students in the early grades. According theory above I can conclude to learn that vocabulary of vital importance and have to starting since early, because learning vocabulary is ability of early to learn the English language. It can us start to learn from elementary school.

### Teaching Vocabulary

Understanding the vocabulary is generally regarded as an important part of the process of learning a language or develops one's ability in a language that has been mastered. How a person can express a language if he does not understand the vocabulary of the language. If a student has a vocabulary adequate English then automatically will give more support to the achievement of four English language competences earlier. And vice versa without having an adequate vocabulary a student will have difficulty in achieving competence.

As an elementary school English teacher where the first should be done by the teacher is giving vocabulary that as much as possible, without have the vocabulary, it is not possible would be for someone to learn to speak or sentence structure. This is where



the importance of for student elementary that became familiar with the English language can know in advance English vocabulary. In order to make it easy, teaching vocabulary needs some techniques.

The teaching of vocabulary to student elementary is usually done by asking them to memorize lists of words. Not only that usually the activities in their class had been instructed only to read or memorize vocabulary and their meaning. At the time they learned vocabulary, they still remember it, but the next day when we asked again they had forgotten and difficult to remember. It makes the children uninterested to study vocabulary. Thus, teacher should be able to create the class well. Brown says, "Because children are focused on the immediate here and now, activity should be designed to capture their immediate interest". He adds, "A lesson needs a variety of activities to keep interest and attention alive", so teacher have to creative make variety of activities in the class, so that the student interest to learn vocabulary and can always remember the words.

### Teaching Vocabulary Using Song

Songs have the ability to enhance rote memory and retention. Advertisers are aware of the power music has on memorization and retention. Song is a relatively short musical composition for the human voice, which features words (lyrics). (From; Wikipedia). Science songs are a fun effective way for kids to learn about Science and the world around them. These science songs have catchy memorable tunes and are based on solid science. These science songs continue to help students learn. Learning Science with science videos is fun, effective, and memorable. Research has been done suggesting that music can be an effective way to help learn a language. Some

studies have focused on the beneficial nature of songs and their ability to enhance memorization, retention, and motivation. It means song can help student to increase and memorable the word using song, because for students elementary school learn vocabulary using song is very fun and easy to remember. Songs can help stimulate memory and learning.

All day long children are very near with the song and very like of song. Slattery & Willis (2001) children like to play with the voice, imitating and making humorous voices, therefore activity in class earn the variation with singing. With the certain knock and rhythm children can imitate and learn the quicker new words.

English songs can be used for a wide variety of learning and teaching vocabulary. This is especially true of songs that develop them. We can teach vocabulary with songs in many ways. We can ask students to find difficult word to remained and ask the students to remember the lyric song again, so that students always remember that word. Usually student will be easy to remembered mean of lyric song.

There are many similarities connecting music and language. Rhythms, melodies, and tempos are all part of music and are characteristics also found in oral language. When people speak, each language has its own cadence—its own distinct rhythm, melody and tempo. Research supports the notion that music possesses many characteristics that can help language acquisition (Wallace, 1994; Weatherford Stansell, 2005). Language skills like rhyme, alliteration and repetition; memorization and retention; relaxation and motivation; and automaticity, intonation, and word segmentation are all areas that can be affected by the use of music (Allan, 2006; Abbott, 2002; Failoni, 1993; Schön et al.,

2008; Wolfe, 2001). This section includes a discussion of these areas.

### **The Advantages Learn Vocabulary Using Song**

Dealing with the characteristics of young learner student's elementary school teachers can use songs to teach vocabulary to students. He said "an additional thing we might do with song and musician teaching is teach vocabulary". Griffie (1992: 41) also said, "Songs are especially good for introducing vocabulary because songs provide a meaningful context for the vocabulary".

### **Teaching English Vocabulary to Children**

The age of our student is a major factor in our decision about how and what to teach. People of different ages have needs, competences and cognitive skills. We may expect children of elementary age to acquire much of foreign language through play, for example, whereas for adults we can reasonably expect the greater use of abstract thought. Children respond to meaning even if they do not understand. They often learn indirectly rather than directly, that is they take in information from all sides, learning from everything around them rather than only focusing on the precise topic they are being taught. Their understanding comes not just from explanation, but also from what they see and hear and crucially have a chance to touch and interact with. They generally display an enthusiasm for learning and a curiosity about the world around them. They have a need for individual attention and approval from the teacher. They love discovering things and they respond well to the asked to use their imagination, they may well be involved in song like activities, in games, or physical movement.

Learn vocabulary to children, better relied how they learn the Language. Hoskisson & Tompkins (1987: 44) learn language have to be constituted how children learn and how they learn the Language. Teacher requires giving the opportunity to student to find the way of learning. First, student requires teaching form of oral language and article. Second, student requires getting the opportunity to imitate the Language forms. Expressing that to avoid the think limitation, child require to be given by the picture concrete, so that their able to analyzing problem. Age child 7 until 12 year still own the problem of concerning think abstraction. Characteristic of student elementary school likes to play. This characteristic claim the teacher elementary school to execute the education activity which content.

A period to elementary school age as final child time that goes on from age six year till about age eleven year or twelve year. Especial characteristic of students elementary school, they present the individual difference in a lot of facet and area, among other things, difference in intelligence, ability in cognate and Language, growth of personality and growth of child physical. According to Erikson of growth psychosocial at age six until puberty, child start to enter the world of knowledge and wide job world. Important event, this phase is child start to enter the school, start confronted with technology society; despitefully process to learn them do not only happened at school.

According to Piaget there is five factor supporting intellectual growth that is : adulthood (maturation), physical experience (physical experience), experience of mathematics logic (logical mathematical experience), social transmission (social transmission), and process the balance (equilibrium) or process the auto regulation

self-regulation) Erikson say that the elementary school age child interested to attainment of result of learning

### Discussion

The teaching of vocabulary to student elementary is usually done by asking them to memorize lists of words. Not only that usually the activities in their class had been instructed only to read or memorize vocabulary and their meaning. At the time they learned vocabulary, they still remember it, but the next day when we asked again they had forgotten and difficult to remember. It makes the children uninterested to study vocabulary. Thus, teacher should be able to create the class well.

At the students elementary school English vocabulary has been introduced. Vocabulary is introduced in order to make the student know and can apply it in daily activities. Teaching vocabulary needs some techniques, teacher should be able to create the class well to teach vocabulary. It means to make student interest and not bored. As we know characteristic of student elementary school likes to play. They like about something attractive. This characteristic claim the teacher elementary school to execute the education activity which content. We can teach vocabulary with songs in many ways. We can ask students to find difficult word to remained and ask the students to remember the lyric song again, so that students always remember that word. Usually student will be easy to remembered mean of lyric song. Teacher teaches vocabulary to students' elementary school using song; it can make easy students to remember the new vocabulary. It means

song can help student to increase and memorable the word using song, because for students elementary school learn vocabulary using song is very fun and easy to remember.

They generally display an enthusiasm for learning and a curiosity about the world around them. They have a need for individual attention and approval from the teacher. They love discovering things and they respond well to the asked to use their imagination, they may well be involved in song like activities, in games, or physical movement.

### Conclusion

From explanation above I can conclude that student's elementary school is a major factor in our decision about how and what to teach. People of different ages have different needs, competences, and cognitive skills. We may expect children of elementary school more interest about something attractive and happy like song. All day long children are very near with the song and very like of song. Children respond to meaning even if they do not understand. They often learn indirectly rather than directly, that is they take in information from all sides, learning from everything around them rather than only focusing on the precise topic they are being taught. This characteristic claim the teacher elementary school to execute the education activity which content. We can teach vocabulary with songs in many ways. It means song can help student to increase and memorable the word using song, because for students elementary school learn vocabulary using song is very fun and easy to remember.



Five factor supporting intellectual growth that is : adulthood ( maturation), physical experience ( physical experience), experience of mathematics logic ( logical mathematical experience); social transmission (social transmission); and process the balance (equilibrium) or process the auto regulation (self-regulation) that the elementary school age child interested to attainment of result of learning. They generally display an enthusiasm for learning and a curiosity about the world around them. They have a need for individual attention and approval from the teacher.

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