BASIC ENGLISH TRAINING FOR STUDENTS TO IMPROVE STUDENTS' ACADEMIC MOBILITY: COMMUNITY SERVICES AT AL-HUDA HIGH SCHOOL IN SOUTH LAMPUNG

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Abstract

Skills create favorable conditions for the development of activities and talents to achieve affordable and decent education. One of the additional skills that can be developed is the ability to speak English. Besides being an additional skill, English is also part of the education curriculum of high school students. This community service provides basic English training for students especially for Al-Huda High School students to improve their skill in English. We developed students' skills by teaching steps to learn English in four ways: vocabulary, tenses/grammar, fluenting, and naturalizing. Mastering vocabulary is the main thing to learn English. Students are very enthusiastic in participating in this basic English training. This training really helps students to understand the basics of English, which is packaged in an attractive form, so students are very easy to understand. In addition, in this training students are not only invited to understand in theory, but also in practice such as singing songs in English.

Keywords*: Skills, English, Education, Community Service.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Implementation of high technology, growing role of information, and knowledge in social and economic development of a country generates the need for skilled professionals (Umarov, 2020). One's potential can increase if it is supported by additional skills. Skills create favorable conditions for the development of activities and talents to achieve affordable and decent education. One of the additional skills that can be developed is the ability to speak English. Besides being an additional skill, English is also part of the education curriculum of high school students.

Al-Huda High School, which is located in Jatiagung District, South Lampung Regency is the target of community service partners because this school provides various educational support facilities for its students and has competent teachers in their fields. Teaching and learning activities are also supported by extracurricular activities, student organizations, learning communities, sports teams, and libraries so that students can learn to the fullest. With these sufficient resources, students need to be provided with basic English training which may not be maximally supported at school.

This community service provides basic English training for students especially for Al-Huda High School students to improve their skill in English. We developed students' skills by teaching steps to learn English in four ways: vocabulary, tenses/grammar, fluenting, and naturalizing. Mastering vocabulary is the main thing to learn English. Learning vocabulary first will enable students to master reading, listening, speaking, and writing skills. To read a sentence, someone must understand at least the words in the sentence. Remembering and memorizing vocabulary will really help someone in mastering English. Despite it sounds like an outdated strategy, remembering and memorizing vocabulary will still really help someone master a foreign language (IDNtimes, 2019). The more vocabulary mastered, the greater the confidence in studying a foreign language.

Mastering vocabulary will also make it easier to learn grammar. Grammar is not just the study of words and their morphological structure, but also how words combine to make up larger units, such as sentences (Bache & Davidsen-Nielsen, 2010). Besides mastering the vocabulary and understanding the grammar, students is expected to fluent and naturalize the sentences used to be applied in daily activities. According to Bjorklund (2005), the development of language ability is related to the speaking development. People who have well speaking skills will have well language skills. When people have good language skills, it will make them more confident to speak. Therefore, we decided to make a training related to "Basic English for Al-Huda Senior High School Student".

2. METHOD

The implementation of Community Service was carried out in several ways. In the first stage, the team coordinated with the Community Service Institute to plan community service for Al-Huda High School partners. In the second stage, the team was carried out activities starting with analyzing the situation and identifying problems that existed with partners. Furthermore, the team created a mentoring program in the form of basic English language training. This training is conducted to provide knowledge and train participants to speak English. This training is given to improve participants' skills in speaking English. The next stage is the team will conduct training and assistance to partners in implementing the materials that have been obtained, so that they can directly help the obstacles faced by partners. Finally, the team will evaluate the implementation of the program that has been given and implemented so that it remains on target and helps partners if they face obstacles in program implementation.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

First, we conducted survey directly to Al-Huda Senior High School to obtain the information related to the obstacle experienced and school's needs. Based on the analysis, we obtained the information that the school needed a partner to deliver English training for students to speak English well and fluently. We decided to carry out English basic training for students of Al-Huda Senior High School. This training was attended by students of science class grade 3. One of the reasons for the selection of students is because grade 3 will be holding a graduation exam. In addition to being able to train students' ability to use English fluently, this basic English class is expected to help students preparing for the graduation exam. In this activity, there was a limited number of participants, which is only about 25 students. This is due to the Covid-19 pandemic which requires social distancing when carrying out activities. In addition, another reason is the presenters can focus more on students so that their learning objectives can be achieved properly.

We had chosen a speaker to deliver material related to basic English. The speaker is Mr. Dwi Budi Setiawan, from Department of English Literature, Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia. This material was delivered to provide the students related to basic English skills. The speaker started with some questions related to basic English, such as: "do you like study English?", "how long you have studied English?". In addition, the speaker also explained related to European culture and their habit in speaking English. Al-Huda Senior High School students were very enthusiastic in answering every. Then, the speaker explained about the steps in learning English, with using the concept of memorizing words, arranging words, fluenting sentences, and naturalizing sentences. These steps were carried out to give basic understanding for students related to English understanding.

Figure 1. Delivering of Basic English Material

In the discussion related to memorizing words, the speaker explained using easy-to-understand language and used words that students would often use, such as "eat", "drink", "learn", "drive" and others. In the discussion related to composing words, the speakers used 5 basic tenses, namely simple present tense, present continuous tense, simple past tense, simple future tense, and present perfect tense. In the discussion of fluenting sentences, students are taught to use the tenses that have been learned by making several sentences and will be repeated so that students could speak naturally. The last stage is naturalizing sentences. At this stage, students were taught to be more natural in speaking, using American or British accent. Finally, the speaker closed with the sentence "English is easy, but English is not instant" which is expected to motivate students to continue improving their ability to master English.

Figure 2. Students' Enthusiasm in class

Students are very enthusiastic in participating in this basic English training. This training really helps students to understand the basics of English, which is packaged in an attractive form, so students are very easy to understand. In addition, in this training students are not only invited to understand in theory, but also in practice such as singing songs in English.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the activities that have been carried out, it can be concluded that the students of Al-Huda Senior High School have obtained well understanding of the basic of mastering English. The training was provided by the Community Service Team from Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia. This activity provided a social impact for participants who take part in this activity. By understanding the basic of English, participants get an easy way to master

English which can later be used for daily life. In addition, this learning can also be a provision for grade 3 students to make it easier to do high school graduation exams. The participants' understanding was also assessed from filling out the pre-test and post-test questionnaires. After being analyzed, there was an increase in participants' knowledge related to learning the basics of English and understanding an easy way to master English. Al-Huda Senior High School warmly welcomed the community service team and asks in the future to be able to work together in conducting other trainings.

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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