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Improving Students’ English Skill by Using The Papets (Paper Puppets)
Learning Media

Joko Prayudha S

University of Bengkulu, Indonesia

E-mail: jokoprayudha@gmail.com

Abstract

Fun learning can make students interested in participating in a lesson. The teacher as the main key in the classroom must have various ways to attract students' interest in learning. One way that teachers can do to attract students' interest in learning is with use teaching media. Media or teaching tools are tools that can be used to stimulate students in learning various kinds of material, especially English. The use of learning media can also help teachers in transferring knowledge to students in a fun way. One of the learning media that teachers can do is the use of the Papets (Paper Puppets) media. This study aims to see how far the paper puppets learning media can improve students' understanding in learning English. The research was conducted in one of the elementary schools in Bengkulu province. The method used in this research is qualitative using a descriptive approach. The data were obtained through observation, interviews and direct field practice in schools. Then the data is analyzed by going through several stages namely; data reduction, data display and conclusion. The results showed that students were very enthusiastic about learning English by using the papets media. In addition, interesting and funny pictures also make students excited so that students' knowledge of English increases very well.

Keywords: English skill, Learning Media, Papets, Paper Puppets.

INTRODUCTION

Learning is a process to prepare a generation to become a generation that has good knowledge and character. A learning is a step to make changes in the younger generation so that they have values and knowledge that they will carry for the future. Good learning is learning that can attract students' interest in learning to continue to be enthusiastic in the learning process. However, in reality there are many students who feel very unenthusiastic in learning. This happens due to various factors. One of them is the factor of the way of teaching. Less interesting or less creative way of teaching that teachers do makes students feel reluctant to learn when teaching and learning activities are carried out.

The teacher is the main key in the class and should be able to make these situations and problems overcome as much as possible. The teacher is the regulator of the learning atmosphere in the classroom and must be able to change the lazy attitude of students when learning by using various ways. One of these ways is by using teaching media. Teaching media (Hadiansyah & Dwi Nur, 2020) is a tool that can be given by teachers to students while studying. Learning media can also be used as a device or tool in conveying material explanations to students so that students are easily or interested in learning by using these learning media.



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The use of learning media has been widely carried out by teachers and researchers in providing a teaching (Mahnun, 2012). This is of course to see the extent to which the effectiveness of the use of learning media is to encourage and attract students' interest in learning. Students tend to feel more excited if their teachers use creative and unique media while learning. Besides being able to develop students' curiosity, the use of learning media can also provide a pleasant atmosphere. One of the teaching media that teachers can apply when teaching, especially in English subjects is to use the Paper Puppets learning media (Paper Puppets). Paper Puppets or puppets made of paper are simple media made of cardboard that can be in the form of fruit, animals or buildings as a representation of the object being studied. This media is very easy to find in the market or even very easy to make yourself at home. Teachers only need to find puppets that are funny or easy for students to remember when learning English. This media is also very environmentally friendly so it does not cause much pollution.

The teacher can also easily introduce the names of objects, animals or fruits to students, because the shape of the puppets adjusts to the material that will be explained by the teacher when the learning process is carried out. In addition, the teacher only explains the names of the puppets that are displayed to students so that students can easily remember the names of the objects in English. Paper puppets are very suitable for students who are at the elementary or kindergarten level. Because at that age is a very good age to understand the new vocabulary they hear. However, regardless of age limit, this media can also be used for students who are at the adult level because learning media can actually be used by anyone as long as they know the condition and situation of the learner.

Paper Puppets media is a very appropriate medium for teachers to introduce English vocabulary to students, because basically the use of this media is very easy (Hakim, Zuriyati & Saifur, 2019). The teacher only presents paper puppets in the form of objects described during the learning process and then explains their English to students. Then students are asked to remember the English vocabulary as material that must be mastered. Thus, in teaching and learning activities students can easily remember English from these differences because at a glance students can easily find out the shape of the objects described (Karakurt, 2012). Using media in the teaching and learning process can provide an interesting feel and atmosphere for students, especially if the media is fun and interesting to use. In this case, paper puppets are very interesting media to use in the classroom. This easy-to-obtain media provides simple learning and gives a funny impression to students. Teachers can apply this media to explain material such as vocabulary in English, plus the form of paper puppets that resemble the original form of vocabulary gives a real impression for students to remember the vocabulary in English.

In addition, the teacher can liven up a fun learning atmosphere by using these paper puppets, because the teacher can make the media display so funny that students will not feel bored while studying (Prayudha.S, 2021). This media is also an easy medium to make so that the teacher can invite students to describe the characters, animal objects or fruit they like so that students can learn English vocabulary through the objects they like (Garry & Lulu, 2020). Through this the teacher can get many benefits such as students learning very well because students like learning using fun media, then students can learn to like English vocabulary through objects that they draw themselves for these paper puppets so students can easily understand the material through the things they draw. they like. In addition, teachers who are the key and



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who regulate the process of teaching and learning activities in the classroom can direct students not only to improve their English skills but also to cultivate other talents possessed by students.

In this study, based on the problems that occur during teaching and learning activities where students feel not very interested in learning English, then students feel less enthusiastic and even students have difficulty remembering English vocabulary while studying, the teacher can use the media puppets. This is one of the media that can be implemented while learning. This study aims to see the effectiveness of puppets media to improve students' English skills while studying. The research questions used in this study are 1). Is the puppets learning media effective to improve students' understanding of English, 2). What is the perception of students when learning to use puppets to improve English language skills.

METHODS

This research uses quantitative research. Quantitative research is used to obtain data in the form of numbers related to the data collected. Gay et al (2006), explains that quantitative research is the collection and analysis of numerical data in order to explain, predict and/or control phenomena of interest. Then the approach used is a descriptive approach. The descriptive approach serves to explain the findings in more detail by explaining using sentences in the form of pictures. This study uses a qualitative descriptive research design which is a research conducted to obtain an overview by collecting data, looking for facts, and then explaining and analyzing the data, namely by compiling and collecting data. Sugiyono (2014) suggests that the descriptive approach serves to explain the findings in detail based on the conditions of the object being studied naturally where a researcher has a major role in conducting research. So, by using a descriptive approach, researchers can explain findings in the form of numbers by using words to describe them.

This research was conducted at SMPN 06 Lebong for two months by teaching English using puppets (paper puppets). The sample used in this study was 20 students of class VII. Data were collected by means of observation, trial and interview with some selected students. Then the data were analyzed by organizing, data reduction, data display and conclusion.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Observations were carried out for one week. Observation results show that teachers at SMPN 06 Lebong have taught English but do not use creative media, so students have difficulty mastering and remembering English vocabulary. In addition, before using the puppets learning media, students' English skills were low, even students had difficulty naming objects (fruits, animals) in English. Then the addition of teachers who do not use learning media makes students have difficulties when using English. This is a weakness for teachers when teaching, so it is very necessary that learning media can encourage students to achieve achievement from a lesson. The results of this observation are used as a basis for research to be carried out by providing learning using the media puppets (paper puppets) to improve students' English skills.

Furthermore, to conduct this research the use of media puppets (paper puppets) is applied during learning for two months. The results of the application of puppets learning media (paper puppets) on students' English skills are as follows:



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Table. 1 Learning result comparison

Test	N	Mean
Pre-test	20	71,05
Post- test	20	84,2

Learning English before using pappets did not give a different feel when learning. Teachers only teach monotonously and do not use various learning media so that the process of teaching and learning activities is not so enthusiastic, even many students feel very bored in class when learning English takes place. Learning English that is not interesting makes the students not really able to get and master the material explained by their teacher. So that many of the students get standard grades in understanding some vocabulary in English. This is a weakness for teachers in teaching so that teachers must be able to change learning styles, especially in using various teaching media to increase students' interest and enthusiasm in understanding learning material during class. Teachers who have a role as a regulator in the classroom must be able to turn this problem into a key avenue for improvement for students. So that students who have learning difficulties can be helped by the existence of tools or media that can make it easier for both teachers and students to capture explanations of the material being taught.

The test results regarding students' understanding and mastery of English vocabulary before using the pappets media showed that most students tended to get a simple understanding of the English material given. Even the value of learning outcomes tends to be in a standard position, only about eight students are able to be within the standard value limit, while the rest are below the standard value. With a total average value (n) of 71.05 where this figure does not meet the requirements for graduating from the standard passing grade. These results indicate that the process of teaching and learning activities carried out without using learning media gives less than optimal results in learning, especially in English subjects. On the other hand, students also feel that the learning process does not give them a new way to feel excited about learning. The absence of the use of non-supportive learning media makes them less enthusiastic about deepening their understanding while learning English. The low grades obtained by students are also the result of a monotonous learning process. Students are required to be able to understand the material being taught, but on the other hand the teacher does not use methods or media that support students to understand the material being taught.

Learning that is not fun will definitely not be easy for students to follow. Students will not feel enthusiastic to participate in teaching and learning activities because they do not find the best way to understand a teaching. Here it is necessary to change both teachers and students so that they are able to have mutual understanding with each other. The teacher as the main key holder in the implementation of the teaching and learning process must be able to develop strategies and provide new ways to make learning feel better. Teachers can use a variety of strategies, methods, and even various techniques in the classroom to attract students' interest in learning. Teachers can also use creative teaching media according to the conditions and situations experienced by students. Teachers can find innovative and creative learning media through books, training, reading journals or even trying their own learning media to



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be applied to their students in order to improve achievement and mastery of the material in the classroom. A professional teacher must be able to use their ideas and knowledge to create a more lively and enthusiastic classroom atmosphere when learning, not just teaching according to job responsibilities without having to put aside the conditions and situations experienced by the students.

Creative teachers must be able to change the learning situation much better than teachers who only focus on teaching without knowing the situations and conditions experienced by their students. Smart teachers will also use their knowledge to make their students understand well what they teach. The teacher has the ability to know how the condition of his students is so he is full of responsibility to continue to make his students become intelligent individuals with his energy and enthusiasm when he becomes a teacher. This is where the role of a teacher is seen regarding their professionalism when teaching, especially in overcoming problems of student interest in learning. In this study, when the teacher did not apply learning media, the result was that students were not able to get maximum results so that teachers had to be able to change their way of teaching. Changing the way of teaching by using learning media is one way that can provide changes in the process of teaching and learning activities.

Furthermore, the trial of learning media on students using puppets for two months found the results that students felt more enthusiastic and enthusiastic in learning English. Students show different feelings when compared to not using learning media when learning English. The good emotions of students when learning to use the puppets media illustrate that this media can encourage students' interest and curiosity when learning English. This is one function of the use of learning media that is able to attract students' interest in learning. By using interesting and funny learning media, it can certainly change the mood and learning conditions of students to be more fun. The easy use of puppets learning media makes it easier for students to recognize and remember vocabulary names in English. Learning by using interesting things can certainly attract students' interest, especially with the use of simple media it will definitely make students easier to understand. The application of puppets media can provide a pleasant learning atmosphere because this media is designed according to the conditions of the students. Providing funny pictures and illustrations can help students prefer things that are considered to be interesting in learning. When this media is applied, students tend to be more enthusiastic and feel more passionate about learning to use this media. Students try to remember vocabulary in English based on the pictures of objects they get. This makes students much faster to capture understanding in English than not using the media at all.

The test results of using puppets showed that students' grades and understanding were better than not using any learning media. Students tend to be able to improve their ability to remember and name objects or vocabulary in English. Even the final grades of students after using puppets learning media are much better than not using any media. The final average result is about $n = 84.2$, far from using no media at all. This result is because students feel very enthusiastic about learning by using puppets learning media. The majority of students think that the media puppets are funny and interesting can give them memory of vocabulary in English. In other words, the use of puppets media so far can help teachers to improve students' English comprehension skills. The use of this media is also able to foster a sense and interest in students' learning while studying. Teachers only need to train themselves to be as

creative as possible in finding and using learning media that can make students feel interested in learning so that problems related to student learning situations and conditions can slowly begin to be resolved by using unique and creative media. Here the use of media pappets can encourage students to be interested in understanding English, because its use is simple and easy, it is certain that students feel more understanding considering the vocabulary in English.



Image 1 & 2. Pappet (Paper Puppets)

Then to find out the students' perceptions and opinions on the use of pappets as learning media, an interview was conducted on eight students who were randomly selected regarding their feelings after using the pappets media while learning English. The results of these interviews can be described in the following table:

Table. 2 Interview answer

Questions	Answer
Q1	Learning by using pappets is more fun than not using any learning media. This media depicts real objects so that it is easier for me to learn English.
Q2	The advantage of this media is that it is easier to remember because this media is shaped like the original object, besides that the pictures are funny and interesting so they are easy to remember.



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Q3	There is no difficulty in understanding English vocabulary using pappets. Its use is practical and easy so that there are no barriers to learning by using this media.
Q4	After using pappets, it was easier for me to remember the names of objects, animals, fruits and places than not using pappets at all.
Q5	When using pappets, I find it easier to understand the material, the learning is fun and not boring.

Interviews related to the use of media pappets to improve students' knowledge of English were conducted on eight students who were randomly selected. The results show that the majority of students feel positive in using pappets to improve their English skills. In the first question related to students' opinions on the use of pappets media in learning, the majority of students thought that learning with pappets was more fun and more challenging if learning English without using pappets media. Students also assume that the use of media pappets that resemble the original shape of the banda described is able to provide a stimulus for students to remember the name of the object. An attractive and real appearance also affects students' memory of the correct English naming. Then the second question is related to the advantages of using pappets media. Students answered that this media is very easy to use so it is very easy to remember. Its simple use is not even bothersome at all, it can provide a simple but fun learning feel.

Furthermore, the third question is related to learning difficulties using pappets. The majority of students answered that there were no learning difficulties at all when learning using this media. This is because this media is simple and practical to apply when learning so that there is not the slightest problem when using pappets media in learning English. Then the fourth question relates to understanding the material when using pappets. Students said that their understanding of English vocabulary was faster when compared to not using learning media at all, so the advantages of using this media were very good when compared to not using media at all. In addition, students also added that learning using pappets media tends to be easier so that the material taught by the teacher is very easy to digest and remember. Then the last question is related to the feeling when using pappets media. The majority of students said that they had the same feeling, namely enthusiastic and enthusiastic in learning when this media was applied. Students are much more creative in thinking and using English when they learn English using pappets.

The results of the interviews that have been conducted show that there is a positive value in the use of media pappets to improve students' English language skills when compared to not using them at all. Students tend to be more able to use English after learning by using pappets compared to not using it at all. Fun and funny media can attract students' motivation to learn better in understanding English learning materials. In addition, the nuances of learning that are more fun and lively affect students' curiosity when learning English. Students' ability in English also increased when seen from the post test results after using puppet media so that by the end of the research results explained that the use of pappets media (paper puppets) could increase students' interest in learning in English so that there was an increase in English learning outcomes after its application in the classroom.



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CONCLUSION

Interesting learning will definitely make students feel interested when learning. The teacher as the class controller must be able to make students excited when carrying out a learning process. There are many ways that teachers can do to attract students' interest in learning English. One of these ways is by using teaching media. Teaching media is a tool that can be used to help facilitate the delivery of material. This tool is a medium that is easy to understand for students so that it can create a fun and interesting learning environment. There are lots of learning media that can be used, one of which is by using puppets learning media (paper puppets). This media can be easily found in stores or teachers can make their own according to the needs of the students. In this study, it was explained that the majority felt positive and liked the use of this media in learning English. In addition, students are more confident in using English when using paper sheets. Students think that this media has an attractive appearance so it is very easy for students to understand and use the English vocabulary. The students also felt that using paper sheets provided them with a new and easy way to learn and understand English vocabulary.

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