

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Research Background

English is an international language is needed by all levels of education to be mastered. This has made educators from all levels of education try to facilitate the best way of teaching and learning English. As a result, the teaching and learning has been placed in a very important position and has been taught in almost all countries in the world. In relation to this, many parent send their young learners to schools that offer a good English Program. They do this with an assumption that learning foreign language will be much easier at an early age. Hence, young learners have a better chance to be successful in acquiring foreign language.

Teaching English for young learners is different from adults. Young learners learn English with fun way. What does it mean? It means young learners are easily to get bored and feel difficult if the material is too hard. That is why we as teachers have to make the classroom condition more alive and fun to achieve the goal. The English teachers are not only able to teach well, but also know the things which are related to teach English for young learners.

As we know, the characteristic of young learners are they have very limited attention and concentration spans, easily get bored and lose interest. Hence, the teachers should be able to force it and make the students happy in learning process, make enjoy with their subject, and make them comfortable in the classroom during learning process. Beside that the teacher can use the instructional media in learning process to young learners to get their attention in the classroom because the media make students easier to understand the materials and help the teachers to deliver the materials and achieve the goal.

Being a teacher is not as easy as the people think, because “the teachers play an important role in what they do, and how they do in developing their own professional knowledge and practice” John Loughran and Tom Russell.¹ Based on the statement side, the teacher is very influential to develop their students in the school because the teacher have responsibility in the class room. Such as: educate and teach the students, lead and give directions to students, train and evaluate them. Therefore, the teacher should set a good example to their students because teachers’ attitude and behavior will be imitated by their student in the class room.

Furthermore, the teacher should be able to facilitate learning well and liked by their students too. Competent teachers are teachers who understand the subject lessons deeply, know how to teach it in front of students and so on. As for characteristics of EYL teacher are friendly and fun for students, have a high spirit and creative, humorous, and use a simple language while teaching English in EYL classroom.

In the writer city learning English at young age is getting popular because in Cilegon there is the Bilingual School which uses two language well in daily activities. In this school, the students at young age also can speak English well, and can understand what the teacher’s says if the teacher speak English.

This school becomes one of the most outstanding institutions in Cilegon that provides high quality education for early years up to primary school of early children. The place has become a main research, because it is appropriate with the phenomenon that learning English at young age is getting popular, even be a trend in many primary schools in Indonesia. Finally, the researcher have to explore the process of English Teaching and Learning at SD Al-Azhar Cilegon.

¹ John Loughran and Tom Russell, *Teaching About Teaching: Purpose, Passion, and Pedagogy in Teacher Education* (London: the Falmer Press, 2003), 8.

There have been some relevant previous studies in teaching English at young age, those previous studies are: first, written by Rismareni Pransiska the *Advances in social science, Education and humanities research (ASSEHR), volume 58* 3rd International conference on Early Childhood Education (Atlantis Press) with the title “Benefits of Bilingualism in Early Childhood: A Booster of Teaching English to Young Learners” as we know Early years is the golden moment to introduce a second language or any language. Considering the benefits of bilingualism, the government should encourage elementary school and kindergarten teachers to introduce and use English in their classes, in fun way, indeed. Being bilingual gives many advantages for children especially for their future particularly if they could master English. Parents could also start it with simple English from home so that the children get acquaintance with English.

Based on the research above, the researcher finds the similarity with their research. Such as, this research talk about young learners learn English at young age and how elementary and kindergarten teacher to introduce and use English in their classes. This research also take a place in bilingual schools setting and use qualitative method. Here, the researcher also finds the difference in this research. Like, this research just talk about the benefit of bilingualism in early childhood without explain about how young learners acquire the language and develop the language. Then, participant from this research is students. Second is written by Djoko Sutopo on journal of education and practice Vol. 4 No. 26 (2013) with the title “The Interlanguage of Indonesian Young Learner of English: A Case Study on an Indonesian Bilingual School Kindergarten Student’s English Speaking Acquisition” this study is interested in learning perspective, meaning that it aims at describing the process attempted learning of a second language. In order to describe the process this study needs data in the form of behavioral events or observable data to which we can relate theoretical predictions such as utterances which are produced when the learner attempts to say sentences of the target language. This study also

show the dialogue between child, her mother, and her grandfather are inherently interactive in the sense that they typically do not involve simply one move from one speaker. The social role of the mother and the grandfather gives access to the full range of initiating speech functions when interacting with child, while the social role of the child places constraints on both the frequency and types of initiations that can be made to the parents and to the child. In addition the children can speak two language that related in their environment and their parent can help them to speak English in their daily activities, not only in the schools.

Based on the research above, the researcher finds the similarity with their research, such as this research discuss and analysis about how young learners improve their language in daily activities and take a place in bilingual schools setting. This research also use case study in qualitative method. But, the difference from this research are this research describe how young learners can speak two language and the instrument from this research is observe the learner's interlanguage and focused to family who speak English to young learners to improve their language. While her research focused on the processing of English teaching when learning process, how young learners feel enjoy and comfortable in the class to learn English and how the interaction between young learners and teacher in the class. Her research also take a place in primary school and focused to the teacher and students.

B. Focus of the study

Based on the background of the study above, the researcher intends to explore the area of teacher's performance in the classroom which is pressured on teaching English for young learners especially in teaching and learning process in the classroom. The researcher limits the research area only two aspects are about teacher activities and the media used in teaching English for young learners' classroom. The researcher will observe, interview the teacher in the classroom and use the questionnaire for students. The researcher will see how the teacher teach

them from beginning the study until closing, how the teacher make young learners enjoy with her subject then the researcher also will ask something to the teacher associated with that school are getting popular in Cilegon, last the researcher want to know how much the students of SD Al- Azhar Cilegon understand and happy with English Subject during learning process.

According to Ronald L. Partin, the ability to manage students' behavior is the number one concern of beginning teachers.² It means the teachers should be able to facilitate learning well and the teacher can use the instructional media when learning process to make the classroom condition more alive, to make the student comfortable, happy and enjoy with their subject. Therefore, this research does not focus on all aspects of the process in English teaching and learning, instead it only focuses on teacher activities and the media used in teaching.

C. Research Question

Based on the focus of the study above, the researcher have questions, those are:

1. How does the teacher of SD al-Azhar Cilegon teaches English for young learners in the class?
2. How does the teacher of SD al-Azhar Cilegon use instructional media in teaching English for young learners?
3. What obstacles faced by the teacher in teaching?

D. The objective of the research

In accordance with those real problems above, the aims of this research as follows:

1. To investigate how the teacher of SD Al – Azhar Cilegon teaches English for young learners in the class
2. To investigate does the teacher of SD Al- Azhar Cilegon use instructional media in teaching English for young learners when learning process

² Ronald L.Partin, *Classroom Teachers Survival Guide* (America: Jossey- Bass, 2009), 32.

3. To investigate the teacher obstacles in teaching young learners classroom in learning process

E. Significance of Research

This result of this study is expected to be useful for:

1. Teachers

For teachers, this study provides some information on how to be a good teacher in teaching English for young learners especially in aspect of teacher's performance and the media used in teaching English for young learners

2. Readers

This study is expected to provide more information on how to plan the learning process at young learner classroom well and how to appropriate use the instructional media in order to explore the reader's ability in teaching English for young learners.

F. Organization of the writing

This paper consist of five chapters those are:

Chapter I : Introduction, it contains the background of the research, research formulation, research question, the objective of the study, significance of the research, previous study and organizing of the writing

Chapter II : Theoretical framework

Chapter III : Research design, setting of research, data collection techniques and data analysis

Chapter IV : Its contains data description, data result and discuss

Chapter V : Conclusion and suggestion