

ASSISTANCE WITH BASIC ENGLISH LEARNING FOR STUDENTS ON ISLAMIC BOARDING SCHOOL AS'ADIYAH SENGKANG

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Abstract

The female dormitory students of the As'adiyah Sengkang Islamic Boarding School who are also students at Madrasah Tsanawiyah and Madrasah Aliyah were the objectives of this program, which began at the start of the 2020/2021 academic year. This activity is being carried out to provide students with an understanding of the English language. Learning in Islamic boarding schools has never previously provided intensive English learning so that students not only gain religious knowledge but also gain English knowledge that will be useful after they graduate. For four and a half months, this activity was carried out by delivering basic English elements such as grammar, vocabulary, and conversation. Students enjoyed this activity. This demonstrates their desire to improve their English skills.

Keywords: Assistance, Basic English Learning, Islamic Boarding School

Introduction

Boarding School and education have a close relationship. Of course, there are various components to this. As a result, a study in Islamic boarding schools today is inextricably linked to social issues. Even at certain Islamic boarding schools, lessons that are acceptable for this era are taught. For the time being, many groups must master certain skills, such as English, which is no longer a foreign language to us. The first foreign language that the community must learn is English (Mattarima, & Hamdan, 2011; Hamied, 2012; Suparsa, Mantra, & Widiastuti, 2017).

Boarding schools serve an essential role in society as a community education organization that develops human resources capable of behaving and comprehending religious beliefs (Tolchah & Mu'ammam, 2019; Amirudin & Muzaki, 2019; Afista & Bakar, 2021; Rohaeni et al., 2021). As Islamic educational institutions, Islamic boarding schools have evolved in response to changing times and the impact of scientific and technological advancements. Islamic boarding schools, on the other hand, remain Islamic religious education organizations that flourish and grow from community to community.

One of the largest Islamic boarding schools in South Sulawesi is the As'adiyah Sengkang Islamic Boarding School Foundation (As'ad, 2018; Halim, 2018; Ilyas, 2020). This Islamic residential school is a contemporary institution. The cottage, which is located in Sengkang City's southern district, is made up of various dormitory units. Educational institutions range from kindergarten to college in this boarding school. This institution is constantly striving to adapt and accelerate in order to keep up with the times (Halim, 2018). Although it is not a native language and appears tough, it is necessary to acquire it so that it does not become obsolete. English, as we all know, is an international language and hence the most widely spoken language on the planet (McKay, 2018; Kessler, 2018; Rao, 2019; Rose, McKinley, & Galloway, 2021). So, of course, we must investigate it so that it does not become obsolete, especially since English is now an international language and the most widely used medium of international communication. English is today one of the most widely learned and used languages in the world (Hariharasudan & Kot,

2018; Rahman et al., 2019). Learning English, on the other hand, is not an easy task; having the will and determination to learn English is essential.

If the atmosphere is conducive to learning English, we will be able to master the language more quickly. Children who learn a second language gain flexibility in their cognitive, academic, language, and social skills. Furthermore, students will be prepared to interact with people of other languages and cultures in a variety of settings. Children will become qualified and accomplish human resources as they grow older. Similarly, if we want to be more effective in teaching English, we must incorporate it into our daily life (Gupta, 2019). That means if, at all possible, we should strive to use it every day. For this, we can read, listen to, or communicate in English at any time when the occasion arises. Or, to put it another way, we must practice English in a systematic manner. Practice is learning that is used to train and improve students' capacity to apply what they have learned in the classroom to real-life situations, such as in the field, at work, or on actual tasks.

People who wish to study English, on the other hand, are currently plagued by laziness. For whatever reason, most people still perceive English to be a difficult language to understand and master (Al Hosni, 2014; Brown, 2017; Iftanti & Maunah, 2021; Mirizon, 2021; Khasawneh, 2021). As a result, if you want to be proficient in English, you must begin studying immediately. All you need to know is how to learn in the proper manner so that you may grasp concepts rapidly. Because something that is done on a regular basis and in a consistent manner becomes a habit.

Learning English is still quite prevalent for education in dorms in boarding schools, especially at As'adiyah Sengkang, where it can even be said that there is none, and students exclusively learn English within the framework of school. Previously, students solely learned religious information in the dormitories. However, attempts are now being made to balance the knowledge supplied to students between religious knowledge and general knowledge, such as English, in order to reduce students' foreign language backwardness. Furthermore, because English is an international language, it will allow pupils to broaden their knowledge of the world. Furthermore, science-related language strives to hasten scientific progress (Henrichs & Leseman, 2014; Moreno-Guerrero et al., 2020). As a result, learning is required of all.

Implementation Method

The memorizing approach is used to provide basic English learning aid. The word memorizing derives from the word memorize, which implies that it has entered the memory of the lesson or that you can repeat it out loud without looking at books or other notes, according to the Big Indonesian Dictionary. The prefix *me-* implies "to memorize," which means to try to absorb it into the mind so that it retains everything. This community service was performed at Wajo Regency As'Adiyah Sengkang Boarding School, which began at the start of the 2020/2021 academic year.

The community service team chose the memorizing approach because the basic English learning mentoring activity's primary audience was kids, and students in Islamic boarding schools were all about memorization, thus this method was simple for them to accept. The main goal of memorizing is to help pupils master basic English by memorizing a large amount of vocabulary and understanding tenses. This is the first step toward developing strong communication skills. As we all know, advancements in science and technology have both beneficial and harmful consequences.

Needs analysis is a technique for determining the gap between what people already know and what they desire to know (Brown, 2016). As a result, it is vital to understand the fundamentals that pupils require when learning, such as basic English. The element of memorizing a large vocabulary is inextricably linked to learning a foreign language. Mastering vocabulary necessitates tasks that push students to memorize the meaning of words on a continuous basis, rather than in stages (Brown, 2016). Low-grade pupils benefit greatly from memorization because they have poor

recall and language is very easy to memorize. The rise of interference from English to Indonesian is due to academic expectations as well as the status issue.

A mentor must know or be sensitive to the abilities of kids (boarding school) in basic English in every mentoring activity. So that the events go off without a hitch and have a great outcome. To do these things properly, you'll need a lot of knowledge and a lot of teaching skills.

Results and Discussion

The hostel responded positively to this mentorship program, which is one of the things that students need to support their abilities as they prepare to enter the community. For female pupils, this English learning mentoring program is a first. The Koran was formerly their occupation after the dawn prayer, thus the female students had their own weekly timetable for English following the dawn prayer. English is the world's most widely spoken language and the lingua franca of all nations. As a result, pupils must study English in order to avoid becoming obsolete in this situation. This mentorship program was well received by both the dormitories and the students, with English being included in the study schedule in the dormitory. This is one of the activities that students will require to help them improve their English skills.

Because the emphasis is on students being able to practice speaking, the selection of this material is considered highly acceptable. Many factors, of course, influence the learning process and consequences. Three basic issues (how learning takes place and what principles influence the learning process) and three main issues (learning results) influence the process and learning outcomes. Here we look at the topic of how the learning process takes place. The following are the supporting and hindering factors in broad terms:

1. Enabling Factors

- a. Adequate experts in basic English learning support are accessible.
- b. Students are really enthusiastic about learning basic English

2. Inhibiting Factor

- a. Training time is limited, so some materials cannot be covered in depth.
- b. The catching ability of the participants varied; some were quick, while others were slow, resulting in an inefficient use of time.

Learning a foreign language is challenging in of itself, with numerous challenges (Kramsch, 2014; Domagala- Zyśk, 2016; Wingate, 2018), particularly in listening to the audience (students boarding school) Explain in greater detail that learners have a variety of challenges when it comes to their capacity to listen to other languages, particularly English, including:

- a) Inability to grasp pronunciation (pronunciation)
- b) Inability to manage the speaker's speaking speed
- c) Inability to repeat what has been heard
- d) Learners' limited vocabulary
- e) Difficulty/failure to concentrate
- f) Differences in shared information leading to differing interpretations
- g) Inability to comprehend signs (signpost words)
- h) Limited access to authentic learning materials
- I) Lack of visual features that aid comprehension

Furthermore, there are five major aspects that influence message delivery when it comes to listening skills (Gilakjani & Ahmadi, 2011; Jia & Hew, 2021):

- a) How many speakers are in a conversation or dialogue, and what accent or dialect are they speaking in?
- b) What is the listener's role in that setting, and what kind of response is expected from the listener's participation?
- c) The level of interest in the topic being addressed among the audience.
- d) How complicated is the speaker's grammar and vocabulary?
- e) How many supporting facilities are provided to listeners in order for them to comprehend the message, such as the media utilized to assist listeners in comprehending the message, such as pictures, diagrams, or other visual media.

This type of learning aid is provided twice a week, on Thursdays and Saturdays. The pupils were given 25 vocabulary terms and taught how to read correctly on Thursday, and then they were forced to deposit the memorized knowledge the following Thursday. Meanwhile, kids are guided to study 16 tenses on a scale on Saturday. They are also given a break in the discourse from time to time. Vocabulary mastery is frequently regarded as a crucial technique for learning a foreign language, as a limited vocabulary in a foreign language will impede the success of communication. Counselors believe that learning a language without mastering words is nearly impossible; even human communication is founded on words. Similarly, the students agreed that vocabulary acquisition is an important aspect in language teaching.

Conclusions and Suggestions

This English learning mentoring activity has been followed by all students of the female dormitory during its implementation (especially students boarding school As'adiyah Sengkang), resulting in the discovery that students must be equipped with good English language skills in addition to knowledge in the field of religion. This program, Alhamdulillah, has been carried out smoothly, although not all of the mentoring participants have mastered the material well. This is because this mentoring activity was carried out for the first time in class. Santri still often has difficulty applying the theories learned, such as in speaking. But this is not a big problem because this is just the first step in starting to learn English outside the school forum, which, of course, will provide great benefits for students studying science outside of religion.

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