

TEACHING VOCABULARY BY USING ENGLISH SONG

Disa Sally Rahayu¹⁾ WelyaRoza²⁾

1) Mahasiswa Jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris FKIP Bung Hatta, email :
bluetoth33@yahoo.co.id

2) Staff Pengajar Jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris FKIP Bung Hatta

English Department The Faculty of Teacher Training and Education
Bung Hatta University

ABSTARCT

This paper aims to give explanation about vocabulary and English song, and how to teach vocabulary by using English song. Vocabulary is the total number of the words and vocabulary is a basic element in learning English. To empower English, the students has to learn vocabulary. Song is frequently used by teachers to help the student to get a new word. Vocabulary by using English song can inspire the students express idea, feeling and improve their pronunciation, speaking and also get many new vocabularies. There are two types of vocabulary they are active vocabulary and passive vocabulary, Active vocabulary refers to items the learner can use appropriately in speaking or writing and it is also called as productive vocabulary, although in facts it is more difficult to put into practice and Passive vocabulary refers to a language items that can be recognizes and understood in the context of reading and listening and also called as receptive vocabulary. To teaching vocabulary by using English song use three procedures consisting of pre-teaching activities the activity done before teaching process, in whilst- teaching activities the teacher instructs and asks the students to do some activities, and post-teaching activities is necessary as the follow up phase on what the students have studied.

Keywords : *Teaching Vocabulary , English Song*

A. INTRODUCTION

English is a obligatory subject at junior high school. One of the goal of teaching English is to enable the students to empower the vocabulary and use English for communicative language. By using English, the students can express their idea, needs, and desires. In order to be able to

communicate in English, the students should have enough vocabularies.

Vocabulary is a basic element in learning English. To empower English, the students has to learn vocabulary. Vocabulary has the important part in each language skills such as listening, speaking, reading and writing. However, most of the students

cannot practice English as a communicative language. One of the problems is lack vocabulary.

Lack of vocabulary can be seen in writing class. When the teacher asked the students to write the story about their self, they cannot do it. They look confused and feel afraid. The writer thinks that hard material given cause these. In addition, the method used so far does not attract students to be more active in the classroom. In other words, the students are unmotivated and uninterested with the subject.

There are many kinds of techniques in teaching English especially in teaching vocabulary to the English students. The first is teaching English through pictures. The aim of this technique to improve the students vocabularies. By using this way it can support students motivation and they can memorize vocabularies in their brain while they are learning vocabulary. The second is teaching English through games. It can motivate the students in speaking. It can also make the class more cheerful and give a good result in teaching learning activities. And the third technique used in teaching English is English song. By using English song, the students can express their idea, feeling and improve their pronunciation,

speaking and also get many new vocabularies.

Based on the statement above, the writer concludes that there are many ways to teaching vocabulary, the first is by using picture, the second is by using games, and the third is by using English song. Teaching vocabulary by using English song can support and motivate the students in mastering English.

Furthermore, the general problem that has been mentioned in before section is elaborated into several following problems that will be discussed in this paper :

- a. What is English Song?
- b. How is the procedure of teaching vocabulary by using the English song?

The problem of the study is formulated in the following question: “ Howdoes the teacher enrich the students vocabulary by using English song?”

This paper is aimed at describing about teaching vocabulary by using English Song. Beside that, this paper is written fulfill one of the requirements to complete the writer’s study in getting S.1 degree at Faculty of Teacher and Education of English Department, Bung Hatta University.

1. The Concept of Teaching Vocabulary

Teaching vocabulary could be said as a process or a way to make students learn unit of words presented by the teacher. As the result, the students can respond teachers command. According to Kamil and Hiebert, vocabulary is broadly define as knowledge of words and word meaning. Based on vocabulary tells the language and words either used or understood by a person or group of people.

Teaching vocabulary is teaching the types and numbers of words to the students. In addition, vocabulary is an important aspect of the language. Actually, to master a language the students should master the vocabulary of the language.

Based on the statement above the writer concludes that vocabulary is the number of words that people use in communication process. And vocabulary is broadly define as knowledge of words and meaning. In short, the writer can say no vocabulary no communication. Whoever and where ever the people do communication process they need vocabulary.

2. The Types of Vocabulary

Vocabulary varies in the four skills of language, listening, speaking, reading and

writing. Generally, a student will absorb listening and speaking vocabulary before coming to the reading and writing vocabulary. But in real situation, the process may change, especially in foreign language teaching. Reading vocabulary may become first stage before processing the speaking and listening vocabulary.

Ann and Mary (1997) classified vocabulary into two terms there are:

- a. Active vocabulary refers to items the learner can use appropriately in speaking or writing and it is also called as productive vocabulary, although in facts it is more difficult to put into practice. It means that to use the productive vocabulary, the students are supposed to know how to pronounce it well, they must know and be able to use grammar of the language target, they are also hoped to familiar with collocation and understand the connotation meaning of the words. This type is often used in speaking and writing skill.
- b. Passive vocabulary refers to a language items that can be recognizes and understood in the

context of reading and listening and also called as receptive vocabulary. Passive vocabulary or comprehension consists of the words comprehended by the people, when they read and listen.

Based on the statement above, the writer conclude that vocabulary is important thing in learning English. Especially, it is used in the four skills of language, listening, speaking, reading and writing. There are two types of vocabulary; they are active vocabulary and passive vocabulary.

3. The Importance of Teaching Vocabulary in Language Learning

Vocabulary is important in case it could help the students to enjoy their classes. One who masters enough vocabulary will find fewer difficulties than those who have fewer vocabularies. When they read a certain text, they will easily get the information from it since they can understand every word in the text. On the other hand, those who lack of vocabulary will face a lot problems. Mastery of vocabulary will be useful for the process of achieving language teaching objectives. That is the mastery of language skills (Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing).

Pitman (2003) says that vocabulary plays an important role as an element of English language study used in every aspect of language uses. Therefore, a students who has enough vocabulary can do better in reading, writing, listening and speaking because vocabulary mastery forms the important basis for listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Without knowing the English vocabulary well, a students cannot comprehend a reading text; without having enough vocabulary, a student cannot express his ideas in writing activity; without sufficient vocabulary, a student cannot recognize and then catch the meaning of the utterances in listening activity; without having enough vocabulary, a students cannot express his idea in a speaking activities.

According to Zhihong (2000) states words are the basic unit of language from support it. Without vocabulary, one cannot communicate to effectively or express idea. He also states that having a limited vocabulary is also a barrier.

Furthermore, River in Nunan (1991 : 117) has also argued that acquisition of an adequate vocabulary is essential for successful second language use. Without an extensive vocabulary, we will unable to use the structure and function that we may have learned for comprehensible communication.

Based on the expert's opinion, the writer concludes that there are several importances of vocabulary. They are: 1) vocabulary is used to be expression and communication tools, 2) vocabulary will be useful for the process of achieving language teaching objectives, and 3) mastering vocabulary can help them to mastering four skills in learning English.

4. Technique of Teaching Vocabulary

Vocabulary is one of important component of language in language learning. Several theories proposed by expert can be taken into account. In language skills such as listening, speaking, reading and writing, one should learn vocabulary first. Lewis (1996) states that the teaching of vocabulary above elementary levels was mostly incidental, limited to presenting new items as they appeared in reading or sometimes listening texts. Some authors, Led in Lewis (1996) argued that vocabulary should be at the centre of language teaching, because language consists of grammatically lexis, not lexicalized grammar.

In teaching and learning foreign language, teaching vocabulary takes an essential part when we start to learn the

second language. We must start to acquire vocabulary in order to be able to use the language. Teaching vocabulary could be said as a process or a way to make students learn unit of words presented by the teacher. As the result, the students can respond teacher's command.

Mora S (2001) suggest that we must use good technique in teaching English, especially in teaching vocabulary. Because if we use good technique in teaching vocabulary, it can improve the motivation of students : to study hard and besides that they will not be bored.

Based on the statement above, the writer concludes that teacher should use good and enjoy technique for teach vocabulary. For the students at junior high school, teacher should use song in teaching vocabulary. Song is a kind of media in teaching vocabulary.

5. English Song

Using song in teaching vocabulary is a technique that can motivate the students or the language learners learn English as a foreign language, because they will be enjoyable and interesting with all new words that they find in reading text. The explanation about song will be discussed more deeply in the following parts.

6. The Nature of English Song

Generally, students like rock, pop, love, dangdut, and remix songs. According to Parker (2000 :25), the use of songs are effective ways for teaching English grammar and pronunciation because they involve grammatical features as well as language skills areas. However the songs should be popular songs that are appropriate in both language and content, and whose lyrics are untellable when sung.

A number of expert and practioners have put forward the contributions of songs to English teaching. Jedynank (2001 :1) states that popular music is that involving images or associations can be used. Furthermore, Lo and Li (1998 : 1) suggest that songs are very valuable in motivating students to learn English and enhancing learner's involvement.

Finally, Demonee and Haris (1993 : 234) investigated the prevalence of pop music in the lives of English students. They found that music is often the major source of English outside of the classroom. The exposure to authentic English is an important factor in promoting language learning. If the students are exposed to song which they enjoy, more learning is likely to occur since they may seek out of classroom.

The repetitive style of songs, then, help to promote automation of colloquial language.

Based on the statement above, the writer conclude that the teacher should use the popular English song in teaching vocabulary. It can make the students interest in learning vocabulary. For Indonesian students, they are interest to pop and rock songs. Because pop and rock are the popular song in this year.

7. The Song in Teaching Vocabulary

Song is frequently used by teachers to help the student to get a new word. This is not surprising since the literature abounds with the positive statements regarding the efficacy of song as a vehicle for first and second language acquisition. It is been reported to help second language learners acquire vocabulary and grammar, improve spelling and develop the linguistic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. The literature also indicates that the retentive effects of rhythm can be maximized when the targeted verbal information carries meaning.

Teaching vocabulary is not the same as teaching reading, speaking or structure. So teacher should have ability to choose the appropriate technique for teaching vocabulary like using picture, real object, newspaper, games, and English song.

Based on the statement above, the writer conclude that used song in teaching vocabulary can help the students to get a new word. And the students can remember the words and know how to spell it.

8. The Advantages of Song in Teaching Vocabulary

Music is one of the most overt learning activities emphasizing the process of “learning by doing.” It is in reality, a form in which everyone can participate. Teaching through music, however, is a learning approach which knows no chronological boundaries. Wayne R. Rood suggest that one of the great achievements of music is its ability to break over the age barriers and chop through the alleged generation gap.

Teaching vocabulary by using Song can give some advantages. They are :

1. Songs can motivate a positive emotional approach to language learning.
2. Songs can inspire the students to express his or her attitude toward what he or she heard.
3. Songs can make the students feel relax in the classroom atmosphere.

4. Songs can make the students interest. Using songs, the students get spirit to study.
5. Songs can make the teaching and learning process interesting.
6. Songs can introduce students to the music and culture of particular interest of target language community. While listening to a song, students begin to recognize the words and nation of native speaker.
7. Songs can improve students pronunciation because from songs the students can hear how to pronounce words. They can imitate the pronunciation of word correctly.

Based on the statement above, the writer conclude that many advantages of using song in teaching vocabulary. Such as 1) songs can motivate a positive emotional the students, 2) song can inspire the students to express their attitude, 3) song can make the students feel relax, 4) song can make the students interest, 5) song can make the teaching and learning process interesting, 6) song can introduce students to the music and culture, and 7) song can improve students pronunciation.

8. The Example of English Song Today My Life Begins

By. Bruno Mars

I've been working hard so long
Seems like pain has been my only friend
My fragile heart's been done so wrong
I wondered if I'd ever heal again
Ohh just like all the seasons never stay the
same
All around me I can feel a change (Ohh)
I will break these chains that bind me,
happiness will find me
Leave the past behind me, today my life
begins,
A whole new world is waiting It's mine for
the taking,
I know I can make it, today my life begins
Yesterday has come and gone
and I've learned how to leave it where it is
and I see that I was wrong
for ever doubting I could win

Ohh just like all the seasons never stay the
same
All around me I can feel a change (ohh)
I will break these chains that bind me,
happiness will find me,
leave the past behind me, today my life
begins
a whole new world is waiting it's mine for
the taking

I know I can make it, today my life begins
life's too short to have regrets
so I'm learning now to leave it in the past
and try to forget
only have one life to live
so you better make the best of it
2x :I will break these chains that bind me,
happiness will find me
Leave the past behind me, today my life
begins,
a whole new world is waiting it's mine for
the taking
I know I can make it, today my life begins
Today my life begins...

Adapted from : www.google.com

B. PROCEDURE OF TEACHING VOCABULARY BY USING ENGLISH SONG

1). Pre- Teaching Activities

This is a process of teaching activity before a teacher comes into a new material to be taught. The pre-teaching activities are as follows:

1. The teacher greet the students.

For example:

Teacher : “Good morning
class, how are you this
morning?”

Students : “Fine, and you?”

Teacher : “I am fine, thank you.”

2. The teacher asks the students to pray.

For example:

“Before we start our lesson today, let’s pray together.”

3. The teacher checks the students attendance.

For example:

“OK Class, before we start our lesson, I want to check your attendance first, who is absent today?”

4. The teacher asks the students some questions to lead the students to introduce topic.

- a) Do you like music?
- b) What kind of music do you like?
- c) Do you like singing a song?
- d) Who is your favorite singer?
- e) Who wants to sing a song in front of the class?

2). Whilst- Teaching Activity

In whilst-teaching activities, the teacher may conduct some activities such distributing the selected material to the students and instructing the students to do

the activities. Below, there some activities in whilst-teaching activity:

1. The teacher write the lyric of the song on the paper.
2. The teacher hangs the paper containing the lyric of the song on the board.

For example :

Today My Life Begins

I've been working hard so long
seems like pain has been my only
friend

my fragile heart's been done so
wrong

I wondered if I'd ever heal again

Ohh just like all the seasons never
stay the same

All around me I can feel a change
(Ohh)

I will break these chains that bind
me, happiness will find me
leave the past behind me, today my
life begins,

a whole new world is waiting It's
mine for the taking,

I know I can make it, today my life
begins

Yesterday has come and gone
and I've learned how to leave it
where it is
and I see that I was wrong
for ever doubting I could win

Ohh just like all the seasons never
stay the same
All around me I can feel a change
(ohh)

I will break these chains that bind
me, happiness will find me,
leave the past behind me, today my
life begins
a whole new world is waiting it's
mine for the taking
I know I can make it, today my life
begins

life's too short to have regrets
so I'm learning now to leave it in the
past and try to forget
only have one life to live
so you better make the best of it

I will break these chains that bind
me, happiness will find me,
leave the past behind me, today my
life begins,

a whole new world is waiting it's
mine for the taking
I know I can make it, today my life
begins,
today my life begins...

3. The teacher distributes or present a copy of the song for the students.
4. The teacher explains difficult words existing in the song.
For example :fragile (three line)
5. The teacher demonstrates song by singing in front of the class, and asks the students to listen.
6. The teacher asks the students to repeat and sing together.
7. The teacher asks the students some questions about the song such as :have you ever heard this song?, can you tell me about this song?, etc.
8. The teacher asks the students to do exercise in order know their understanding about some words in song.
9. The teacher monitors the students during they do the exercise.
10. The teacher asks two or more students to read their sentence.

3). Post- Teaching Activity

This procedure is necessary as the follow up phase on what the students have studied. There are some activities in post-teaching activity.

1. The teacher submit the list of the acquire words from the students.
Example: “OK class, please submit your paper!”.
2. The teacher checks the list of words.
3. The teacher evaluates how many words can be acquire by the students.
4. The teacher asks the students about the song.

C. CONCLUSION

There are many media used to help student in their English language learning process. The conclusion could be clarified as follows:

1. The use of English song in teaching vocabulary can increase the students vocabulary.
2. The use of English song in teaching vocabulary makes students more able to motivated and make the students interested in learning vocabulary.

The use of English song in teaching make the process of learning vocabulary more attractive.

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