

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consist of the background of the study, research questions, objective study, significance of study, and definition of key terms.

1. Background of Study

Currently, humans are facing a phase where their movements are completely restricted due to the Covid-19 outbreak. Covid 19 was first discovered in December 2019 in Wuhan China, then became an epidemic. The most common symptoms are fever, fatigue and a dry cough. People who are older and have previous health problems will experience more serious symptoms. This disease can spread through small droplets from the nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing.

To respond to the spread of this disease, the Indonesian government made a social restriction policy in which all activities from all levels of society must be carried out in their respective homes. Starting from students, educators, office employees etc. all work from home, study from home and worship is also done at home. Allah says in the Qur'an:

لَهُ مُعَقِّبَاتٌ مِّنْ بَيْنِ يَدَيْهِ وَمِنْ خَلْفِهِ يَحْفَظُونَهُ مِنْ أَمْرِ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُغَيِّرُ مَا بِقَوْمٍ حَتَّىٰ يُغَيِّرُوا مَا بِأَنفُسِهِمْ وَإِذَا أَرَادَ اللَّهُ بِقَوْمٍ سُوءًا فَلَا مَرَدَّ لَهُ وَمَا لَهُمْ مِنْ دُونِهِ مِنْ وَالٍ

Along with the promotion of this policy, one aspect that has experienced significant changes is the world of education. Educational institutions such as schools, universities and tutoring have begun to implement an online learning system. Educators are forced to be technology

literate and package learning to make it more interesting and not monotonous. The task of educators seems to be increasing, especially in language learning at the elementary school level. According to Crotty (1998) as cited in (Rany et al, 2019), teaching English at the children's level is not an easy thing for teachers. There are several challenges, namely the introduction to understanding and explaining how society and the human world are, and establishing a set of assumptions that symbolic interactionist researchers bring to their chosen methodology. Children also get bored easily and their focus gets distracted quickly.

At this age they like to play and learn, interact directly with teachers and they learn from what they see, hear and experience. Myrtis & Philomena (2006) as cited in (Rany et al, 2019), young learners tend to have short attention spans and a lot of physical energy. Liando (2000) as cited in (Suharno, 2017, p. 29) asserts that it is needed to consider the implementation of teaching English from the early level of education, such as in primary school, in order to attain better results in the students' English proficiency in higher level of education.

In the midst of the widespread application of online learning systems, researcher found a school that implemented a learning system policy based on giving assignments to students. This decision was taken after considering various things, including parents who come from the middle to lower economic class so that they feel the cost of internet quota is

very burdensome, then the lack of ability of students to use electronic devices and the limited use of electronic devices in one family.

As for the assignments are given every half month along with the material and instructions for the work of the assignment from the teacher concerned. The school will provide a period of 2 weeks for the work, then the students will return the assignment and answer sheets to the school.

The task based language teaching method is centered on students not teachers so that it provides more opportunities and experiences for students to interact with foreign languages. However, in practice the teacher's function as a navigator is minimal. They only provide material sheets and work instructions without adequate supervision during the work process. So that parents play an important role in completing the tasks given by the teacher. Apparently, the researchers found that it was not the students who did the assignment but the guardians of the students or other relatives.

Since the beginning of the pandemic until the new normal at the end of August 2021, this teaching pattern has been applied at the school continuously without any variation. Researcher began to worry about the impact that would occur, such as students losing their enthusiasm for learning, do not understand the learning material or even do not understand what they are learning while studying from home. Based on the explanation above, the researcher was interested in researching this matter.

2. Research Questions

There are two research questions in this study, they are:

1. How does the teacher implement task based language teaching method for young learners?
2. What are the difficulties of using task based language teaching method during pandemic for teacher, students and parents?

3. Objective of Study

The objectives of study are:

1. To describe the teacher implement of task based language teaching method for young learners.
2. To find out the difficulties of using task based language teaching method during pandemic for teacher, students and parents.

4. Significance of Study

The researcher expected that this study would be able to give advantages as follow:

1. Theoretical

Provides an overview and information about the use of the task based language teaching method during a pandemic.

Making it one of the reference sources for further research in the same field.

2. Practical

For Teacher:

Through this research, teachers can pay more attention to aspects that are still lacking in the application of the task based language teaching method

For Researcher:

Researchers can understand well about task based language teaching

5. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding in this study, the researcher gives some definitions of key terms that are important to understand as follows:

1. Task Based Language Teaching is learning method applied by schools during the pandemic where students are focused on giving assignments every half a month with a collection time of about 2 weeks.
2. Young Learners means students of class 5-6th grade at MI Miftahussholihin with range age 10-12 years old.
3. Pandemic in this study starting to apply learning from home to the new normal since 16th march 2020 until 6th september 2021.