



ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING TECHNIQUES FOR ENHANCING STUDENTS' LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

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ABSTRACT

The research aimed to find out (1) Teaching strategies used by teacher in improving students' English language skills. (2) The students' perception of teaching strategy used by teacher in improving students' English language skills. The data were conducted on August 2022 from the teacher and students of tenth grades at SMK Negeri 3 Pati. This research used descriptive qualitative method; the instruments were an observation and interview. The observation was used to observe the teacher of the tenth-grade students at SMK N 3 Pati and the interview was distributed to the students of the tenth grade. The research findings showed that the English teaching strategies used by teachers help improve students' language skills. By using Microsoft Teams, WhatsApp and several learning support media in the form of modules, teachers and students were able to find new ideas and express them every day. However, there are some students who have negative views about the teaching strategies that teachers use to improve their students' language skills. This is based on the students' disinterest and a sense of laziness and fear to learn English as a foreign language.

Keywords: Teaching strategies, english skills, foreign language

INTRODUCTION

In teaching and learning activities, the teacher is the most important factor. Teachers play a crucial part in how well pupils learn, particularly when learning English as a second language in Indonesia. Therefore, it is essential that you, as a teacher are aware of the most effective methods for teaching English. According to (Killen, 1998; Syafriyadin, 2020) Teaching strategy is one of the supporting factors that will help the teacher's teaching process in the classroom. Teaching methods are crucial to the teaching and learning process. This can assist teachers in facilitating learning activities for students. Additionally, it is a technique that teachers can utilize to enhance the teaching and learning process so that it can have a major impact on pupils because they learn through doing.

Learning outcomes for students are impacted because the English learning method is frequently insufficient to achieve the teacher's desired learning objectives. Many things that have an impact on the procedure are the reason of this. This demonstrates that teachers continue to struggle with selecting the best teaching ideas and methodologies, even for children who have trouble learning English because they are not exposed to other languages in their social circles. level of foreign language proficiency.

However, the main discussion in this research is strategies in teaching to improve students' English language skills. Because the teaching strategies that are not appropriate often make it difficult for students to accept the lessons conveyed by the teacher. In addition, it also reduces the enthusiasm or



motivation of students to learn. Therefore, appropriate and fun teaching strategies are needed to teach in the classroom. As stated by Taba and others 1994 (Jianping Xia, 2020:

LITERATURE REVIEW

English as Foreign Language

The official language of nations is English. The idea of using English as a universal language of communication in a variety of dialects is known as "international English," and the campaign to establish an international standard for the language is known as "international English." Nearly 320 million people are native speakers of this language, and another 200 million people speak it as a second language. Stated by MF Patel and PM Jain (2008 : 6) English has been recognized as the most significant foreign language in Indonesia since the 1980s and this has witnessed tremendous growth since the early 1990s. Alwasilah in sitti syamsinar and Ahmad Johari (2014) states that recognition of English as a foreign language is based on government policies formulated through the DPR law. Government Guideline No. 55, 56 and 57/1988. This guideline approved the use of English language in schools.

Due to the fact that Indonesians do not utilize English in their daily communications, it is regarded as a foreign language there. As a language of communication, they choose Indonesian. The Indonesian government, however, makes English a subject that students must understand because it is one of the few courses studied and assessed in high school and because of the needs of the global community who need English as an international language of instruction.

452) "that teaching strategies need to be used in the teaching process in order to motivate students to produce creative thinking

According to Mandasari and Oktaviani (2018), the English curriculum has been taught for six years, beginning in high school and continuing through higher education levels.

Teaching Strategies

A teaching strategy is a plan, method, or series of activities to accomplish a certain educational goal (Richards, Jack C. & Rodgers. 1986). Teaching methods are sometimes described as the actions made by a teacher or a teaching tool, such as a computer, pre-written material, or television set, to aid learning. Teaching program designs and implementation tactics selected to complete teaching goals and adapt to students' cognitive needs in particular teaching contexts are known as generalized teaching approaches, or "teaching strategies" (Zhang & Yu, 1996 in Jianping Xia, 2020). So, a teaching strategy is an attempt or method used by a teacher to accomplish a task throughout the teaching process. It is based on the actions the teacher takes to impart knowledge to students. A plan or set of arrangements made by a teacher during instruction to ensure that learning can occur effectively by utilizing appropriate learning strategies is another way to define a teaching strategy.

Types of Teaching Strategies

There are many different kinds of English teaching methods that can be used in



language instruction. Michae and Harris (1999) describe six different categories of English teaching tactics:

a. Memory strategy

Students can learn and recall knowledge in a logical order using memory methods by using sounds, visuals, sound and image combinations, body motions, mechanical devices, and locations. This improves the learner's ability to recall the target language.

b. Cognitive strategy

By reasoning, evaluating, summarizing, synthesizing, taking notes, elaborating, rearranging knowledge, practicing in a natural setting, and reviewing sounds and visuals, cognitive techniques enable pupils to produce linguistic content. The impact on kids' English abilities is significant.

c. Compensation strategy

Students can utilize compensatory tactics to infer meaning from context while reading and listening, and to supplement their speaking and writing abilities by using synonyms. Keywords and pauses aid the learner in filling in the knowledge gaps. Compensation techniques help students learn by offering teaching tools that might describe a student's method of language acquisition.

d. Metacognitive strategy

The entire learning process is guided by metacognitive techniques. Students can organize tasks, gather resources, prepare, keep an eye out for mistakes, and grade assignments using this method. It influences

cognitive strategies and is utilized to carry out cognitive strategies. It is highly helpful.

e. Affective strategy

Students that use affective techniques can recognize their moods and levels of anxiety. It assists pupils in defining emotions, appreciating accomplishments, using constructive self-talk, and calming down emotions. Students that use this method become much more motivated to learn.

f. Social strategy

Students can use social methods to investigate cultural and social norms, try talking to native speakers, ask questions for validation and explanation, get assistance with language tasks, and explore social and cultural norms. It is quite beneficial to comprehend the target culture and language.

Teaching Strategies in Motivating Students

One of the key elements in the learning process is motivation. Because pupils' interest or readiness to study, particularly while learning English, can improve with motivation As stated by (Dörnyei; 1988 in Myeong-hee Shin; 2018), students' motivation is a key factor in their language learning.

Teaching Strategies in the teaching and learning processes in the classroom.

In schools, particularly in classrooms, the education and learning process is carried out every day. Of course, educational techniques are necessary for the teaching and learning process in the classroom in order to



make learning engaging and not monotonous, particularly if you are studying English as a second language. Students unquestionably require methods for enhancing their English proficiency.

Students' perceptions of teaching strategies

The teacher needs student perception in order to assess how well the teaching and learning process is understood by the pupils. The teacher is relying on student perceptions to give advice on the methods employed in the teaching and learning process. due to the fact that students are the ones who are affected by the teacher's instructional tactics. Therefore, students' perceptions of the teacher's teaching strategies are needed so that teachers can find out the strategies used have been conveyed well or are still lacking. That way the teacher can evaluate the learning strategies used to match the opinions or perceptions of students. So that in the future the teaching strategies used are more interesting and effective in motivating students to improve their ability in foreign languages.

Definition of Language skill

Language is fundamentally a skill. It is not a topic with content like physics, social science, business, or math that is supposed to educate and saturate the human mind with knowledge. Given that language is a skill, it logically belongs in the psychomotor category. The capacity to do something successfully, such as exercise, play, etc., is referred to as skill. After learning, you can put this skill to use. Knowing these things

requires cognitive training and performing them requires expertise (behavior).

Classification of Language skills

The four basic language abilities Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing can be further divided into two categories:

Figure 1: Language classification

Language Skills	Oral	Written
Receptive	Listening	Reading
Productive	Speaking	Writing

METHOD

Design of the Research

The goal of this study was to identify the teachers' preferred teaching methods. What techniques are employed and how are the teaching techniques perceived by the students. The descriptive qualitative methodology is used in this study. A category of research methodologies that generate findings without relying on quantitative measurement or statistical analysis is referred to as qualitative research, roughly speaking, by Gorbun and Strauss (2015). Additionally, participant observation, ethnography, individual and focus group interviews, as well as other techniques, are frequently used with qualitative methods.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Research Findings

The subject of this research was tenth grades of SMK Negeri 3 Pati in the academic year 2022/2023. The instrument used observation, interview, and documentation toward teacher and students to collect the data. The data result of observation and interview as follows:



English Teaching Strategies used by the teacher in improving Students Language skills

Based on the researcher's observations and conversations with the teacher on August 9, 2022. The researcher has known the teaching strategies used by the teacher as well as other supporting factors in improving students' English skills as a foreign language. One of the teaching strategies used is Blended Learning strategies.

Blended Learning strategies are mixed teaching strategies used by teachers to attract students' interest in learning a subject. So, in this case the teacher used blended learning strategies to attract students' interest to improve their ability to speak English as a foreign language. At this time this teaching strategy is considered more effective to improve students' English language skills. Because with this teaching strategy the teacher saw that students are more enthusiastic and happier in learning English as a foreign language.

In teaching using the Blended Learning strategy, the teacher also uses supporting media such as:

Microsoft Teams

Microsoft Teams is an extension of Office 365 Groups, a cross-app membership service that enables seamless switching between collaboration tools while maintaining context and sharing with others.

Whatsapp

WhatsApp is an online messaging application for smartphones. Functionally, WhatsApp is almost identical to the SMS

application commonly used on older phones. But WhatsApp doesn't use credit, it uses internet data. WhatsApp also has other advantages such as sending photos, videos, etc. So now WhatsApp is used to support online learning.

Students' Perception of the Teaching Strategies Used by the Teacher

Based on interviews conducted by researchers, students gave positive responses about the teaching strategies used by teachers to improve students' English skills.

a. Convenience in learning is needed to achieve the intended learning objectives

The results of the interview showed that the teacher used the correct teaching strategy. As can be seen from the quote above, most of the students answered with the word "happy" when asked about their acceptance of the English class and the teaching strategies used by their teachers. This means that students learn English and are open to learning English.

b. Having greater enthusiasm for learning English

The institional techniques that teachers employ in the classroom to inspire students, inspire them to learn, and enhance their English are divided into the following categories based on the results of student interviews.

c. Being easier to understand the teaching strategies

Students' perceptions can be described by understanding. Therefore, student



understanding is needed to be able to understand the teaching strategies used by teachers so that students can understand English lessons easily and be able to improve their abilities in English.

d. The students can improve english language skills.

Students can improve their abilities through learning that takes place at school. Supported by the right teaching strategies, students will be able to easily improve their English skills.

e. Student success depends on the teacher's teaching strategy.

The success of students in improving their English language skills can be seen from the way the teacher teaches, therefore the teacher's teaching strategy is very influential in the success of students to improve their abilities.

Discussion

The primary goal of this study is to determine how the teacher taught English to SMK Negeri 3 Pati class X students and how the students perceived that method. Following that, the researcher posed two study questions about the teacher's approach to teaching English and how the pupils regarded it. Thus, the researcher provides the following interpretation and further commentary:

English Teaching Strategies used by the teacher in improving Students Language skills

According to data collected by researchers during the study, blended learning technique is the method teachers

employ to teach English as a foreign language. The instructor is assisted by a variety of media or learning tools while employing the blended learning teaching technique. In addition to the school supplying Microsoft Teams as a teaching tool, there is also WhatsApp, which is utilized as a backup medium when issues arise in Microsoft Teams. The following will be a description of the teaching media:

Microsoft Teams

Microsoft Teams is an extension of Office 365 Groups, a cross-app membership service that enables seamless switching between collaboration tools while maintaining context and sharing with others. Microsoft Teams was used by teachers to aid in teaching and learning. Typically, the teacher imparts knowledge by posting the necessary materials in advance to the Microsoft Teams forum that has been set up for the class that will be taught. Following the opening, the teacher typically shows the lessons or teaching materials that will be covered that day to the class using powerpoint presentations, instructional films, or other methods of screen sharing.

Whatsapp

WhatsApp is an online messaging application for smartphones. Functionally, WhatsApp is almost identical to the SMS application commonly used on older phones. But WhatsApp doesn't use credit, it uses internet data. WhatsApp also has other advantages such as sending photos, videos, etc. So now WhatsApp is used to support online learning. When having issues with Microsoft Teams, teachers use WhatsApp to



enhance the teaching and learning process. The lesson plan for the day can then be discussed by the teacher.

In addition to media for teaching, the teaching materials used as a reference in teaching in schools are lesson plans and syllabus. However, for this year, the school is experimenting with a new curriculum, namely the independent curriculum, so the teaching materials used today are called modules or CP. The teaching materials will be explained as follows:

Lesson Plan/RPP

A RPP is a plan that outlines the method and administration of learning to acquire one or more competencies identified in the syllabus and outlined in the content standards. RPP at least includes learning objectives, resources, instructional strategies, teaching techniques, and evaluation of learning results.

Syllabus

A syllabus is a lesson plan that covers competency standards, fundamental competencies, topic/learning materials, learning activities, indicators of competency achievement for assessment, assessment, time allocation, and learning resources for a specific subject or collection of related subjects (Kunandar, 2011: 244).

Independent Curriculum Teaching Module

Teaching modules are a number of media tools, methods, instructions, and guidelines that are designed in a systematic and interesting manner. The teaching module

is an implementation of the Learning Objectives Flow which was developed from Learning Outcomes with the Pancasila Student Profile as the target.

Students' Perception of the Teaching Strategies Used by the Teacher

Based on the findings of student interviews performed by researchers and the questions students responded to during the interview session, researchers have developed students' perceptions of the teaching tactics employed by teachers in helping students learn English. These are referred to be student responses to the teacher's instructional techniques and are defined as: The first is that even though English is a foreign language, students feel joyful while learning it because, according to the findings of interviews, the teaching methods and strategies employed by teachers are appropriate and well-liked by the students. Especially when in learning the teacher inserts learning materials in the form of animated videos or short films in English. Students certainly feel very happy and more enthusiastic to participate in the teaching and learning process. And it will certainly help them develop their skills in English through videos or films in English.

The second factor is how the pupils perceive their interest in learning English. According to the findings of interviews done by researchers, pupils are motivated and delighted to study English when the teacher instructs in a relaxed manner and uses a fun teaching method. Because teachers' repetitive methods of instruction, such simply explaining, frequently bore students,



Therefore, with the instructor's blended learning technique, they feel more at ease and content because they can talk to their classmates in addition to listening to the teacher explain.

The third is students' perceptions of students' abilities in understanding the learning material that has been taught by the teacher. Based on the results of research conducted by researchers, with this blended learning teaching strategy students find it easier to understand the material being taught, because they are always given practice to improve their English language skills, besides that the teacher also always previews the material to find out how far students understand material that has been studied.

The fourth is students' perceptions of improving English language skills. Based on the results of interviews researchers with students. Students feel that to improve their English language skills not only with good teaching strategies, but also they need to have the will from within them to learn and improve their abilities. In addition, self-confidence is also needed to be able to improve English language skills, because with high confidence they are not ashamed when they speak incorrectly or are not fluent in pronouncing a word.

The last is students' perceptions of students' abilities which depend on the teaching methods or strategies used by teachers in schools. In this case, based on the results of the researcher's interviews with students. students answered that teaching strategies play an important role for students, especially for certain students who may have difficult understandings in the lesson, so they

need the right teaching strategies so that they can easily understand the material being taught. That way the possibility to improve their English language skills will be higher.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, the researcher conducted observations and interviews with students to draw conclusions :

1. The Blended Learning strategy was the primary teaching method employed by the teacher when instructing English as a Foreign Language. Due to its comfort level and potential for positive student reception, this method is adopted.
2. According to student interviews done by researchers, most of the students had positive opinions of the strategies teachers used to teach English as a foreign language. The fact that students like the teaching and learning process so much makes them more enthusiastic, engaged, and creative learners of the English language. They also find it easier to understand the information and feel more confident when speaking English in everyday situations. However, a few of the kids there also had adverse comments about the educator's educational strategies. In order to study English as a foreign language, they contend that they are unmotivated, lazy, and afraid of making a mistake.

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