

Analysis of Language Learning Strategies in Learning English as a Foreign Language

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Article History:

Received: 20 Februari 2025

Revised: 20 Maret 2025

Accepted: 22 Maret 2025

Keywords: *language leaning strategies, foreign language*

Abstract: *English is the first foreign language in the world that is used as an international language and several countries make this language their daily language. Likewise in Indonesia, English is a language that must be studied in schools. There are several strategies that can be used by school teachers to teach English, including: the TPR method (Total Physical Response Method), story telling, pictures and songs so that it makes it easier for them to like learning English.*

INTRODUCTION

Background

English is a foreign language that places an important position in learning. English is the most widely used language in the world as an international language. Its popularity as a lingua franca makes English the main means of communication in various fields, such as business, science, technology, and entertainment. The widespread use of English is influenced by the history of British and American colonialism, as well as the dominance of pop culture from English-speaking countries. However, learning English is often a challenge for non-native speakers, especially in terms of mastery of grammar, vocabulary, and the ability to speak fluently.

According to Maduwu (2016), English is a universal language because it is used by most countries in the world as the main language. In addition, English is one of the international languages that is important to master or learn. Several countries, especially former British colonies, place English as the second language that must be mastered after their native language.

The process of introducing a foreign language consists of several language components which are part of a language program. In general, there are three language components, namely: grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation (Uzer, 2019).

Mastering English opens up many opportunities, both in personal and professional life. With good English skills, a person can communicate more easily with people from different countries, access information from various sources, and increase the chances of getting a better job. In addition, learning English can also help a person to better understand the culture and history of English-speaking countries.

One effective way to improve your English speaking skills is to practice it regularly. Find friends or communities who are also learning English to exchange ideas and practice speaking. Also, don't hesitate to talk to yourself in English. You can tell your daily activities or have a monologue about a certain topic. Don't be afraid to make mistakes, because mistakes are a natural part of the learning process.

In addition to practicing speaking, there are some additional tips that you can do. First, listen to more English materials such as songs, podcasts, or movies. Pay attention to the intonation, pronunciation, and vocabulary used. Second, try to think in English. When you see an object or do an activity, try to think of the appropriate English words. Finally, don't forget to add new vocabulary every day. You can use a dictionary, language learning application, or read English books.

Writing purpose

The purpose of writing this article is to find out the strategies used to improve English language skills.

Writing Method

Writing a paper using the literature review method (library research).

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

1. TPR Method (Total Physical Response Method)

According to Richards TPR is defined as "a language teaching method built around the coordination of speech and action; it attempts to teach language through physical (motor) activity". So the TPR (Total Physical Response) method is a language learning method that is structured around the coordination of commands, speech and movement (action); and attempts to teach language through physical (motor) activity. Meanwhile, according to Larsen and Diane in *Technique and Principles in Language Teaching*, TPR or also called "the comprehension approach" or comprehension approach is a method of approaching a foreign language with instructions or commands.

Developed by James Asher, a psychology professor at San Jose State University, California. A suitable method for teaching English to early childhood where learning prioritizes direct activities related to physical activities and movement. In this TPR method, Asher said that the more often or more intensively a person's memory is stimulated, the stronger the memory association is related and the easier it is to remember (recalling), this remembering activity is done verbally with motor activity (Nurul, 2014). Furthermore, Asher also concluded that the role of emotional factors is very effective in children's language learning, meaning that learning a language by involving games with movement that can be combined with singing or storytelling can reduce the stress of learning a language. He believes that with the joy in children (positive mood) will have a good impact on children's language learning (Nurul, 2014). Examples of activities with this method: Examples of learning with this method are as follows: when introducing the word stand up (standing) all children stand up while listening to the word stand up and speaking the word stand up. Here we do not need to emphasize on the introduction of written language, although we can occasionally write the word but it is not a must. Then we can strengthen the introduction of the word while singing and moving according to the song's instructions.

2. Teaching English by using songs

English learning using songs is one method or way to teach English using singing or songs as its media (Nurul, 2014). Considering that English is a foreign language in Indonesia, of course the learning process requires an appropriate and effective approach. The success of English learning in early childhood is greatly influenced by the ability of a teacher in presenting an interesting and enjoyable teaching and learning process for children. In line with the existence of a child who likes to sing and move, movement and songs are one of the most appropriate

approaches if used as a means of presenting the English learning process for early childhood. Presenting an interesting and enjoyable learning process for children without leaving the rules of good and correct English (Widiputera, 2004). Music can enrich spiritual life and provide balance in life for children. Through music, humans can express their thoughts and feelings and can control their emotional aspects. As for singing, it is part of music. Songs function as a tool to express thoughts and feelings to communicate.

In essence, songs for children are as follows:

1. Emotional Language, where through singing children can express their feelings, happiness, humor, amazement, emotion.
2. Tonal language, because songs can be heard, sung, and communicated.
3. Movement Language, movement in singing is depicted in the rhythm (regular movements/beats), in the beat (long and short, irregular movements/beats), and in the melody (high and low movements).

Furthermore, Alfaridi (2006) explained based on the experience of English teachers and according to language experts as stated by Abdulrahman Al-Faridi, English songs can help teachers to create active, creative and enjoyable learning (Nurul, 2014). Singing and music are used as techniques in the English learning process. Music that has various elements in it can be used as a form of facility to develop children's cognitive abilities. The pitch gives children the opportunity to train their hearing sensitivity. Changes in rhythm or rhythm of music train children to distinguish internal rhythms (inner rhythm) and their motor skills (for example, if combined with movement exercises according to the lyrics) (Nurul, 2014).

3. Teaching English by using games

Widiputera (2004) explains that in learning English there are many methods and techniques that can be used, including:

- a. Story Telling
- b. Role Play
- c. Art and Crafts (Arts and Handicrafts)
- d. Games,
- e. Show and Tell,
- f. Music and Movement (Movement and Songs) which includes singing (Singing) Learning English using games (games as the media).

The student learning process becomes more interactive, with the element of AI (artificial intelligence) or artificial intelligence in the game media, there will be two-way communication where questions appear randomly on the computer screen and students answer the questions. With the increasing computer programming in AI, the games created can be increasingly complex adjusted to the level of ability of the students themselves.

An example is a simulation game.

- The amount of teaching and learning time can be reduced. With game media, teachers do not need to spend a lot of time explaining the material. With game media, students can train themselves by interacting with game media about a material they want to learn.
- The quality of student learning can be improved In addition to being more efficient in the teaching and learning process as described above, game media can help students absorb learning materials more deeply and completely. This is because game media is more

interesting because there are visual and audio elements but also interactive which allows students to interact with game programs about a subject.

An example is a quiz game.

- The learning process can occur anywhere and anytime The rapid development of technology allows students today to have laptops at low prices. This device has the advantage of being portable and can be used anytime. Game media is usually in the form of interactive CDs that can be used anytime. So that game media as a learning medium can be used anytime and anywhere.
- Students' positive attitudes towards learning materials and the learning process itself can be improved. With media, the teaching and learning process becomes more interesting. This can increase students' love and appreciation for science and the process of seeking knowledge itself.
- The role of teachers can change to a more positive and productive direction. First, teachers do not need to repeat their explanations when media is used in learning. Second, by reducing verbal (oral) descriptions, teachers can pay more attention to other aspects of learning. Third, the role of teachers is no longer just a "teacher", but also a consultant, advisor, or learning manager.

4. Teaching English by using stories

Learning English can be done in various ways, one of which is by reading short stories in English. By reading English sentences but still easy to understand will greatly help us in understanding the English story. The steps for implementing learning English by telling stories are as follows:

- a. Prepare media, teaching aids and if necessary, a teacher must memorize the story first.
- b. Create a pleasant, comfortable atmosphere and make children curious about the story we will read.
- c. Before telling the story, make an agreement with the child. Don't ask anyone before you finish the story. If any of your children want to ask questions, please hold off for now.
- d. So, read the story as enthusiastically and as interestingly as possible. After finishing reading the story, ask the child to repeat what we told them. If anyone asks questions, please do so.

METHOD

This research has been conducted using qualitative research with descriptive methods. According to Straus and Corbin in the book *Qualitative Research Methods* (2023: 19) details that qualitative research can be used to examine community life, history, behavior, functionalization of organizations, social movements, or kinship relationships. Descriptive qualitative is a strategy that describes data systematically, factually, and accurately by trying to explore depth or deeper meaning (Kriyantono, 2020, p. 62).

Research instruments refer to the tools used by researchers to collect data on the concepts to be studied. This instrument allows researchers to obtain the necessary data to facilitate the research process (Arpaci, 2020). In qualitative research, the researcher himself acts as an instrument by directly asking questions, listening, observing, and collecting data through interactions with participants. Researcher involvement is essential in qualitative research to allow for human involvement throughout the research process.

RESULT

1. Use of the TPR (Total Physical Response) Method

This method is effective for improving students' understanding of instructions in English through physical movement. Students find it easier to remember vocabulary and understand the context in which it is used.

2. Storytelling as a Creative Approach

This method helps students in improving their listening and speaking skills. Students are more motivated to understand the content of the story and try to speak in English.

3. Image Utilization in Learning

The use of pictures helps improve students' understanding of the meaning of words and concepts in English. Visualization helps students connect words with real objects, thus accelerating the learning process.

4. Use of Songs as Learning Media

Songs help students memorize vocabulary and sentence structures more easily. Rhythm and melody make the learning process more fun and interactive.

CONCLUSION

Language learning strategies such as TPR, storytelling, pictures and songs are proven to increase the effectiveness of learning English as a foreign language. These strategies not only make students more interested and active in learning, but also help them understand and use English better. Therefore, teachers are advised to combine these methods in teaching English at school.

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