

## TECHNIQUES IN TEACHING VOCABULARY AT THE FIRST GRADE SD CITRA BANGSA SCHOOL PRINGSEWU

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### *Abstract*

*This study reports on research results aimed at investigating the techniques used by a teacher and techniques employed implemented to be teach vocabulary to students, as well as students' responses in employing those techniques. Interview, observation, and documentation were carried out to collect the data. The findings indicate that the teacher applied various techniques with various responses in teaching vocabulary. In teaching vocabulary, the teacher mostly employed Repetition drill, vocabulary networks, guess the word, guess the picture, and sing a song. It is relevant to procedure of techniques in teaching English vocabulary. Most of the students of first grade give positive response, they were very enthusiastic and motivated by the techniques used by the teacher.*

*Keywords: Teaching techniques, vocabulary, presenting vocabulary.*

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Vocabulary is main parts of English. By having bundle of vocabularies, the students can speak well, understand what the other say, able to write and comprehend ideas in reading. Improving students' vocabulary is very important, even though it is not main goal of the learning process Thornburry, (2002:148). Therefore, a teacher in teaching English cannot ignore the vocabulary. It is related to School Based Curriculum (KTSP). In the School Based

Curriculum, teaching English should be integrated with other skills and language competences like speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Vocabulary is a basic component of them. So, the teacher should teach vocabulary first before going to teach other skills. Teaching vocabulary to young learner is not easy. There is a difference between teaching to children and adults. According to Harmer (2007:82), teaching children is not a simple thing. They have complex characteristic. They do not just focus on

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what is being taught, but also learn all sorts of other things at the same time, trying to find information from whatever is going on around them. So, the teacher needs to manipulate some techniques to support the teaching learning process and to introduce new vocabulary to the students because it is one of the teacher's main aims (Harmer, 2001:82).

Based on the information obtained from Education Office in Pringsewu, SD Citra Bangsa School (the research location) is one of the favorite elementary schools in Pringsewu than other elementary school in Pringsewu. The average of students' vocabulary in SD Citra Bangsa School is higher than the other schools. Therefore, based on the explanation above, in this research, the researcher wants to analyze the technique on teaching English vocabulary and the effectiveness of this technique, especially for students of first grade at SD Citra Bangsa School in academic year 2015/2016.

## **2. RESEARCH METHOD**

This study used qualitative method. According to Dornyei (2008: 196), the purpose of qualitative research is to provide descriptions of social phenomena which happen naturally. This qualitative research that involved descriptive study

was conducted in SD Citra Bangsa School Pringsewu. The participant of this research was English teacher who teach in first grade and the students in first grade. The data collecting techniques used in this research were observation, interview, and documentation based on Takač (2008:67).

## **3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

Based on the result of observation, interview and documentation in SD Citra Bangsa School the researcher got some data about the techniques used by the teacher in teaching vocabulary. Then, the researcher discusses about techniques of teaching vocabulary, what techniques are employed by the teacher, how the techniques employed implemented, and what are the students' responses in employing those techniques. It is also presented in the form of procedural texts.

### **1. Techniques employed by the teacher in presenting the teaching of vocabulary to the learners.**

Based on the result of observation, interview and documentation, the researcher found some data about the techniques used by the teacher in teaching vocabulary. The teacher used 5 techniques in teaching vocabulary. They were repetition drill, vocabulary

networks, guess the word, guess the picture, and sing a song.

## **2. How the techniques employed is implemented to be teach vocabulary to students**

Based on the result of observation, the writer got data about the using of vocabulary teaching techniques at first grade students of SD SD Citra Bangsa School. The detailed uses of those techniques were described as follow:

### **a. Repetition Drill**

Based on the observation and interview, by used repetition drill can help them to memorize the words. The procedure of this technique is very easy. First, the teacher explained the materials and then at the end the teacher repeated the materials again. In the third observation, the teacher taught about Things in the bedroom. First the teacher gave explanation about the things in the bedroom and after that in the end the teacher repeated the lesson again to make the students understood and remembered the words.

### **b. Vocabulary Network**

During the observation, the researcher found that the teacher of in the first class used vocabulary networks two times. In the first meeting in English

class, the teacher given the the topic *Part of House*. In this lesson, teachers tells the story of the picture given (Nation, 2003:129). There is a picture of house shown by teacher provide to students. Then, the teacher enthusiastically explained by asking existing space around the house to students. Students are able to mention and understand all the room around the house. Teacher writes the topic in the middle circle in English, and draws five legs of spider because one of the activities today is making spider word/mind mapping. Teacher asks each child to put a word in the middle (related to the topic have learned before) on the five bottom lines of each of the outer circles. Students begin to mention one by one. In the second meeting, the teacher given the topic: Things in the bedroom. The *Vocabulary network* still used in the class to introduced the new vocabulary. The procedures of this technique is still same with lesson before. teachers tells the story of the picture given. There is a picture of bedroom shown by teacher provide to students. Then, the teacher explained by asking existing space around the house to students. Students are able to mention and understand all the things around the bedroom. Teacher writes the topic in the middle circle in

English, and draws six legs of spider because one of the activities today is making spider word/mind mapping. Teacher asks each child to put a word in the middle (related to the topic have learned before) on the six bottom lines of each of the outer circles. Students begin to mention one by one part of living room. And the teachers write down the part of bedroom in English.

### **c. Guess the Word**

Based on observation, *guess the words* often used by the teacher of first grade. Almost every meeting, this technique is used in various activities. The purpose was to brainstorm students' ideas and also make students active in class. In the first meeting meeting with the topic: Part of house, teacher give the characteristics of a certain room of house. After that, students guess what a room it is. When students began to silent and look surrender to answer, teacher stand in front of class and start to give clues, students try to answer the room is meant by teacher.

In the third meeting with topic: Things in the bedroom. The researcher found *guess the words* as a technique that were used by the teacher. At the beginning of the learning, the teacher asks question based on the topic of the

day. Students guess what things in the bedroom, after that teacher stand in front of class and start to give clues, and students try to answer the question.

The observation in the fourth meeting was conducted in the first grade student of SD Citra Bangsa School Pringsewu with the topic: Part of body. The teacher used *guess the words* as one of the technique in teaching vocabulary. The procedures of *guess the word* are not different with before activity. The first, teacher story about daily routines such as breakfast, brush your teeth, go to school, watching tv, etc. After that the teacher given the question about part of body based on the story before. The students try to guess the name's part of body.

The teacher used guess the word to the students and most of the students could remember the meaning of the words. Besides that, the students were active in answering the questions.

### **d. Guess the Picture**

Teacher of first grade teach vocabulary by using picture (flashcard). Here, teacher asks certain flashcard and students guess what the picture it is. In teaching vocabulary using pictures (flash card) is a good way to make children understand and easy to follow the

vocabulary lesson. They study and have fun with the activities from the teachers. The researcher found the *Guess the picture* in three meeting. First, with topic Part of body. The procedure and activities of making flashcards in the first meeting at first class as follow:

First, the teacher gives a copy of the picture, related to the topic. The topic is House. After that, the teacher asks students to make flashcards as well as their creativity. Teachers prepares the tools for making flashcard; scissors, glue and color pencils/crayons. After the ingredients prepared, the students try to make the best colorful flashcards. Then, the students start by cut the picture and it's name were provided by the teacher, the students pressed further into the image and name of colorful paper. And the last, students use their flashcards to learn more about room around the house with the teacher.

#### **e. Sing A Song**

Based on the observation, the researcher found the *Sing a song* as one of the techniques that used by teacher in teaching vocabulary. In the second meeting, with the topic: Part of house. And in the sixth meeting, with the topic: Part of Body. Teacher gives song that is related to the topic in the first grade.

Teaching vocabulary to the SD Citra Bangsa School students using songs is appropriate and helped them to memorize the new words easily.

### **3. The students' responses in employing those techniques.**

Based on the observation and interview in SD Citra bangsa School at the first grade, the researcher found 4 techniques used by the teacher in teaching vocabulary. In each technique given, the students gives the responses in each techniques.

#### **a. Repeatation Drill**

Repetition Drill became a part of teaching vocabulary by the teacher at SD Citra Bangsa School to expand the context range of an item and make students easy and always remember the new words. From the observation, the researchers looked at the students actively repeat the word what the teacher said.

#### **b. Vocabulary Network**

Vocabulary network is effective enough to teach vocabulary, but it will be less effective when they know little references of words. It will be more effective when it is used to help them classify group words. When the teacher used this technique, the students gave

positive response by showing their interest, enthusiasm and motivation during the action. It was known from observation and interview done during the research.

### **c. Guess the word**

Based on the result of observation and interview, the teacher of first grade also uses “guessing word” as her techniques to introduce some new vocabularies. Most students seem curious to do this activity. It is very effective in improving their curiosity. Meanwhile, most students of first grade are enthusiastic in guessing some words using various activities. It is effective to warm up them when they lost their interest in the middle of teaching and learning process.

### **d. Guess the Picture**

From the observation and interview, most technique of teaching vocabulary used in first grade is guessing picture by using real objects, pictures, and flashcards. Most of the students were enthusiastic to guess some things appointed by teacher. It is very effective to recall their schemata to guess the words in the target language. From the finding research above, it can be described that guess picture is effective to be used in various activities. From my

observation, the students were really enthusiastic when cutting and patching the pictures based on the vocabulary given by the teacher. They also patched the pictures with the meaning on the wall so while they sat or played in the class they still remembered the vocabulary through pictures.

### **e. Sing a Song**

The result of this study showed that the technique in learning vocabulary using songs can help students memorize some new words easily. Besides, it also created a very good atmosphere in class and reduce tense, so every students felt enjoy in their study and the quality of learning process was increasing. The evidence showed that the students were enthusiastic in doing the exercise and the evaluation was very good. Similarly, the teacher was also enthusiastic in vocabulary teaching technique through songs because it can help her evaluate and control the classroom. In brief, in teaching and learning English vocabulary by using songs gave a very good response for both students and teacher. So, it constituted a valuable thing in achieving the goal of English teaching and learning process.

## **4. CONCLUSION**

This research focused on techniques in teaching vocabulary in SD Citra Bangsa School Pringsewu Lampung at the first grade. The purpose of the study was to find out the techniques employed by the teacher in presenting the teaching of vocabulary to the learners, to find out techniques employed implemented to be teach vocabulary to students, and to find out the students' responses in employing those techniques.

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