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INCREASING INTEREST IN LEARNING ENGLISH IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS THROUGH GUESSING VOCABULARY

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Abstract

English has become a very popular language today and has become an important need in the current era of globalization, including among elementary school students. However, students' interest in learning English is often very low and there is no motivation to learn English, including in rural areas. However, over time, English learning has spread to various remote areas or areas in elementary schools, including in rural areas. This community service article aims to increase interest in learning English in elementary school students, precisely at MIM Sawahan, Karakan Village, Weru District, Sukoharjo Regency through the vocabulary guessing method. The method used to increase interest in learning English is by using the tutoring method, which is a way or form of educational and teaching activities in the form of material about basic English that is in accordance with students' abilities and things related to their surroundings. Therefore, with this method, it is hoped that students can be more active and encourage their motivation and interest in the

process of learning English. This vocabulary guessing method is a method or way of learning used in the teaching and learning process for students at school as well as an approach to students so that they can be active and motivated to learn English. In addition, this vocabulary guessing method is a method applied to students because it is easy to understand. The results of this activity show that there is an increase and development and interest of students in learning English. In addition, students experience an increase in mastery of new vocabulary and understanding of the vocabulary.

Keywords: Learning, English, Interests, Students, Elementary School

Abstrak

Bahasa Inggris telah menjadi bahasa yang sangat populer saat ini dan telah menjadi kebutuhan penting di era globalisasi sekarang termasuk di kalangan siswa sekolah dasar. Namun sering kali minat belajar Bahasa Inggris siswa sangat rendah dan tidak adanya motivasi untuk belajar Bahasa Inggris termasuk di daerah pedesaan. Akan tetapi seiring berjalannya waktu pembelajaran Bahasa Inggris telah merambah ke berbagai pelosok atau daerah di sekolah dasar termasuk di pedesaan. Artikel pengabdian ini bertujuan untuk meningkatkan minat belajar Bahasa Inggris pada siswa sekolah dasar tepatnya di MIM Sawahan Desa Karakan Kecamatan Weru Kabupaten Sukoharjo melalui metode tebak kosa kata. Metode yang digunakan untuk meningkatkan minat belajar bahasa Inggris adalah dengan menggunakan metode bimbingan belajar, yaitu suatu cara atau bentuk kegiatan pendidikan dan pengajaran berupa materi tentang bahasa Inggris dasar yang sesuai dengan kemampuan siswa dan hal-hal yang terkait dengan lingkungan sekitarnya. Oleh karena itu dengan adanya metode tersebut diharapkan siswa dapat lebih aktif dan mendorong motivasi serta minat mereka dalam proses belajar Bahasa Inggris. Metode tebak kosa kata ini merupakan suatu metode atau cara pembelajaran yang digunakan dalam proses belajar mengajar pada siswa di sekolah sekaligus merupakan pendekatan terhadap siswa sehingga dapat aktif dan termotivasi untuk belajar bahasa inggris. Selain itu metode tebak kosa kata ini merupakan metode yang diterapkan pada siswa karena mudah dipahami. Hasil dari kegiatan ini menunjukkan bahwa adanya peningkatan dan perkembangan serta minat siswa dalam pembelajaran Bahasa Inggris. Selain itu siswa mengalami peningkatan penguasaan kosa kata baru serta memahami kosa kata tersebut.

Kata kunci: Belajar, Bahasa Inggris, Minat, Siswa, Sekolah Dasar

INTRODUCTION

English is a language that has an important role in the development of science. Not only that, English has an important role in various areas of life such as technology, business, education and transportation. In fact, it is not surprising that English is used throughout the world as the main language of communication. (Arjun, 2024) mastery of English has a significant impact in opening access to educational and career opportunities at various national and international levels. Therefore, learning English from an early age is basic education through the stages of forming basic English language competence.

In Indonesia, learning English has become part of the basic education learning stage starting from elementary school (SD), middle school (SMP), and high school (SMA) so it is not surprising that the development of English is rapidly spreading in various regions. This proves

that the era is increasingly advanced and with the curriculum implemented in Indonesia, namely the independent curriculum which emphasizes the skills and mastery of literacy as global communication because English is an international language that has a very wide reach that can shape students to be ready to face the development of science and technology so that it is important to increase interest in learning English in schools, especially in elementary schools. This aims to be prepared for the future and global competitiveness so that it is important to continue higher education for children to enter the next level.

However, even though English language learning programs exist, the majority of elementary school students face obstacles in developing and increasing their interest in learning English. This obstacle can be caused by several factors, including a lack of motivation to learn on their own, namely students think that learning English is difficult to understand, the learning methods used are less interesting, such as only writing and reading so that students get bored easily, and a lack of support from parents and the surrounding environment which causes students to have no motivation to learn because they do not have support around them, so this is what causes low interest in learning English in elementary school students.

Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Muhammadiyah (MIM) Sawahan is one of the primary/MI school levels located in Karakan Village, Weru District, Sukoharjo Regency which has its own characteristics and challenges in the context of learning English. Therefore, this service activity implements a learning program by increasing interest in learning English in elementary school students through guessing vocabulary precisely at MIM Sawahan.

(Arjun, 2024) has previously shown that learning English at an early age by increasing a strong interest in learning in this language has a long-term positive impact on English language skills at the elementary school level, especially at MIM Sawahan. It can provide appreciation and valuable contributions in helping students who achieve academic success better prepare them for a more international future and (Zulfitri & Nurlaili, 2020) the communicative abilities of dynamic, active and interesting students are expected by teachers in the future to be able to teach English using interesting and engaging methods. fun so that students can master English and be able to understand the lessons given on the theoretical basis that states that with the existence of English language learning, it does not only focus on the linguistic abilities of students but also on the development of the students' communicative abilities. Thus, the communicative abilities of students increase, teachers need to create scenarios to teach language dynamically, actively and interestingly. Teachers are expected to be able to teach English using fun methods so that students can master English easily.

One form of activity used to increase interest in learning English is by using the vocabulary guessing technique which is an effective and interesting technique to use in mastering vocabulary in English for students. The vocabulary guessing method has proven to be effective and interesting to use in the English learning process to increase students' interest in learning. This is proven by (Arjun, 2024) that the introduction of English at an early age and the formation of a strong interest in learning the language have a long-term positive impact on students' English language skills. (Zulfitri & Nurlaili, 2020) the introduction of vocabulary is very important to become a person's basis for language so that it can indirectly bridge students' skills in speaking English in the future. The vocabulary taught to students at MIM Sawahan includes nature, plants, school supplies, facial expressions, food and drink and objects around the school and outside the school. Learning using the vocabulary guessing technique is carried out when the teaching and learning process is taking place in the classroom by asking questions in the form of vocabulary and then being asked to answer the meaning of the vocabulary or

vocabulary in turns. Apart from that, students can make rows in rows backwards and each student is asked questions in the form of vocabulary and then answers the meaning of the vocabulary.

METHODS

The method used in this service activity is by using the tutoring method which is a form of educational activity or a form of teaching in the form of material. This tutoring activity is carried out by providing material according to a predetermined schedule. (Rahayu, 2023) english language guidance training method given to school students regarding basic English according to their abilities. The focus of the English material in this guidance is basic English used in everyday life but remains appropriate to the age of the students. This activity in the form of an English tutoring method is guided by 3 service teams or people who carry out service activities at the school with) (Baharu, 2022) the aim of providing knowledge and increasing interest in learning English through guessing good and correct vocabulary so as to provide sufficient provision for students. them to be able to adapt to the subjects in question and achieve maximum results. (Kepada et al., 2024) the task of each service team in tutoring assistance is to provide teaching assistance to students. However, students have been directed regarding the learning model that will be applied. Through this guidance program, it is hoped that elementary school students will have a basic understanding of English before continuing to the next level, namely junior high school and beyond. Apart from that, they also practice using basic English in daily life communication.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This service activity was carried out at MIM Sawahan, Karakan Village, Weru District, Sukoharjo Regency, targeting all students in each class (Inar & Thariq, 2023). This activity certainly does not escape support from the school in fostering enthusiasm and motivation for learning among students at MIM Sawahan. This activity is an effort to encourage students from elementary school to recognize and understand English vocabulary as one of the subjects that needs to be taught to children in the current era.

During this service activity, students are taught vocabulary from the surrounding environment, such as nature, plants, school supplies, facial expressions, food and drinks and objects around the school and outside the school in Indonesian, then translated into Indonesian. English. This activity is carried out every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Every student has the opportunity to read, write, memorize, play and answer (Wanti et al., 2021). Apart from that, the service team is trying to provide learning tools such as small whiteboards, interesting story books and markers that will be used during learning activities as well as providing snakes and ladders as a form of game in learning to increase children's interest in learning English.

This form of activity is an effort to arouse students' enthusiasm and interest in English learning activities. The results of this activity found that students were very enthusiastic and enthusiastic in participating in English learning activities using vocabulary guessing techniques. This is proven by the students' activeness and participation when taking part in learning and playing as well as answering questions related to the vocabulary asked. (Febrina Putri, 2022) however, some students may appear less enthusiastic during learning activities, for this reason the service team uses fun learning methods such as singing and also interacting with questions and answers to find out students' understanding of the material that has been presented as well as attracting their attention so that they don't bored.

The results of this activity show that the impact of using vocabulary guessing techniques in English learning activities is interesting and increases students' interest in learning at MIM Sawahan. (Inar & Thariq, 2023) although each activity has a different increase, basically it shows a significant increase. The use of snakes and ladders media as a learning medium through guessing vocabulary is able to attract students' attention in every learning activity and increase students' interest in learning and have a positive impact on them because with this activity children are more enthusiastic about learning, by studying together they can be motivated to Participate in learning activities together as best as possible, gain more knowledge and new vocabulary in the English language being studied. And by using vocabulary guesses, students can more easily understand and remember vocabulary during learning because the material is presented in an interesting way by the teacher and the topics in the material are also close to students' daily lives. This vocabulary guessing method was well received and responded to by students during the learning process, they looked very enthusiastic and active considering that it was challenging to guess the vocabulary given so they were more enthusiastic to answer it. Not only that, sometimes the material was given in groups so that during the question and answer session, the activeness and interaction with the material that had been given could be seen.

(Wanti et al., 2021) this English learning activity through the use of guessing vocabulary received a positive response from both the principal and teachers, especially English teachers. Therefore, it is hoped that the implementation of guessing vocabulary can be implemented continuously in English learning activities at MIM Sawahan so that students' interest and motivation continues to increase and they have a love for learning English as an instrument for developing skills in the future.



Figure 1. Vocabulary Learning Activities in Class

The picture on the side shows the existence of direct teaching and learning activities in the classroom. This proves that there is direct interaction between teachers and students to increase students' interest in learning English.



Figure 2. Train Students to Read English Vocabulary

The picture shows that there is a vocabulary reading practice activity with student to emphasize the importance of skills and mastery in pronunciation and meaning of the vocabulary given.



Figure 3. Vocabulary Learning in Snakes

The use of snakes and ladders media in vocabulary learning is a strategy or way to increase students' interest in learning English with media that is fun, interesting and helps students remember vocabulary more easily.



Figure 4. Play Guess Vocabulary and Ladders Media

With activities such as playing guessing vocabulary, students can be more active in improving their understanding of vocabulary effectively based on fun games.

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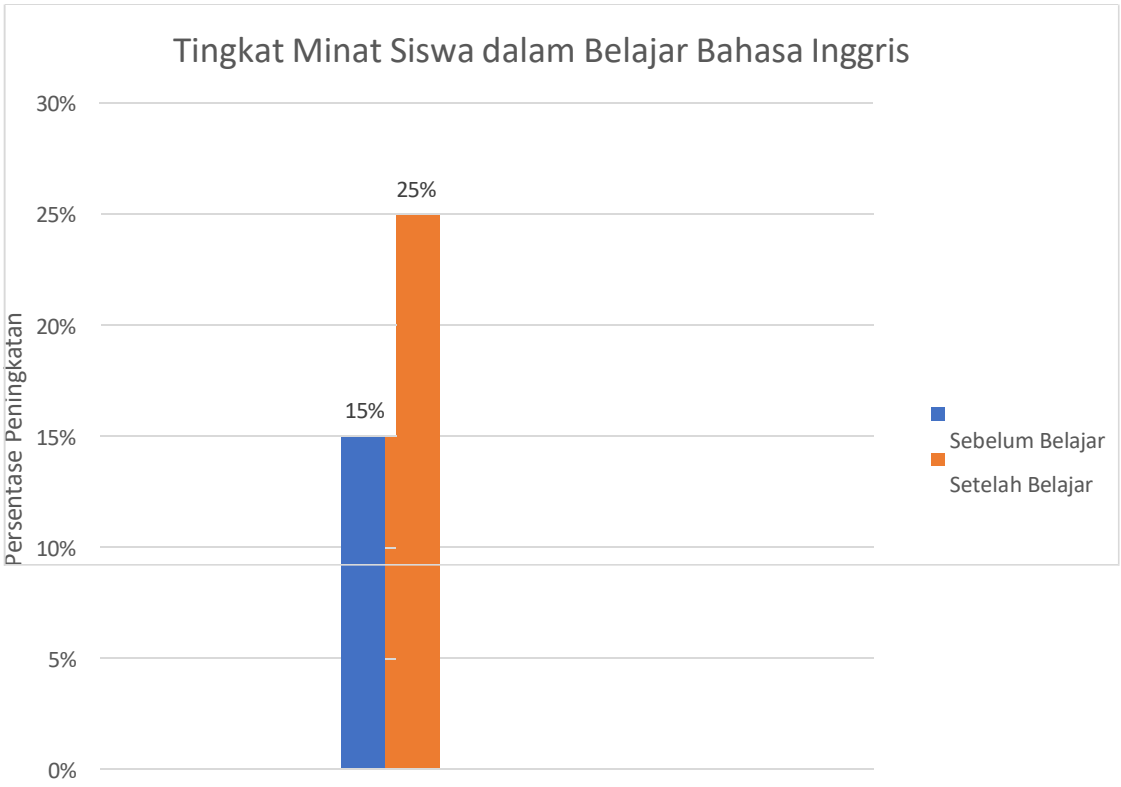


Figure 5. Diagram of Results of Increasing Interest in Learning English in Students

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of activities carried out at MIM Sawahan, Karakan Village, Weru District, Sukoharjo Regency, it can be concluded that after the service program for schools in the form of increasing interest in learning English among elementary school students, students who have received learning from this service program have resulted in improvements and understanding related to learning English through guessing vocabulary. The material taught is about nature, plants, school supplies, facial expressions, food and drink as well as objects around the school and outside the school that are easy for students to understand because it is related and close to their daily lives, although there are still some obstacles. students who do not want to pay attention to the material when learning is carried out in class and find it difficult to pronounce vocabulary that matches their pronunciation, but with this obstacle they can be overcome by providing interesting learning methods such as singing and games and teaching vocabulary that is easy and in accordance with their pronunciation so that students can pay attention and understand the material that has been taught well (Juniartha et al., 2023).

The supporting factor for this service activity is that students are very enthusiastic and motivated when this service activity is carried out. They said that this learning was fun because there were games that were played so that learning English was easy to understand. As for suggestions for teachers or educational institutions, especially at the Muhammadiyah Sawahan Karakan Elementary School, this method has been proven and is effective, therefore it is recommended to continue implementing vocabulary guessing-based learning methods and evaluating related learning so that students are more capable and understand English vocabulary and can apply it to everyday life. In this study, there are limitations in research, namely the short research time and also the research location which is far and difficult to reach, so that the results of this study are less than optimal.

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