

Improving Motivation, Interest, and Strategies for Learning English Based On Genders

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Abstrak

In the current global era, there will be more developments occur in this country. Starting from free marketing and the growing number of foreign companies in Indonesia so that the use of international languages such as English has been used very widely, of course for prospective entrepreneurs and job seekers. It is a must to be able to master English in order to be able to keep up with the times in this era of globalization. English is the most widely used language in the world. It is the mother tongue for more than 400 million people worldwide. In every day millions of people use English at work and in their social life. When the head of government meets, English is the language most often used. And when people from different nations meet each other, English is the only language used by them. Having experienced a combination of various words from various languages throughout history, modern English has a very large vocabulary, with complex and irregular spellings, especially vowels. Modern English is not only a combination of European languages, but also from various languages throughout the world. The Oxford English Dictionary contains a list of more than 250,000 different words, not including technical, scientific, and slang terms that are also very large in number. Even if it is seen from the importance of the role in English today, many things must be done to improve the effectiveness and time efficiency in learning English. For example, having daily conversations in English speaks that the cadets of cadets at SMK Pelayaran Samudra Indonesia Medan will go directly to the sea and interact with various kinds of people from abroad so it is important to be proficient in English conversation. With the presence of learning media in the form of books that contain conversations or more familiar with conversations relating to daily life at SMK Pelayaran Samudra Indonesia Medan, the school needs to train cadets about the use of English to facilitate foreign language skills considering that in Indonesia English is still a Foreign Language and not as a Second Language. Based on the explanation, that is why this training is important and needs to be done to improve motivation, interests, and strategies for learning English based on gender.

Kata kunci: motivation, interest, strategy, learning english, gender

1. Introduction

Learning English is an effort that is not easy, especially for a junior or senior high school student. English has specificity which is a demand to be understood, related to its existence as a foreign language for Indonesian students, English subjects at the secondary school level are subjects that require hard work to master them, moreover the 2013 curriculum plans to eliminate these subjects at the elementary school level. The absence of these subjects at the elementary school level has the effect of making high school students struggling to get acquainted with these subjects, and at the same time, students are required to master these subjects.

When viewed from the current pattern of school management, many things must be managed using English for effectiveness and efficiency in getting used to speaking English. For example school management, administration, financial management, presentation to reporting that can be used with English as the language of instruction. Many other books or media are available to improve English as a strategy for mastering English. Seeing the fact above, special attention is needed for students who have not mastered English in the hope that after attending this training all students can master English and practice to improve their English skills. Based on the description above, this training is considered important and needs to be done to the students in SMK Pelayaran Samudera Indonesia Medan those who have not mastered English.

Based on the background description above, the formulation of the problems in this activity are:

- a. What is the condition of the level of language proficiency at SMK Pelayaran Samudera Indonesia Medan?
- b. What needs to be prepared in the implementation of the community service program to train motivation, interests, and learning strategies based on gender in English at SMK Pelayaran Samudera Indonesia Medan?

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- c. How is the method applied in realizing the service program for cadets to train motivation, interests, and strategies for learning English based on gender at SMK Pelayaran Samudera Indonesia Medan?

2. Implementation Method

Preparation of Community Service Activities

Before the activity is carried out, preparations are made as follows:

- a. Conduct literature studies on various media conversations that are still difficult to implement by cadets and how to use them in conversation.
- b. Preparing tools and materials for English conversations.
- c. Determine the timing of the implementation and length of service activities with the implementation team.
- d. Determine and prepare the material to be delivered in community service activities.

Implementation of Community Service Activities

This community service was held on Tuesday, January 30, 2018 from 09.00 to 13.00 WIB, with 16 participants attending. The activity is in the form of delivering training material in the form of theories and tips for training motivation, interests and strategies for learning English. Each participant asked a direct question and answer about what their interests and motivations were in their learning and how their English learning strategies were helped by the implementing members.

Target Audience

The chosen target audience is cadets of SMK Pelayaran Samudra Indonesia Medan. The chosen place is the class room of SMK Pelayaran Samudra Indonesia Medan.



Figure 1. Implementation Photo



Figure 2. Implementation Photo

Relevance for the Teachers

The activity of this service has relevance to the needs and demands of work after cadets completed their education at the vocational school and went into the field to work. Based on the results of the survey before the implementation, the cadets still had difficulties in conducting English conversations because the number of English teachers was small so that it took quite a long time. So that with this training it is expected that teachers can adopt effective ways to improve cadets' skills in foreign languages, especially English.

3. The Result of the Implementation

Based on interviews, question and answer and direct observation during the activity, this community service activity gave the following results:

- a. Increased knowledge and understanding of cadets in using English in everyday conversation.
- b. Increased teacher skills in making conversations that must be familiarized so that they can be applied in teaching and learning activities.

Some of the factors that support the implementation of community service activities are the amount of interest and enthusiasm of cadets during the activity, so that the activities take place smoothly and effectively. While the inhibiting factor is the limited time in this training.

Alternative problem solving is done by holding workshops and training on motivation, interests, and strategies for learning English based on gender, so hopefully the marine cadet candidates have knowledge and skills in language, interacting and using English media as a communication tool without any differentiation of motivational abilities in each gender. Students are trained directly in English speaking conversations which are very crucial, such as how to ask important things to friends or friends to the colors of a foreign country when they have been involved in the voyage in carrying out their duties.

4. Conclusion

After improving of motivation, interest, and strategies for learning English, cadets were increasingly aware of the importance of the ability to use English. Some teachers have used English in the teaching and learning process. Concerned with the magnitude of the benefits of community service activities, then it is necessary to marine cadet candidates s to practice the knowledge acquired during training in the English conversation process. The support of the school is expected to be improved, especially in terms of the completeness of the English-based book to support the improvement of

human resources in the field of communication that is very much needed when interacting with foreigners. For follow-up of training activities, it is expected that the school can allocate time for teachers in using language laboratory facilities so that the knowledge that has been obtained during the training can be utilized and developed as well as possible.

References

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