

The Instructional Media to Teach English for Young Learner

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Received: 10 January 2022; Accepted: 15 March 2022; Published: 25 March 2022

Abstract

The purpose of this article is to discover the applicable Instructional Media to help teacher in teaching English for young learners for different situations. This study used library research, which this research is a series of activities related to the method of collecting library data. Instructional Media is a facilitation used to implement instruction given by the teacher. It is also facilitate students to have a better understanding to the material. In a similar vein Adegun (1997) says instructional media are things which are intended to help the teacher to teach more effectively and enable the students to learn more readily. Considering the characteristics of young learner, the media used have to be interest for students. From the discussion, there are five medias can be used to teach English for young learners, such as realia, pictures, boards, flipcharts, and Internet.

Keywords: *Instructional media; English; Teaching; Young Learner*

Introduction

In this era, English becomes an important thing because it is the tool to communicate with people from all around the world. Moge, T. (2019:9) states “English is an international language used all over the world, for education, technology, political, and commercial purpose”. It is a must for student to develop their language or they will troubled when they grow up, since their limitation of language.

English should be taught and practiced starting in elementary school, whether inside or outside of the classroom (Wajong, S. H., Sanerita, T., & Rombepajung, 2020). Students must begin learning English as soon as possible. There should be no exceptions for young learners who should begin studying English as an international language as soon as possible.

Learning is an activity undertaken with the aim of acquiring knowledge, mastering certain competencies and forming student attitudes (Puspitarini, 2019). The success of learning can be seen from the changes in behavior and student learning outcomes. Learning activities will run smoothly when students have the motivation to learn.

Teaching English for young learner is not easy, especially when the language being taught is a foreign language. Teaching to young learners will be fail if the teachers are not able to provide them with pleasant learning situations that the teachers may lead young learners into feeling of hatred toward the language (Prayatni, 2019). Considering that their characteristics are easily distracted and easily get bored, the teacher should think for the best way to gain their attention. Not only the media to use for teacher but also the teacher's personality. In the teaching-learning process, teachers must be more attractive, helpful, patient, friendly, and innovative in teaching process. Making pupils enjoy learning a foreign language becomes the primary goal of instruction.

According to a study conducted by Fachrur Rozie (2018) shows that the use of learning media and teaching process is not optimal. It can be seen from the teaching process, the teacher didn't use interesting learning media. It caused students feel bored and didn't pay attention to the teacher (Wowor & Samola, 2020). In addition, learning interactions in the classroom are still relatively low, students tend to be passive, do not dare to express opinions or questions, so students are less active in the learning process. There is also students who talk with another student when the teacher is explaining the lesson. The results of observations also show that teachers in teaching a material still tend to be conventional, namely using the lecture method combined with question and answer (Lengkoan et al, 2022). This indicates that the teacher's teaching methods have not varied. Many teachers rely only on school-provided media and present the content without engaging the pupils. They only use books as media material, the other media are not used or lack interest in using them. This problem occurs because people believe that excellent media are costly and complex.

Piaget as cited in Saud & Rahman (2019) elucidates that elementary school students passing through the stage of thinking concretely, requiring many illustrations, models, pictures, and other activities. It implies that the English teacher must utilize a range of methods, approaches, or media to adapt to the requirements of the students while studying in order to accomplish the learning objectives (Parante, Liando & Andries, 2022). Teaching English in elementary schools is not simple, and it is not the same as teaching in junior or senior high school. This is due to the fact that the features of a young learner different from those of other learners. Furthermore, the instructor must establish a pleasant classroom environment, for example, via the use of instructional material. That's why the researcher wants to write about media to teach english for young learner.

The meaning of instructional media is anything that may be utilized to stimulate children's ideas, attention, and emotions in effort to enhance the learning process. According to Puyada, Ganefri, Ambiyar, Wulansari, and

Hayadi (2018), instructional media is any kind of learning medium that may be utilized in a learning process to improve effectiveness and efficiency in attaining a learning goal. Aside from that, in order to accomplish the learning goals, the teacher must choose media, methods, and techniques that are suitable to the characteristics of the pupils, particularly in primary school, so that the class is enjoyable and does not boring. Furthermore, Puyada et al. (2018) state that English instructors of young learner courses must be able to provide the class with resources that are both engaging and user pleasant in order for the teacher to assist children learn English more effectively.

This study aims to find out what kinds of instructional media that are used in teaching English to young learners. From the background above, research question is formulated as follows: What types of media teachers can use in teaching English language for young learners? By gaining knowledge about the solutions to this question, it is hoped that the quality of teaching and learning will improve, and the local government will devote further resources to making instructional media accessible in all primary schools.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Teaching English to Young Learner

The young learners are the students of the elementary school from the age 6-12 years old. They can be subdivided into two groups; they are younger group (6-8 year old) and older group (9-12 year old). According to their level, they are called as students of lower classes (first, second, and third year students) and upper classes (four, fifth, and six year old).

Cameroon Cited in Sulistiono (2017) Teaching English to a child is not as simple as teaching English to an adult it is totally different. Teachers must demonstrate a greater capacity for imparting fundamental knowledge to young learners. To teach a young learner, special emphasis must be paid to the importance of caring during the learning process (Kandati & Tatipang, 2021). It is not as straightforward as the researcher believed; the teacher must have a sense of patience, be creative, have a sense of humor, and be a mother figure to the little student.

There are 7 characteristics of young learner :

1. Young learners get bored quickly.

If the activities are not interesting and engaging enough, young learners get bored easily. This is because they have a limited attention span. Generally, after ten minutes, they can get disinterested in the activity at hand, especially if it is taught directly and is devoid of the elements of play.

2. Young learners are meaning-oriented

They may understand what is being said without necessarily understanding every individual word. They may not only guess and interpret what is being uttered but they also respond to it with whatever language resources they have at their disposal.

3. Young learners like to discover things

They are characterized by curiosity and enthusiasm. They like to make sense of the world around them through engaging and motivating activities where they have to discover by themselves rather than being told. They also often learn indirectly from everything around them – not necessarily focusing on the topic being taught.

4. They prefer concrete activities

According to Piaget's cognitive development theory, young learners are still developing. That is, they are still making their way from concrete to abstract thinking. Unlike adults who are more analytical, they are not yet well equipped to learn abstract concepts such as grammar rules. In addition to that, they are more inclined to understand based not only on explanation but more importantly on what they hear, see and touch (Harmer, 2001 p. 82).

5. They are more egocentric

They prefer to talk about themselves. Activities that focus on their lives are their cup of tea. In addition to that, children under the age of 12 need individual attention and approval from the teacher.

6. They are imaginative

Young learners are imaginative. Activities that are full of imagination is a source of enjoyment for them. It is sometimes difficult for them to distinguish reality from imagination.

7. They imitate

They learn by imitating adults. It is amazing how humans imitate and discover things from a very young age. Children acquire communication skills through social interactions. Consequently, because imitation functions as a learning tool, it is rewarding to use it to teach children new skills and knowledge.

Young learners prefer learning by doing, thus experiencing reality (Muhammad Muzakki Aufa, 2018). Learning about or through abstract

concepts is not a preferred teaching method for young learners. Young learners are natural learners when presented with an informal atmosphere that encourages their active participation in making sense of things. They are capable of obtaining knowledge from others when necessary and utilizing what is already known socially and mentally. They explore the nature of their own learning as they progress.

Teachers must pay special attention to the features of young learners. When teachers get an understanding of young learners, it simplifies the process of teaching and enables them to teach effectively.

Instructional Media

In learning and teaching activity, Instructional media gives some benefit for students and teacher such as :

- Gain students attention to the teacher
- Students become interest to the material given
- The class become fun and enjoyable
- It is easier to explain materials

There are several types of instructional media that can be provided in teaching English to young learners. In this study, classification of instructional media is used as the reference of the instructional media types. These are the types of instructional media: realia, pictures, boards, flipcharts, and Internet.

1) Realia

Realia are all real media in the classroom and all real media that can be used in observation activities in the environment inside or outside the classroom (Masnunah, 2018). Learning media that can be directly observed by students is called media realia (Fahri, 2020). It means that, Realia are all real media in the classroom, but can be used as an observation activity in the environment to provide real experience to students.

Munadi in Jusmaniar (2020) states that there are three types of realia media, namely real objects, modified real objects, and specimens.

- Real objects

Real objects are real objects that are found in everyday life. For example, various plants to study photosynthesis, balls to study parabolic motion, worms to study self-division, and also other materials.

- Modified real objects

Modified real objects are objects that have been engineered for the purpose of learning a particular material. Examples of real objects that are modified are science props such as water rockets from bottles and also miniature volcanoes.

- Specimen

Specimen is a sample of an object that represents the characteristics of a group. Suppose a butterfly of a certain species is observed to study its life cycle. Another example, a tadpole of a certain species of frog that was observed metamorphosis. Usually the specimen is placed in a closed container, it can be a bottle, box, or aquarium.

The advantages of realia The advantages of realia media, namely:

- Easy to obtain because it utilizes objects around it
- Foster students' enthusiasm and curiosity
- Provide opportunities for students to experience learning directly Train students' motor and sensory skills
- Provide students with an understanding of the real application of science

In addition beside having advantages, there are disadvantages to media relia:

- There are objects that are too large so students have to come to their place
- There are objects that are too small so difficult to see with the naked eye (requires the help of a microscope)
- There is a risk of damage to objects or media
- Some objects can harm students and teachers Bringing students into an out-of-school environment poses the risk of an accident

2) Pictures

Among the many educational media, images is a medium that is very easy for us to find. Words and pictures make a very good combination in the process of sending messages, information or materials lesson (Anggraini, 2017). The result of learning only through words should be different from learning outcomes through blending words and pictures. Pictures media is a visual form that is used in the learning process (Haq, N. 2018). This media has no sound element and can only be seen.

The use of picture in teaching English as a foreign language has important role in the teaching and learning process (Fata, 2018). Picture is already known as one of the teaching media which is also known as visual aid is useful in teaching learning activity. Visual aids help learners retain more of the information that has been delivered to them.

There are advantages of the pictures as follows:

- Pictures are inexpensive and widely available.
- They provide common experiences for an entire group.

- The visual detail makes it possible to study subjects which would otherwise be impossible.
- Pictures can help to prevent and correct misconceptions.
- Pictures offers stimulus to further study, reading and research. Visual evidence is a powerful tool.
- They help to focus attention and to develop critical judgment.
- They are easily manipulated.

Pictures not only have advantages in some cases, but they also have disadvantage as media in teaching learning process. For example, unclear pictures will make the students misunderstand of what the picture describe.

3) Board

Boards refer to whiteboard of blackboard. The board is one of the main media for learning in the classroom. Because of the many benefits use of the board in the classroom, among which can be used for explain the subject matter, how to write, draw pictures, or giving example. Through the board, the teacher can explain the subject matter, both parts and entirely. The use of whiteboards can also develop students' curiosity. For example, when teacher start to write or draw something in the board, they will curious about what will the teacher write or draw.

According to Sutiarmo (2020), In order to make the board have an impact on student learning outcomes, there are needs to be optimized :

- presenting information that is systematic, clear, detailed, easy to understand, interesting and meaningful, and dividing the blackboard into 3 parts,
- cleaning first and avoiding writing. scribbles, scribbles, or pictures that are not important, as well as preparing blanks for writing important words,
- positioning the blackboard and teacher in a balanced way,
- the position of the blackboard should be adjusted to the student's vision range or the student's eye range,
- the position of the vertical angle of vision from the farthest seat is 45° both to the right and left of the blackboard, and the horizontal angle of vision from the farthest seat is 30°, and
- use greenboard

A good board should also pay attention to its color. Even though there are many choices color, experts argue that the ideal blackboard color is green (more primary) and black. The reason is that the green color makes the eyes

less tired and the color green emits a middle color wave (balanced; not too long and not too short). That is, the green color also corresponds to the five senses of the eye so that the eyes does not require extra effort to see and is more natural.

4) Flipcharts

Flipchart is a chart or feedback chart that presents information (Aziz, 2020). The parts of the message are written or outlined in separate sheets, and then the sheets are bundled into one. To use the flipchart is only to turn the sheets one by one according to the message delivered.

One of the creative and innovative media learning is Flipchart. Flipchart using attractive drawings to represent annotations. Flipchart is a sheet of paper containing materials neat and well arranged. The use of this media is one way to save teacher's time to write on the Board. The presentation of this information can be in the form of drawings, diagrams, letters, and numbers." The concepts in the form of pictures and charts-chart will make it easier for students to understand the lessons. Furthermore, this learning media can be used independently and minimizing teacher's help.

Use Flipcharts is expected to encourage an interest in due to work with student learning, students not only listened to a description of the material that is delivered with a teacher lecturing but students are also invited to view the evidence visualized chart. Flipcharts can also save time for the teacher to write on the Board. It was reinforced by a statement of the Pike that by adding visual images on subjects, time to deliver the verbal presentation of the concept is reduced to 40%.

5) Internet

Internet has been used widely in all aspect of human's life. It is mainly used to connect people all around the world through social networking in purpose for sharing idea, getting fellows, mailing, data exchange, etc (Syawal, 2017). Nowadays internet becomes the most popular information's source that people use to find information needed. Internet also becomes their alternative learning source better than other learning media.

The Internet is mainly equated with assumed basic word processing and web navigation skills, although many children today already have many more sophisticated Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills. Information and Communication Technology (ITC) can be applied in teaching and learning language. Most children enjoy internet, television, radio, youtube, or another mobile learning, particularly for learning English. ICT can

play a crucial role in development of language or second language, in regarding to young people (Dewi,2017).

Teaching English for Young Learners (TEYL) can be integrated with the advancement of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to raise students' potential in learning (Adisti,2018). Using ICT, the classroom will be more flexible and communicative. We can find many ways to attract students' motivation to learn English with technology involving internet, song, youtube, and other media.

According to Dewi (2017) Several ways can be applied to manage the classroom through ICTs:

- Provide some slides in the classroom and explain to the students the materials using the slide.
- Show some pictures to the students to elicit them and motivate them to speak.
- Ask the students to watch a video related to the topic that we learn and ask them “what do you think about the video”.
- Discuss with the students about English materials or current issues of English as second language (foreign language) via whatsapp, google meet, zoom
- Give additional materials to the students through email or chat room
- The students can submit their assignments through email or personal chat whatsapp and directly give them feedback. Interaction can be built from the email, line, whatsapp, and the others.
- Provide songs, play the music and ask them to explain what is the content of the song. The teachers also can ask the students to fill the missing lyric based on the song.

These tips is very suitable with online courses. Since the pandemic, students tend to learn online. So I think this Media is very helpful for young learners.

As can be seen from the definition of instructional media above, there are several sorts of instructional media that may be utilized to facilitate learning tasks. These many sorts provide teachers with a variety of instructional activities and resources. While several educational media have been created, not all of them may be utilized concurrently. The teacher must choose the most suitable instructional medium based on the qualities of the pupils, the content, and the teaching approach.

METHOD

The method used in this study is library research, which this research is a series of activities related to the method of collecting library data. Embun cited in Syakur (2020) states that library research is a research which is conducted based only on written works, including results both research and those that have not been published.

Literature research is a type of qualitative research which is generally carried out by not going into the field in search of data sources. Literature research can also be interpreted as research that is carried out only based on written works, including research results both already and unpublished.

Melfianora (2017) states that the data source for the study of literature studies can be an official source but it can be in the form of seminar reports/ conclusions, notes/ records of scientific discussions, official papers published government and other institutions, both in the form of books/ manuals and digital like form of optical disk, computer or computer data. After collecting the data, researcher described the data descriptively.

FINDINGS AND RESULT

There are five Instructional Media that can be use to help the teacher delivering the material to the students in enjoyable and fun way (Maru et al, 2022). The students will not get bored and easy to understand the material given by the teacher. Each of those instructional media was used for variety of purposes.

Generally, boards served as a notepad, an explanatory help, a picture frame, and a public workbook. Flipcharts can save the teacher's time and students can learn independently. Following that is realia. This kind of instructional material was utilized to engage and elicit students' participation in teaching and learning activities. In contrast to realia, pictures served a variety of functions in the instructions. According to the results, instructors used the pictures to drill vocabulary, communicate meaning, and debate the lesson. The last one is Internet. Using ICT, the classroom will be more flexible and communicative

According to Reiser and Dick Cited in Reftyawati (2017), in selecting instructional media, the teachers should consider three main factors comprising: (1) practicality (available, cost efficient and time efficient); (2) appropriateness for students (consider students' characteristics and learning condition) and (3) instructional appropriateness (employ appropriate materials, instructional goals and activities).

CONCLUSION

After reviewing some journals, it is found that there was insufficient of instructional medias in most of the primary schools especially in the remote areas. Additionally, there was a deficiency in the use of various instructional media.

Teachers paid less attention to the instructional media's suitability for the students' qualities. As a result, the supply of instructional media in primary schools should be given priority. In addition, it is expected that the local government would place a greater emphasis on providing fair access to instructional media in all primary schools.

Finally, teachers are required to be able to use accessible educational resources while taking into account the unique qualities of their students. Additionally, they are required to learn how to employ high-tech instructional material to improve the quality of training.

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