

THE USE OF CARTOON MOVIE AS A MEDIA IN TEACHING VOCABULARY TO YOUNG LEARNERS

A Cartoon Movie for Young Learners

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Abstrak

Media adalah salah satu alat untuk mempermudah penyampaian pembelajaran oleh guru kepada siswa. Media juga bertujuan untuk membuat proses belajar mengajar lebih menarik bagi siswa. Dalam artikel ini ini, penggunaan film cartoon dalam pengajaran Bahasa Inggris khususnya kosa kata (vocabulary) adalah salah satu cara alternative dari beberapa metode yang dipakai dalam pengajaran kosa kata kepada siswa. Artikel ini juga bertujuan untuk meningkatkan motivasi siswa dalam belajar bahasa Inggris sehingga mereka tidak merasa bosan dan monoton dalam mempelajarinya. Artikel ini dapat memberikan masukan kepada guru bahasa Inggris dalam memvariasikan media pembelajaran dengan menggunakan film cartoon sehingga siswa tidak hanya tertarik tetapi juga memperoleh pengalaman dan pengetahuan yang baru yang dapat mereka ambil dari pelajaran tersebut. Dengan menggunakan film, proses belajar akan menyenangkan dengan suasana yang tidak monoton dan merasakan suasana belajar yang lebih baik dari sebelumnya. Oleh karena itu, untuk menunjang kelangsungan proses belajar mengajar dan menarik perhatian siswa untuk belajar aktif dan memahami pelajaran lebih mudah, maka penggunaan suatu media sangat dianjurkan sekali dalam proses pembelajaran.

Kata kunci: cartoon movie, vocabulary, motivation, young learners

A. Introduction

One of the important elements in language that cannot be separated from learning English is vocabulary. It is hard to master the four language skills without mastering or understanding a number of vocabulary because it is fundamental in language learning. Thus, teaching vocabulary earlier is better than teaching it later. Richard and Renandya (2002) state that vocabulary is a core component of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. It means that limited vocabulary impairs personal ability in using language. Thus, it shows how important vocabulary is.

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Elementary school students are young learners. Vocabulary is necessary for children's success in their future. Vocabulary must be taught from elementary level to give more times to learn English. Without a sufficient vocabulary, one cannot communicate effectively or express ideas. Fluently, having a limited vocabulary is also a barrier that prevents students from learning a foreign language. If learners do not know how to expand their vocabulary, they gradually lose interest in learning. To teach them, teacher should create various teaching techniques will help young learners feel amusing in learning situation. Picture, song, and cartoon movie can be new technique in teaching vocabulary for young learners.

According to Harmer (2001), young learners especially those up to the ages of six to twelve learn differently from older learners, adolescents, and adults. They easily get bored, losing interest after ten minutes or so. The teacher should have an extra power to teach them, because the children have certain characteristics and need a certain treatment.

In order to teach vocabulary, the teacher use media like cartoon movie. For this article we will use Blues Clues cartoon movie. In Blue's Clues cartoon movie, it mostly talks about how a participant characters, live, or behaves so that it is possible for the students to catch the ideas. The student can be motivated to share their own ideas about the cartoon movie. They would be challenged to find out much new vocabulary that has been taught in the cartoon movie. The students have clues and messages from the action, picture and sounds. The messages of the actions, picture and sounds on the movie are those that would easy to remember the vocabulary. The cartoon movie is easy to get because it can be taken from internet and TV program.

There are two kinds of vocabulary (Templeton, 2004), namely active vocabulary and passive vocabulary. Active vocabulary refers to the words the student understands, can pronounce correctly and use them constructively in speaking and writing. On the other hand, passive vocabulary refers to the words in which the students can recognize and understand while they are reading or listening to someone speaking, but they do not use the words in speaking or in writing.

According to curriculum KTSP 2006, teaching English at elementary school, the teacher teaches vocabulary in reading skill. To teach vocabulary the student must understand the simple English writing in the context of class. In teaching vocabulary the teacher starting from alphabet. The students read aloud to recite the alphabet and appropriate words that include words, phrases and simple sentences. In order to understand the texts, the students need to have more vocabulary. Vocabulary learning is integrated into four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing).

Elementary school students are young learners. Philips (1993) young learners are children from the first year of formal schooling (five or six years old to eleven or twelve year's age). According to McKay (2006) categorized elementary school students as young language learners; those who learn a foreign or second language and do so during the first six or seven years of formal schooling.

Furthermore, in teaching vocabulary to young learners the teacher can introduce the list of vocabulary that is taken from the book. The teacher uses and adds other vocabulary which is relevant to the students. Teacher needs a good knowledge on their teaching materials. When they have to teach the students about vocabulary, teachers should know the general knowledge of vocabulary, words and also the meaning. The words or vocabulary can be spoken and written.

The material for the young learners, have topics about center of interest that they often face in their life. The topics include things inside a class and things around a school. So, it is easier for them to perform and absorb the words given which are about things inside the class and things around the school. To help the learners in learning foreign language, Cameron (2001) suggest some ways to teach them. There are (a) make learning English enjoyable and fun, (b) don't worry about mistake, be encouraging; make sure children feel comfortable and not afraid to take part, (c) use a lot of gestures, action, pictures to demonstrate what you mean, (d) talk a lot to them use English, especially about things they can see, (e) play game, sing a song, and say rhymes and chants together, (f) tell simple stories in English, using pictures and acting with different voices, (g) don't worry when they use their mother tongue. You can answer a mother tongue question in English and sometimes recast in English what they say in their mother tongue, (h) Consistently recycle new language but don't be afraid to add new things or to use words they won't to know, (j) plan lesson with varied activities, some quite, some noisy, some sitting, some standing and moving..

Dealing with the development of curriculum in Indonesia, teaching English to young learners has become important in recent years. However, it is not always an easy task to teach young learner. There are many considerations that should be taken on how to teach and what to teach. It is fact that children are different from adult physically and mentally.

The age has become a major factor to formulate decisions on teaching students. The students who are considered as young learners enjoy studying language through loads of cheerful activities in a bright and colorful room. While adult are expected to use abstract notions since they can think rationally. As Harmer (2001) affirms that adults often encompass clear understanding of why they are learning and what they wish to comprehend out of it.

In general, the young learners are the children at the age between six up to eleven years old which are enthusiastic to know and learn everything. Harmer (2001) states some general characteristic of children. There are (a) they respond to meaning even if they do not understand the words, (b) they often learn indirectly than directly, (c) their understanding comes not just from the explanation, but also from what they see hear and crucially have a chance to touch and interact with, (d) they generally display an enthusiasm for learning and curiosity about the world around them, (e) They have a need for individual attention and approval from their teacher, (f) they are taken on talking about themselves and responding well to learning that use themselves and their own lives as main topic in the classroom, (g) They have limited attention span, unless activities are extremely engaging can make them easily getting bored, losing interaction after 10 minutes or so.

Titi (2007) explains that a cartoon movie is moving diagrams or cartoon that are made up of a sequence of images displayed one after the other. Moreover, she add other referent that a cartoon movie is the illution of motion created by the consecutive display of images of static elements. Technology is used to make them become more interesting as the result of development of peoples imagination.

In addition, Pande (2008) explains that a cartoon movie is an exaggerated amusing illustration caricaturing in moving diagram way of criticizing a person or event with some toughts. A cartoon movie is a special form of art to present amusing apperance with the help of colorful moving diagram exaggerated. In short, it can be seen in cartoon movie how to shown people's imagination that is revealed in drawing forms. By using cartoon movie people can learn everything like human, social and animal behavior. All of those are packed in a motion pictures and effects.

Cartoon movie can be used as a media in teaching vocabulary to young learners. These are very useful to raise interest and generate young learners' motivation. By using cartoon movie, the teacher is also helped in serving the lesson to be more easily. Cartoon movie is interesting, funny, thinkable, and easy media to get that can be possibly used to teach vocabulary. One of the cartoon movies that can be used is the "Blue's Clues" cartoon movie.

The "Blue's Clues" cartoon movie can help the teacher increasing students' motivation, building background knowledge, being more critical, and finding new ideas. It leads the students more easy in teaching vocabulary. They can be motivated to share their own ideas about the movie. They would be challenged to find out many new vocabulary that has been taught in the movie because the "Blue's Clues" cartoon movie is kind of sounds movie.

B. Discussion

In order to achieve successful in teaching vocabulary using this site, English teacher should do some preparations. They are:

1. Materials

- a) The teacher prepares well the material before coming to the class. The main thing that should be prepare is preparing the cartoon movie it self.
- b) The teacher selects the cartoon movie and burns it on CD.
- c) The teacher use Blue's Clues cartoon movie as a media in teaching vocabulary.
- d) The teacher prepares some pictures that related to the theme.
- e) The teacher prepares projector, laptop or computer and speaker as a main media.
- f) The teacher makes lesson plan which include standard competence and basic competence.

2. Class Setting

- a) The teacher choose classroom as the learning's location.
- b) The teacher makes the class become dark by turn off the lamp and close the curtain.
- c) Tables and chairs are moved to the back of the class.

- d) Students sit together on the floor.

Teaching Model

Using cartoon movie as a media to teach vocabulary in this paper is applied by using three phase techniques. They are pre teaching, whilst teaching and post teaching. In this case, the teacher use the Blue's Clues film as a media to teach vocabulary to young learners.

1. Pre-Teaching Activities

The first stage is called pre-teaching activity. In this activity of teaching, the teacher starts the meeting in the classroom. Usually, in this activity it's around ten to fifteen minutes. The activities involved in this stage are:

- a) The teacher greets the students.
- b) The teacher and students do the praying together.
- c) The teacher checks the student's attendance.
- d) The teacher checks the student's readiness to study. Teacher makes sure that the classroom is clean, there is no garbage on the floor, the board is clean, students are on their seats, and the sitting arrangement is steady.
- e) The teacher does the apperception. Apperception means the activity which emphasizes to recall what students have learned in the previous meeting.
- f) The teacher also does the motivation. It means teacher motivates students to follow the new

2. Whilst-Teaching Activities

In this activity, the learning process is aimed to reach Basic Competence which is done interactively, joyfully, challengingly, and motivationally. Whilst teaching activity is the main activity in which the lesson begins to be introduced, delivered and practiced during the class. This may be done for about fifty minutes. In this activity, is divided into three stages: exploration, elaboration and confirmation.

a) Exploration

In the exploration, the teacher and students do some activities to activate background knowledge and stimulate the students' imagination with the material given. The aim of this stage it should build up the students' background knowledge which has the relationship with the topic that will be learned. Students are involved in getting information broadly about what is learning and teacher wants students to be cooperating and autonomous people.

The teacher builds the student's knowledge by showing some pictures. After showing the picture, the teacher asks the students some questions. For example; What is your favorite cartoon movie? Have you ever watched the Blue's Clues cartoon movie? Do you know the animal in the film? What do you think about the Blue's Clues cartoon movie? Where do you usually watch the film? If the students have given their answer, the teacher writes the students answer in the board.

b) Elaboration

Elaboration is a activity in which students are given more chance to achieve knowledge by doing some activities to make their understanding. Teacher facilitates students by giving them some tasks, discussions and etc. In this stage,

the teacher plays the Blue's Clues cartoon movie. They are facilitated to learn cooperatively and collaboratively. However, there are some procedures that have to be followed by the students.

First, the teacher divides the class into several small groups. Each group has three members, there are a leader, writer, and reader. The member of each group are chosen by the teacher based on students level ability. It aims to support all of students to be active in discussion and they can help each other to be active.

Second, each of member has different position in discussion, but all of the member should be active and work together in giving idea. The first member is a leader who leads groups activities, and also give a conclusion for all of idea share. The second one is a writer who writes that they have discussed. The third member is a reader who reads their result or list of vocabulary that they catch from the cartoon movie in front of the class. While the group discussion, the teacher must lead them and check their job. All the group have finished in the time given.

After that, the teacher has to give them instruction that each group has to do. Each of group has to write the list of vocabulary that they catch from the cartoon movie. They should write them in their notebook. Every group find at least ten vocabulary and pay attention to the meanings of the new word from the Blue's clues cartoon movie. And then the group who has finished make a list of vocabulary, they can bring their work to the teacher to check. The group which can make list of vocabulary and write the meaning faster will be the winner. And then the first group read their job in front of the class.

Finally, the reader from others groups has to read their report in front of the class. The teacher invite group one by one by using lottery to read their work. When a group presented their list of vocabulary other groups have to be pay attention. Because the teacher will asks them about how to read the vocabulary correctly.

c) Confirmation

Teacher's job is to do confirmation to all of students. In the other words, the teacher gives a positive feedback and emphasizes what they have done. The teacher gives exercise to the student. As the students finish their job, the teacher and students discuss whether their answer are true or false. The teacher tells the correct answer and students check their friend's answer and give point for the correct answer.

3. Post-Teaching Activities

In post-teaching activity, the teacher motivates students who did not participate yet. Teacher and students repeat again vocabulary that they just learned. In this phase, the teacher also asks students to watch other episode of Blue's Clues cartoon movie, and find new vocabulary individually, but it will be homework for the students, because of the limited time in teaching and learning process. The teacher asks every student to find 15 vocabulary and at home and report all of the new words they get in the next meeting. It will make the students continue to learn about English vocabulary and understand the new words at home. The teacher concludes the lesson and closes the class by praying together.

C. Conclusion

Based on previous discussion, it can be concluded that in order to help the students to enrich their vocabulary, the teacher should pay more attention to material, media and activities in the class. The teacher is expected to be a good teacher in facilitating the learning process. He or she should be able to create some activities that can help students to understand what they are learning.

Cartoon movie with its features can be used as a material to teach vocabulary to young learner. This choice aims to find a new and interesting material to teach English vocabulary. It helps the students to learn new vocabulary items from the cartoon movie. They can catch up some new words to be learned. Therefore, cartoon movie is one of alternative material that can help either teacher in teaching vocabulary or students in enriching their vocabulary.

In order to make the students eager in studying English vocabulary, writer would like to give some suggestions that may be useful for English teachers. Writer wants to recommend English teacher to use appropriate methods in teaching vocabulary than the traditional one (the teacher only teaches the students by English textbook and later ask students to answer those questions, which relate with the topic that is being taught) because today's education demands the teacher to be attractive and creative in learning process. In addition, the teacher should encourage themselves to create new and creative ways of teaching by using various material and media, so that the students more interested in learning English vocabulary. It is suggested using cartoon movie as one of material that can be used in teaching English vocabulary. It can be implemented out of classroom by using laptop, computer or television. Hopefully, the teacher would use this cartoon movie to increase the student's interest and motivation in learning English vocabulary.

Note: this article is compiled based on the writer's paper with his advisor Drs. Jufri, M. Pd.

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