
BUILDING EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNER'S VOCABULARY BY USING BBC LEARNING ENGLISH VIDEO

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Abstract

Vocabulary is important aspects in language learning that learners must achieve in order for them to be able to communicate in English. BBC Learning English video is one of the alternative tools that can be used by early childhood learner to build their vocabulary. This research aimed to draw the use of BBC Learning English video for building early childhood learner's vocabulary. The study employed qualitative research design. The method of this study was case study. The subject of this study was a three-year-old child. The collection of the data was through observation. The researcher asked the child to watch BBC Learning English video and guided the child to memorize the vocabulary on it by repeating the vocabulary. The data revealed that BBC Learning video gave positive impact on building early childhood learner's vocabulary. By using BBC Learning English video, a three-year-old child could build his English vocabulary. Moreover, the video also helped the child to pronounce new vocabulary. The implication of this research was early childhood learner is able to produce new English vocabulary.

Keywords: *BBC Learning English Video, technology, vocabulary, early childhood learner*

1. INTRODUCTION

Language as a means of communication is used to communicate with people around the world. For people who wish to communicate with people around the world must master the language itself. The most important element in every language is vocabulary. Vocabulary mastery is a main element which has to be mastered by language learners in acquiring foreign language. Vocabulary is also required to be learned in order to have four skills of language, which is listening, reading, speaking, and writing. If one does not have enough vocabulary, it will be burden for him/her to study those four skill. Without having good and acceptable knowledge, it also can be burden in international communication.

Fauziati (2005) states that lack of enough vocabulary, one cannot transfer his/her message successfully or represent his/her views in both written and oral forms. One thing which has to be underlined is a successful language learner must master vocabulary since it is essential for receiving and delivering information.

Moreover, Nunan (1998: 117) states that the acquisition of an adequate vocabulary is essential for successful second language use because without an extensive vocabulary, we will be unable to use the structures and functions we may have learned for comprehensible communication.

The importance of mastering vocabulary in language learning also stated by Zimmeraman (1998) who states that vocabulary acquisition is basic to language and have greater attention to typical language learner. It implies that the more words learners acquire language, the better the understand language.

Acquiring vocabulary has relation to language acquisition. Second Language Acquisition (SLA) refers both the study of individuals and groups who are learning a language subsequent to learning their first one as young children, and to the process of learning that language (Saville-troike, 2006: 2). The additional language is called a second language (L2), even though it may actually be the third, fourth, or tenth to be acquired. It is also commonly called as Target Language (TL), which refers to any languages that is the aim or goal of learning.

Besides, Ellis (1997: 3) states that SLA can be defined as the way in which people learn a language other than their mother tongue, inside or outside of the classroom. In other words, SLA can

be learnt through formal or informal way. The formal way is in the classroom. While informal way is learning language outside the classroom.

This paper present about the use of BBC Learning English video for improving early childhood learner's vocabulary. The purpose of this study is to know how can BBC Learning English Video becomes a media for early childhood learner improving their vocabulary.

B. REVIEW OF RELATED THEORIES

1. The Nature of Vocabulary

Hatch and Brown (1995: 1) state that the term vocabulary refers to list or a set of a particular language or list or a set of words that individual speaker may use. Besides, Read (2000: 16) says that vocabulary is inventory of individual words involves the words meaning.

Hornby (2003: 483) defines vocabulary as: (1) all the words that a person knows or uses, (2) all the words in a language, (3) list of words with their meaning. It means that vocabulary as the words of certain language which are used by learners in form of written or spoken. Besides knowing of a list of words, learners need to know the meaning of words list for further developing language.

Furthermore, Nation (2008: 100) describes three components of word knowledge in terms of (1) its form (spelling, pronunciation, and word formation), (2) meaning (relation of words) and (3) how to use it (collocation and grammar). It means that knowing words involve knowing its properties and how to use it in a context. Learning vocabulary is not only memorizing a set of words but also need to know the meaning of words.

Nuttal (1996: 63), classifies the types of vocabulary into three categories, as follows:

a. Active Vocabulary

Active vocabulary is a list of words which is actually used by people in daily communication. It can be written or spoken that individuals don't have any difficulties to understand.

b. Receptive Vocabulary

This vocabulary is known by people when they are reading, they can use it but it is not primarily used.

c. Throwaway Vocabulary

Throwaway vocabulary is vocabulary which is not used by people because it doesn't have any correlation with their context of learning, the learner's level and reading purposes.

2. The Nature of Video

According to Wright (1976: 1) many media and many styles of visual presentation are useful to the language learner.

River (1981: 399) claims that it clearly contributes to the understanding of another culture by providing vicarious contact with speakers of the language, through both audio and visual means.

Mirvan (2013) asserted that employing video materials in a classroom can enhance students' motivation to learn since it can expose them to a wide variety of situations that can help them comprehend similar situations in real life.

3. Childhood Learning Acquisition

Loneragan (1984: 4-5 cited in Lustigová, 2013) pointed out that video is able to present complete communicative situations. At their best, video presentations will be intrinsically interesting to language learners. The learner will want to watch, even if comprehension is limited.

Ellis (1997: 20-21) postulates two characteristics of children in the early L2 speech. The first circumstance is that when children undergo silent period. Silent period means that they make no attempt to say anything to begin with. They may be learning a lot about the language just through listening or reading it. The second characteristics of early L2 speech is propositional simplification. Learners find it difficult to speak in full sentences so they frequently leave words out.

For instance, when child named Shofia wanted her mother to give him a yellow crayon, but said only:

Me no yellow

which means 'I don't have a yellow crayon'.

4. BBC Learning English

BBC Learning English is a department of the BBC World Service devoted to English Language Teaching. The service provides free resources and activities for teachers and students,

primarily through its website. It also produces radio program which go out on some of the BBC World Service's language services and partner stations. It has won numerous awards, including two Eltons from British Council and an English-Speaking Union award for innovation in English Language Teaching.

The department has been established in 1943. Since then, it changed name multiple times, for example 'English by Radio' (ExR), 'English by Radio and Television', and 'BBC English', before arriving at 'BBC Learning English' as it is known today. BBC World Service started broadcasting English Language Teaching programs in 1945. There were program from beginner, intermediate, and advanced learners, for adult and children learner.

Nowadays, the development of BBC Learning English has a significant role on helping people learn English language. BBC Learning English has various features in order for them serving English Language Learner. One of the media that they use for teaching English Language Learner is by using video. It consists of many topic area which can be chosen by the learners.

C. RESEARCH METHODS

According to Denzin and Lincoln (in Herdiansyah, 2010: 7) qualitative research is multi method in focus, involving an interpretive naturalistic approach to its subject matter. This means that qualitative researchers study things in their natural settings, attempting to make sense of or interpret phenomena in terms of the meanings people bring to them.

Moreover Creswell (in Herdiansyah, 2010: 8) points out that "qualitative research is an inquiry process of understanding based on distinct methodological traditions of inquiry that explore a social or human problem. The researcher builds a complex, holistic picture, analyzes words, report detailed views of informants, and conducts the study in a natural setting."

A case study investigates phenomena as they exist in one point in time. It deals with describing the present actual condition of subjects or objects of the research, i.e. person, groups, institutions, societies, etc (Gall, et al, 2003).

In this connection, Yin (2008: 18) states case study on term of research process: "a case study is an empirical inquiry that investigates the contemporary phenomenon within its real-life context, especially when the boundaries between phenomenon and context are not clearly evident".

B. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

BBC Learning English Video is one of the alternative tool which can be used as a tool for building vocabulary for early childhood learner. There are two kinds of video provided by BBC Learning English for learning English autonomously, which is song and short story. The object of this research is a three-year-old child, so it would be easier to teach them by using song. The steps of building vocabulary by using BBC Learning English Video are presented below.

1. The teacher asks the child to watch the video together.
2. While the child watches the video, the teacher has to guide the child to memorize the vocabulary by asking certain question, such as '*what is that?*' '*can you say it?*' or other questions which encourage them to say the vocabulary.
3. The activity has to be repeated until the child memorize the vocabulary.

This research uses song video from BBC Learning English. The first song video is airplane and the second is potato. From these two videos, the child can learn two vocabulary. Instead of these two vocabulary, the child also learn numbers since the video also provides number on it.

After watching BBC learning video, the three-year-old child can mention these two vocabulary and can mention the words well. When the teacher provides them with airplane and potato picture, he is able to mention the English name of these things. Moreover, he is also able to count from one to ten as he memorizes the number from the video.

The problems which encountered by using BBC Learning English Video for teaching vocabulary for early childhood learner comes learner's mood as children is easy to get bored when they watch the same video over again. So, the teacher needs to encourage them by giving a question and constantly guide them so they will not get bored. Besides, the availability of the video in the website can be a problem since the website only provide several videos.

C. CONCLUSION

Vocabulary mastery is a main element which has to be mastered by language learners in acquiring foreign language. Learning vocabulary through video is one of the alternative teaching tool for teaching early childhood learner English. This study concludes that teachers can teach English for early childhood learner by using video. Guidance from the teacher is an important part in this activity.

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