
PREPARED FOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL: VIEWED FROM TEACHERS' READINESS OF BRAWIJAYA SMART SCHOOL MALANG

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Abstract

This research aims to discuss teachers' readiness to face the challenge of international school that will be defined from their background knowledge of international school itself, the qualification and competence of the teachers and also teachers' attitude toward this change. The subjects of the study are teachers from Brawijaya Smart School since the school has already begun to conduct teachers' training specifically English for classroom instruction that is guided by Direct English Malang. The teachers are consisted of 6 pre-school teachers, 29 elementary school teachers, 27 junior high school teachers and 45 senior high school teachers. The prior research toward the teacher qualification was conducted through English placement test. The data of the teacher placement test show that 90% Elementary teacher is in basic level and 10 % of them is in intermediate level, 75% of Junior high school teacher is in basic level and 25 % of them is in intermediate level. 78% Senior high school teacher is in basic level, 20% of them is in intermediate level and only 0, 03% of them is advanced. The result of the present study could become a recommendation from teachers' view for the school principle and decision maker of Brawijaya Smart School in conducting a further teacher training in preparing to become international school.

Keywords: *international school, teachers' readiness*

1. INTRODUCTION

Indonesian Constitutional Court announced, on 8 January 2013, its decision (Verdict No. 5/PUU-X/2012) on the status of the law supporting International Standard Schools in Indonesia. The court decided that based on article 50 (3) of the Bill Number 20 Year 2003 on National Education System violates the 1945 Constitution of Indonesia; and article 50 (3) of the Bill Number 20 Year 2003 on National Education System does not have strong legal binding. The Court agreed that the implementation of International Standard Schools had violated the principle of education for all and created social gaps among students and also ruled that all schools have to adopt one national standard and where schools use English as the main language. The court agreed that such practice dissuaded students from using their mother language, Bahasa Indonesia. However, over the following years, there has been still a constant rise on the number of international school in Indonesia which are Cambridge and International Baccalaureate (IB) the international curriculum commonly used in that schools. SPK schools stands for Satuan Pendidikan Kerjasama, *Cooperative Education unit* which offers overseas programs such as the IB but still using element of the national curriculum, They must have a direct tie with an overseas school or an overseas educational authority using international curriculum and English as the medium of instruction.

The practice of overseas programs along with the national curriculum may become a great challenge for school, specifically teachers. As the ministerial degree number 16 in 2007 mentioned that teachers require having academic qualification and competence of foreign language. Thus, the EFL teachers need to master English comprehensively. In addition, the government regulation number 19 year 2005 about the national standard of education,

specifically in chapter IV article 28 verses 3 about teacher standard, stated that Indonesian teachers should possess pedagogical, personal, professional and social competence. The regulation above is met with characteristics of a good teacher, specifically language teacher. Brown (2007: 491) listed the characteristics of a good language teacher that could be analyzed through classroom observation into four; technical knowledge, pedagogical skill, personal qualities, interpersonal and interpersonal skills. Thus, a competence teacher which possess all those characteristics and qualification is believe could lead the students to achieve the goals of teaching learning process. Furthermore, in leading the students to be successful in achieving the learning's goal, teachers also will hold various crucial roles. Harmer (2001:57) mentioned the roles of teachers as controller, organizer, assessor, prompter, assessor, participant, resources tutor and observer. In other way, Brown (2007:214) then divided teachers roles into only five roles; controller, director, manager, facilitator and resource. In short, this paper tried to discuss teachers' readiness in preparing their selves to teach in international school.

2. REVIEW OF RELATED THEORIES

Teachers' readiness in teaching and learning is very important in producing and creating effective teaching and learning methods, especially towards the mastery, practices and students' comprehension. Good (1983) found that teachers' readiness and suitable teaching approaches had a highly significant relationship to the levels of student motivation, academic achievement and overall perception on the effectiveness of the lessons. Furthermore, an effective teacher need to master the subject matter knowledge of the subject that he or she teach, as well as the pedagogical knowledge related to the subject and highly-spirited teachers are consist of those who frequently using various kinds of relevant approaches in their teachings in the classroom. Cheah (2010) conducted a research on the implementation of school based assessment in Malaysian school found that the biggest challenge to conduct the assessment was the teacher's knowledge, skills and teacher attitudes. International school needs not only knowledgeable and skillful teachers related to their content of materials but also need to put lot of attention toward the language used in the teaching learning process. Therefore, the present study tried to describe teachers' readiness of international school viewed from their english ability and also the use of english as media instruction in the class room

3. RESEARCH METHODS

This is a descriptive type of study that has been done to teachers of Brawijaya Smart School who followed a prior training to be prepared practicing Cambridge curricula that is planned to be used for the school. This study aimed to obtain information regarding the teacher's readiness toward the change. There 6 pre-school teachers, 29 elementary school teachers, 27 junior high school teachers and 45 senior high school teachers. Before the research was conducted, the teachers from Brawijaya Smart School had already begun to conduct teachers' training specifically English for classroom instruction that is guided by Direct English Malang.

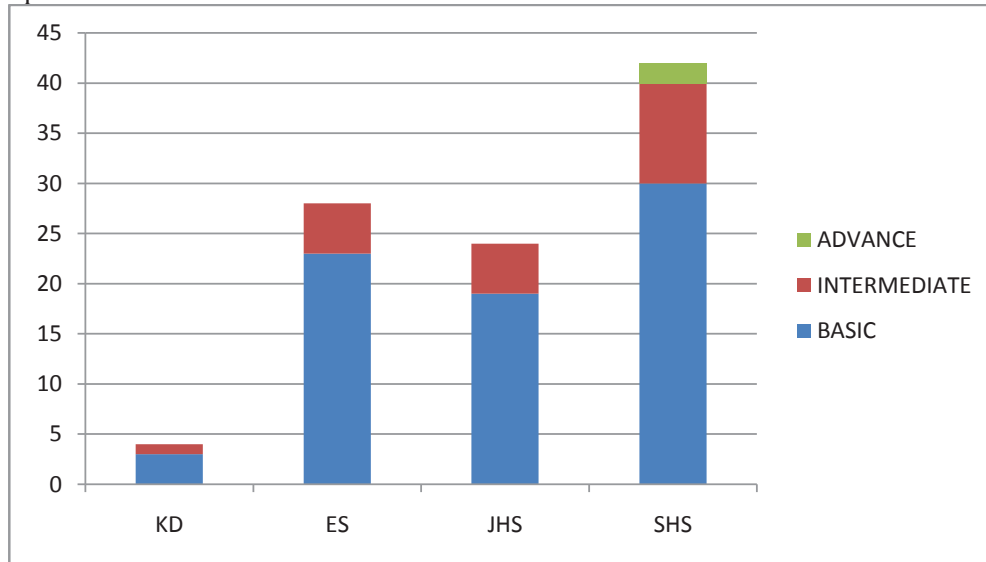
In order to find teachers' readiness of English, instruments used in this survey research were placement test, interview and teaching practice. Those instruments were chosen to gather data based on following reasons:

- a. The placement test was conducted using Placement Test application from Direct English which is divided the level of English ranged 1-8. This placement test determined the teachers' English proficiency such as listening, reading, grammar. Then, interview is the way to find teachers ability orally
- b. Teaching practice was conducted to find out the teachers competence to deliver their content of knowledge by using English. This was also a way to find teachers' ways in delivering materials and engaging the class.

4. DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

In this part, the finding of the research toward the teachers' readiness presented in of level of English comprehension and their used of English during the classroom observation will be discussed. Information presented in the forms of frequency distribution, percentage and mean score. Determination of the level readiness aspect is based on the English level and mean average.

Table 1: item analysis based on teachers' readiness in terms of level of English comprehension



Based on direct English level chart

The above chart showed the result of prior study toward the teacher qualification which was conducted through English placement test. The data of the teacher placement test show that 90% Elementary teacher is in basic level and 10 % of them is in intermediate level, 75% of Junior high school teacher is in basic level and 25 % of them is in intermediate level. 78% Senior high school teacher is in basic level, 20% of them is in intermediate level and only 0,03% of them is advanced

Table 2: item analysis based on teachers' readiness in terms of English instruction during teaching learning process.

Item	Statement	Mean			
		Kd	ES	JHS	SHS
1	The material was explained in understandable way	2,8	2,1	1,9	2
2	The lesson was smooth, sequenced and logical	2,8	2	2,1	1,9
3	The lesson was well paced	2,8	2,2	1,9	2,1
4	Direction were clear, concise and students were able to carry them out	2,8	2,2	2,1	2,1
5	The teacher answer question carefully and satisfactory	2,8	1,8	2	1,8
6	Pronunciation, intonation and fluency as well as appropriate and acceptable use of language	3	2,1	2,1	2,3

7	Teacher demonstrated understanding of the concepts presented and provided accurate information	2,5	1,8	1,9	1,7
Mean average		2,1	1,98	2,78	2

5. CONCLUSION

As overall, the research findings showed that the level of respondents' readiness in terms of English skills aspect is on the moderate level. This showed that the respondents were less prepared to use the English as medium instruction thus they will stumble upon it when delivering material. In addition, Teachers' readiness of international school should not only be seen from their English competence, therefore it is important to see teachers' readiness based on their understanding and perception of an international school. The result of this study has also provided an overview to teachers that their readiness in terms of knowledge, skills, attitudes and interests play a really important role in producing and creating effective teaching and learning methods. The result of this study was expected to be able to provide guidance to teachers and school administrators that the responsibilities to establish and produce qualify international teachers should be given more serious attention and consideration.

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