LEARNING APPROACH OF READING THE KADAZANDUSUN LANGUAGE THROUGH SONGS AND COMPUTER-BASED MUSIC FOR STANDARD ONE STUDENT

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Abstract

The problem of mastering reading lessons among Primary School students is still emerging in our country and abroad. Cognitive theory has shown that students have their own skills during Year One if they are exposed to more effective teaching and learning processes. Based on previous studies, the reading-based learning approach through songs and computer-based music in teaching and learning was found to have a positive impact on students. Hence, researchers want to study the approach in learning Kadazandusun language through song and computer-based music. This study is using qualitative approach to obtain data based on the research objective which has been determined by the researcher. This study found that reading-based learning approaches using computer-based songs and music were able to influence the achievement of reading for year one students.

Keywords: reading learning, Brunner theory, computer, song and music

Introduction

Reading is a very important skill in all subjects including the Kadazandusun Language subject. Producing a student who is well versed in reading is by mastering this skill first. This is because reading skills are very important and must be mastered by each student starting from the pre-school age. Failure to master this skill will not only cause the students not to be fluent in reading but they also cannot answer questions that require them to use these skills. Mastering multiple languages makes one easier to acquire knowledge. This is because there is a wide range of knowledge in this world that is written in various languages, especially in English and other languages. By acquiring various knowledge, they will be more respected and highly regarded by society. Having skills such as listening, speaking, reading or writing is very important in line with the efforts of the Malaysian government to develop human capital in the country. (Sharifah Noor, 2013)
Literature Review

Referring to academic achievement of students in five schools around the district of Keningau in 2016, 50% of pupils received less favorable results in Kadazandusun Language subject. This proves that the school still has constraints in the teaching of the Kadazandusun Language subject. Therefore, referring to this problem, the method of teaching should be diversified especially in the teaching of reading. This is because, reading can help students to better understand the lessons learned. Reading method should be on the right track so students can learn well and it will directly give positive impact on them. However, less effective teaching strategies will affect the learning of pupils. This can be seen through the study conducted by Jamila K.A Mohamed Kutty (2012), she states that the problem of reading among pupils is not affected by cognitive problems but this reading problem is influenced by the failure of the teacher in giving correct instruction. This statement is also supported by Zamri (2012) which states that the effectiveness of a teaching depends on the teaching strategies used by teachers to achieve teaching objectives that require the needs and diversity of students' abilities.

In facing the globalization era, many things have to be revamped including the education context, teaching and learning should also have a change in the teacher's teaching strategy towards school children. The problem of teaching methods should now be emphasized by educators especially to school teachers. Students' failure in reading is slightly influenced by the methods or techniques used by teachers. Poor teaching methods will result in less skilled in reading. This has been stated in the study by Abdul Rasid & Arbaie (2012), he noted that the education system in Malaysia has developed well in line with the progress achieved, the teacher's teaching pattern is no longer focused on exams. Therefore, teachers should be more creative in teaching because teaching is a process of knowledge transmission to students. Therefore, teachers need to choose the appropriate teaching aids to produce effective learning to the students. These teaching aids include a variety of media or tools that assist teachers in achieving their teaching objectives (Abdul Rasid & Arbaie 2012). The objective of this study is to identify the effectiveness of Kadazandusun language learning and reading approach through songs and computer-based music which can help to improve the reading comprehension of year one students. Meanwhile, the question of the study is whether the learning approach through songs and music by computer could help to increase the reading comprehension of one year's pupils in Kadazandusun language. The theory used or supported by this study is the development of children's theories, namely Bruner's learning theory and the theory of constructivism.

Jerome Bruner is an influential psychologist in the United States. He has divided human mental development into four themes, the first one is promoting the importance of understanding the structure of knowledge. With the knowledge structure, teachers can help students analyze the facts that have no relationship between people that can be linked. The second theme is the willingness to learn,
the willingness consists of more moderate skill mastery that can allow students to achieve higher skills. The third theme emphasizes on the value of intuition in the process of teaching and learning by using techniques to achieve a certain goal. The fourth theme is the motivation or the desire to learn and the existing ways of the teacher to stimulate motivation. Just like in the enactive stage (0-2 years), iconic level (2-4 years) and symbolic level (5-7 years). At the symbolic level, these children can use symbols such as words and languages to describe their experience as Khadijah, Mahani & Ramlah (2007) stated that when children begin to recognize symbols to describe their experiences, then the kid has begun to recognize the symbol. At the age of one, children already have a symbolic ability if they are exposed to an effective teaching and learning process. Therefore, Kadazandusun Language learning approach through songs and computer-based music will take into account these principles.

Methodology

This study is using qualitative approaches through surveys and interviews involving 10 Kadazandusun Language teachers in Keningau District as a study material. In addition, library references are also used to help understand the issue through literature review. The population selection was based on the determination of Krejcie & Maragon sample size (1970) which is a population of 10 teachers and a sample of 10 teachers.

Discussion and Analysis

Effectiveness of computer usage in teaching and learning of reading

Referring to the respondents interviewed, the researcher found that the effectiveness of using this computer is very excellent in teaching and learning. The use of this computer can help teachers carry out their teaching. This can be seen in Faridah's study (2001) that the use of computers can expedite the learning process and has a potential to improve student academic achievement performance. According to the findings by Awang & Daud (2013), it shows that the mastery of a teaching and learning is influenced by the use of computers and the use of materials that attract the interest of students to learn.

Many students are delighted when a teacher uses a computer during a teaching session. The interest of pupils during the teaching session using computers effectively is better and directly can reduce the rate of skipping of classes, furthermore, they will allocate more time to learn using the computer. Additionally, interaction between friends and teachers can be enhanced. Pupils are also more independent and work together to solve problems besides sharing information and knowledge. According to Julita Norjietta (2012), 80% of the multimedia elements usage in teaching and learning can attract students to learn especially reading.
In addition, computers also act as an attraction for students and teachers to learn and teach. According to Dinyati (2011), it shows that the level of enthusiasm, confidence and support of teachers towards the use of computers in teaching and learning is high. However, computer skills among teachers are moderate. Thus, there are differences in interest, confidence and skills of teachers as well as computer facilities that prevent teachers from using facilities such as computers in teaching and learning.

The computer can also increase the level of teacher knowledge and improve the quality of teaching. Atan (2010) states that the use of computer can also improve the quality of teaching, namely teaching becomes more clearly and effectively. In addition, Damin (2012) also stated that the use of computers in teaching and learning can attract students to learning. Mansor (2010) also noted that students' attitudes, motivation and academic achievement levels will be at a positive and high level when teaching and learning using computers.

Effectiveness of the reading skill learning approach through songs and music

In this study, the researcher found that the reading skill learning approach through songs and music were effective and it was evident from the improvement of student achievement in reading. Before the teachers use music and song approaches, teachers use the usual methods of reading teaching like using storybooks. On the first day of the teaching process, students are less interested in learning because the usual method used by the teacher does not attract students to continue learning.

However, after the teacher uses the method of learning using music and songs, the students are delighted and the interest in learning is high because this method is a song concept and students can directly learn to read the words in the song lyrics. The findings of this study are supported by Zaidatun Tasir (2013) which states that poor students in learning need help to learn. Additionally, finding the appropriate and fun material is important in order for the learning process to be more lively and positive.

In addition, researchers also found that the music and the song give opportunities for poor students in reading and writing to continue studying because the music and songs can be played repeatedly as stated by Gipe (2002) that the teaching aids which can be heard, played, repeatedly, melodious and full of feelings can help stimulate student thinking in learning to read. In addition, this approach can also help students recall the text or the storyline in the book. According to Azlina Awang (2002), a good way to remember something is through singing and songs. This method can help students to remember what they read, because this method is fun and can help students be more willing to learn.

In addition, this method can also help in improving the pronunciation or intonation of a word. Through this method, pupils can improve the way how the words are spoken well. By using the song, the pupils can hear the pronunciation repeatedly and with this kind of concept, the pupil immediately knows how to pronounce the word correctly (Zaidatun Tasir, 2013).
Moreover, the teaching methods using music and songs can also help to attract students in reading teaching. The findings of this study are consistent with the findings by Ndiaga Sylla (2010). He stated that the use of techniques or strategies of singing in English teaching and learning finds that 37% of the singing techniques can attract and assist in teaching. In addition, 45% of these techniques can help students in a fun environment. A total of 51% of the findings state that through this strategy, students can learn to cooperate and communicate better. A total of 42% of the finding also indicate that students are more likely to remember the words in the English language. In addition, teachers can motivate pupils to learn English and 49% less problematic learners to learn English by using singing techniques in teaching and learning.

This study is also in line with the findings by Noraina Fadzilah binti Kamilan (2012) which states that the use of music in teaching and learning is good because the music is able to encourage students to continue learning more effectively and to improve their memory. She also stated that the level of knowledge involved memorization and memory is the ability of a person to recall what has been learned. Therefore, in accordance with the statement that music can attract and help the student in storing information and recall the information stored in the mind.

Music and songs can help improve creative and critical thinking. This is proven when the teacher uses this technique, the pupils' reading are improving positively. This statement is supported by Ainul Husna Binti Mohamed (2016) stating that the relationship between music and teaching and learning of a subject will complement the development of the left and right brain. Therefore, the use of music in the process of teaching and learning can enhance critical and creative thinking, through the singing the students not only having fun while singing but also receive the information presented by the teacher or the lyrics of the song.

Conclusion

Music, songs and computers play an important role in making the teaching and learning process in the classroom more interesting and appropriate to develop the students' knowledge. In addition, this approach can build new knowledge for teachers in improving their teaching process.

References

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