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Training On English Debate For Students Of MTs Assalam Manado

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Abstrak

Debat Bahasa Inggris merupakan keterampilan yang dibutuhkan untuk mengikuti kompetisi dan meningkatkan percaya diri dan berfikir kritis siswa dalam menggunakan Bahasa Inggris di area umum. Namun, kendala yang dihadapi sekolah yakni kurangnya sumber daya manusia (guru) yang memiliki kapasitas untuk mentransfer ilmu dan pengalaman mengenai debat Bahasa Inggris. Oleh karena itu, tim PKM TBI IAIN Manado menginisiasi program pelatihan debat Bahasa Inggris untuk siswa MTs Assalam Manado yang dilaksanakan selama 5 pertemuan, dari tanggal 11 November – 17 Desember 2019. Sebanyak 25 siswa terlibat dalam program ini. Hasil dari kegitan ini dapat dilihat dari peningkatan motivasi, percaya diri, dan berfikir siswa dalam debat Bahasa Inggris.

Kata Kunci: Pelatihan, Debat Bahasa Inggris, Siswa MTs.

Abstract

Debate skill in English is important for participating in competitions and improving students' self-confidence and critical thinking to use English in public. However, some of the obstacles schools face, such as lack of human resources to handle these activities. Therefore, the author intended to hold a training of English debate for the students of MTs Assalam Manado. Twenty-five students were participating in the training. After the training for five meetings, it is clear that English debate training at MTs Assalam Islamic boarding school is deliberately designed to make the students motivated to speak in English.

Keywords: Training, English Debate, MTs Students

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INTRODUCTION

Learning English in Junior High School still becomes a priority because it is the most used international language. Mastering English can give opportunities both in the world of education and public work to cope with the Asian Economic Community. Considering the important role of English, there are many schools, especially Junior High level, which add extra hours for English lessons to ensure that the student can master English better.

Based on the observation in MTs Assalam Manado, an extracurricular activity invites teachers or instructors from outside to be tutors. The English activities that have been carried out include speaking practice (conversation), storytelling, debate, and speech. These activities were chosen because speaking skills are considered a benchmark success in learning English. Besides, many competitions of story-telling, debate, and speech at the Junior school level require students' English skills. Thus, some schools decided to train students in these skills.

In addition, to improving English language skills as well as prepare students to take part in competitions that can improve the reputation of the school if the student wins the competition. One of the competitions held every year held by the Ministry of National Education both at regional and national level is National School Debate Contest (NSDC) which is a debate competition participated by Junior school students and equivalent.

Debate skill in English is important for participating in competitions and improving students' self-confidence and critical thinking to use English in public (Nadi & Fatimah, 2016). Debate is a method that gives opportunities for students to speak in English, practice expressing opinions in public, and train students' self-confidence to speak English. A debate competition aims to expand students' insight to think critically (Patterson, 2011), compete competitively, communicate effectively, and deliver argument in public with English, express opinions systematically, and think critically. Debate in English can be used as an effective learning method for improving English skill of Junior school students.(Nasution, 2019)

However, some of the obstacles schools face, such as lack of human resources to handle these activities. In addition, the existing human resources do not meet the qualification standards to facilitate extracurricular activities. In addition, the student's interest is lacking in this activity. Due to some of the problems above, the school reported that the extracurricular activities did not go well and that the purpose of the activity was to improve students' English skills was not achieved.

The English teachers in MTs Assalam Manado admit that they want to send student representatives to participate in the debate competition but have difficulty starting preparations for this debate competition. They do not know the process of recruiting and selecting students for debate, have expertise and knowledge of debate, and there is no budget for the whole process of this student debate activity. Therefore, it is necessary to find solutions to these extracurricular activities so that their implementation can be effective and implementation objectives can be achieved.

Institut Agama Islam Negeri is one of the Islamic State Universities in Manado already has a name that is quite well known in debate circles College-level English at a local, regional and national level. Many TBI students in IAIN Manado made achievements in various

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competitions. The considerable potential of the TBI debaters and to further improve their skills and train social spirit, the PKM team holds training in English Debate for the students of MTs Assalam Manado. Some of the problems that the team observed are as follows:

(1) there are no extracurricular activities to train students' abilities in English debate due to the lack of information and skills of the English teacher; (2) lack of human resources to provide debate training in English, especially for the use of formal terms/languages in the English debate and; (3) there is no budget to start debate training in English. The targeted output is for English teachers to have knowledge management of English debate extracurricular activities.

METHOD

This activity was conducted at MTs Assalam Manado, located in Bailang subdistrict, Manado City. Twenty-five students were interested in participating in the training. The procedures of debate training are as follows; (a) Socialization of the debate training program in English to the students who involved in the program, (b) determining the training schedule for the participants, (c) debriefing students of TBI who assist and be the tutors of the program (d) implementing debate training programs in English, and (e) evaluation.

The solutions offered are as follows:

- (1) Designing a debate training program in English, the recruitment process to select student representatives to enter the competition. The training is designed as attractive as possible by employing a variety of activities such as games and meaningful practices with a student-centered learning approach,
- (2) Inviting TBI students who had experience in English debate to be tutors for the students of MTs Assalam
- (3) Collaborating with debater students from TBI IAIN Manado minimizes the funds.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This program was conducted through four stages (1) preparation, (2) implementation, and (3) evaluation.

1. Preparation Stage

The preparatory stage is carried out to provide resources and the participants' readiness. The activities include a) The team coordinates with Principal of MTs Assalam related to the program; b) Discussion of activity plans and implementation; c) Preparation of implementation guidelines training and mentoring.

2. Implementation Stage

The first stage is the question and answer stage. At this stage, the team conducts questions and answers with participants before and during implementation of the program. In the question and answer, the team asked the participants to share their experiences when debating and analyzing some of the things related to materials, techniques, strategies, and the steps in the debate. This is to measure the extent to which participants' level of knowledge and understanding about debate.

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Next stage, the team provided an explanation of the purpose of debate, the concept of debate, Debate goal, Techniques for conducting debates, and the steps for conducting the debate.

3. Evaluation Stage

At this reporting stage, the service reports the entire series of activities that have been done by attaching all supporting documentary evidence.





CONCLUSION

From the explanation above, it is clear English debate training at MTs Assalam Islamic boarding school is deliberately designed to make the students motivated to speak in English. To improve the speaking ability of the students, before delivering the debate material, we first convey the material for pronouncing English words according to the phonetic symbols used been taught. This is done to avoid mispronunciation. The rest of the students are given motivation and steps in learning English, which include having a strong commitment to learning English, practice makes perfect, don't be afraid of grammatical errors and so on.

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