

THE PARENTS' ROLE IN EXPANDING CHILDREN'S ENGLISH VOCABULARY IN KELAMBIR V KEBUN VILLAGE AT UMMUL HABIBAH KINDERGARTEN

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Abstract: One way for children to be successful in learning is because of parental factors. The involvement of parents in children's learning is significant. The parents' role in improving learning is essential so this research aims to discuss the important role of parents in expanding children's English vocabulary in Kelambir V Kebun Village, at Ummul Habibah Kindergarten because there are still many parents who lack a role in improving children's English skills, especially increasing English vocabulary to improve children's language skills. Language skills are a crucial aspect of children's language development and impact children's communication abilities. This study explores the various ways parents to be involved in expanding children's English vocabulary. This research included a review of literature investigating the parents' role in learning especially children's vocabulary development. The research method used is qualitative. The research results show that parents still have little role in enriching children's vocabulary. This research underscores the importance of creating an environment that supports language learning and adopting a positive approach. This research implies that parents have a central role in helping children acquire strong English language competence. By actively involving themselves in the language learning process, parents can make a significant contribution to the growth of their children's English vocabulary. However, there are still many parents who do not have much effort and methods to increase their children's English vocabulary so many children have very little vocabulary.

Keywords: Children; English; Parents' Role; Vocabulary

Accepted: 20 June 2024

Approved: 10 July 2024

Published: 30 July 2024



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INTRODUCTION

Language is a communication tool that is very necessary for humans and cannot be separated from the part of life that is always used by people in carrying out community activities. Humans can communicate using language. Language also requires skills, one of which is speaking skills. The main purpose of speaking is to communicate. When

speaking using a language, vocabulary is needed. Vocabulary is very significant because without vocabulary a person will not be able to speak fluently. When studying English, which is a foreign language, you certainly need to increase your vocabulary.

Language is the main tool for humans to communicate and acquire knowledge. Humans can acquire language in early childhood. It's impressive how far someone gets from learning a new language, especially in a globalized world requiring global business and connections. It is important to learn languages, where English is a part of our everyday lives. If it's not your native language, afterward it's your second language, Fadly (2019).

According to Richard and Schmidt (2010), a foreign language is a language that is not the native language of a large number of people in a particular country or region, is not used as a medium of instruction in school, and is not widely used as a medium of communication in government, media, etc. Foreign languages are typically taught as school subjects for communicating with foreigners or reading printed materials in the language. The terms show that a language that is not the native language of a society is not used in a place or in communication in that society because it is a foreign language but is taught in schools and English is, of course, the main international language used as a means of communication. Apart from that, English is an international language which has an important role in the world of education. When someone can speak English well, it certainly has broad benefits, so mastering English becomes one of the important goals in children's education.

As innovators, parents have a role in always providing innovations in the learning process, like the application of the dramatization method in their lives. Dramatization is an innovative learning method and can increase young children's interest in learning. As facilitators, parents have a role in facilitating learning materials for young children, so that their interest in learning can increase and early childhood learning is also well-directed. Meanwhile, as motivators, parents have a role in encouraging young children to learn so they can develop a high interest in learning, Nofianti (2020).

Many parents still have a small role in supporting children's language development, especially English. Therefore, this study aims to examine the parents' role in expanding children's English vocabulary because vocabulary is very important in starting to speak English. There are several objectives in this research to deepen understanding of the parent's role in the development of children's English vocabulary in Kelambir V Kebun Village, especially at Ummul Habibah Kindergarten. The aim is to understand how parents view the importance of developing English vocabulary in children, describe how parents carry out their role in supporting children's English language and vocabulary development, and identify factors that influence parents' role in the education of Children's English, the cultural and social context which can influence the parents' role in children's English education. There is research that also examines the role of parents in educating children, namely research by Novrinda, et al. (2017) stated that based on observations and interviews conducted by researchers, not all parents play an active role in providing education to their children in the home or family, so researchers examined the parents' role in early childhood education in terms of educational background, which is very important in supporting children's educational development.

Children have an extraordinary ability to learn languages at an early age, and this is the perfect time to introduce English starting with expanding vocabulary. Parents should have a big influence in helping children expand their English vocabulary.

Ali (2021) states that most students find it more difficult to learn English. Fewer interactions in class made their vocabulary knowledge and ability became low. They had no chance to explore vocabulary. In fact, students found it difficult to mention some vocabularies around their environment. Moreover, Students need to be interested in learning. Interest in learning is a situation that indicates a phenomenon that arises and is experienced by a person because of the interaction between the individual and the surrounding environment, Sari (2023). To improve communication in language, vocabulary is needed, so the parents' role in increasing children's English vocabulary is very important in various ways, Stone (2019).

The results of the research from Rozana et al., (2019) state that there is an influence of parental communication on the cognitive development of early childhood for their children. It greatly influences children's cognitive development, because if parents do not interact intensely with their children, then it is likely that children will have less than optimal cognitive development.

Based on the results of observations on the children of Kelambir V Kebun Village at Ummul Habibah Kindergarten, children's speaking skills using English are still very low, this could be due to one factor, namely parents. The parent's role in helping teach children about English vocabulary is very small. This fact indicates that children's English skills are still very low due to a lack of parental support in increasing children's English vocabulary. This is the basis that forms the background for efforts to increase the parent's role in helping children expand their children's English vocabulary so that children have the ability or skills to speak English.

METHOD

This research is qualitative because the aim is to describe, analyze, and explain the parents' role in expanding children's English vocabulary in Kelambir V Kebun Village at Ummul Habibah Kindergarten.

Creswell (2016) explains that qualitative research is a method for exploring and understanding the meaning that several individuals or groups ascribe to social or humanitarian problems.

The data collection technique in this research is using interview and observation techniques. Interviews were conducted with parents of children at Ummul Habibah Kindergarten to obtain parents' views, experiences, and understanding regarding educating children to expand their children's English vocabulary. Then observations were also carried out to see the interactions between parents and children, especially learning to expand their English vocabulary. This is to understand how parents support the development of children's English vocabulary in real contexts.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Education is very important for all groups, especially children. Children must receive education from an early age to develop their abilities. In Kelambir V Kebun Village has one of the educational facilities, that is Ummul Habibah Kindergarten. At this kindergarten, the children have a high enthusiasm for learning and are supported by good teachers. Apart from teachers, it is good for parents to also support children's learning because parents are the first place for children to develop, but not all parents can teach and guide children in learning, let alone learning to improve their English language skills. English is one of many languages that is very necessary to learn. To improve communication in language, vocabulary is needed, so the parents' role is needed in expanding children's English vocabulary. Nine parents in Kelambir V Kebun Village have children at Ummul Habibah kindergarten who are the objects of research.

From all the interview results, parents had various answers, but some had the same answer because each parent certainly has their way of educating their children, especially in expanding their children's English vocabulary.

Based on the research results, it can be explained that parents are the first place for children. Parents are educators and caregivers, who have an important role in the world of children's education. Parents play an important role in children's development, especially in expanding children's English vocabulary so that children can communicate in English well. With different parental backgrounds, in social, cultural, and economic, there are also various ways and habits of parents in educating their respective children.

Researchers analyzed that Parents interact with their children in daily life, but this is still lacking because not all parents play an active role in educating their children, especially their role in expanding their children's English vocabulary. From the observations, parents have different ways of interacting, but some parents are not at all active in interacting in terms of learning English, especially in expanding their children's English vocabulary.

This research also assesses parents' understanding and motivation of the importance of developing children's English vocabulary. All parents understand the importance of the role of parents, but not all parents can play a role in learning English, especially in expanding children's English vocabulary. This research will certainly greatly influence parents' understanding that the role of parents is very important in children's learning development, one of which is the importance of expanding children's English vocabulary from an early age.

In the interview, it was found some factors prevent parents from playing a role in supporting learning or developing children's English vocabulary. First, some parents have weaknesses in pronunciation and even writing, as stated by Mrs. A: "lots of mistakes in pronunciation and writing." Second, some parents have a lot of pronunciation and writing errors so they are hampered in teaching their children. As stated by Mrs. F: "many, one of which is pronunciation and writing". Third, some parents feel that they have to learn more because they still have deficiencies in English knowledge as stated by Mrs. C: "Yes, we have to learn more". Fourth, there are obstacles in writing and pronouncing so it becomes an obstacle for parents in teaching, as stated by Mrs. I: "There are difficulties in writing and pronouncing". Fifth, there are obstacles, parents have a lack of knowledge so they have to learn English again at home to support teaching for children as stated by Mrs. Ai: "There is a challenge in learning English at home". Sixth, there are obstacles in teaching children English, they have a small vocabulary so they teach children simple

vocabulary as stated by Mrs. S: "There is the obstacle because parents don't have many vocabularies. Parents just teach simple vocabulary." Seventh, there are obstacles in practicing English vocabulary for children as stated by Mrs. R: "The challenge is in practicing like in pronouncing words". Eight, there are obstacles but they can still be overcome because this mother is quite smart and active in her role in educating children in expanding children's English vocabulary. Mrs. Z stated: "Children have more difficulties because it is not an everyday language, and how to overcome them by practicing slowly while giving examples in everyday life." The last, there are obstacles because she doesn't understand English at all, so this mother answered that she didn't know at all, as stated by Mrs. N: "I don't know everything about English".

From the results of interviews related to obstacles, it appears that eight parents have obstacles in helping their children improve their English language skills and one parent answered that she doesn't know everything in English so she did not play a role in improving her child's English skills.

From the results of interviews and observations, this research provides motivation, development, and guidance or intervention to parents to help them support the development of children's English vocabulary with the hope that parents will be successful in teaching children using various methods provided according to their abilities.

After intervention or providing guidance, this study evaluated the results to see a significant increase in enriching the children's English vocabulary. Apart from that, this research also found that cultural, social, and economic factors also influence children's language development so this is also one of the things that makes children develop more slowly, especially when learning English. The parent's role is very influential in educating children because parents will be the center of the child's attention, therefore parents must pay more attention and always teach children well. Parents are people who are role models and examples for their children. Every child will admire their parents, whatever the parents do will be imitated by the child. When parents try to speak English, the child will listen and if this becomes a habit it will make the child more quickly remember the vocabulary mentioned by the parent. However, there are still many parents who do not have much effort and methods to increase their children's English vocabulary. Parents should create an English environment in children's daily lives that supports their language learning. It can be done by always giving them an English condition like playing games in English, giving English songs, hearing English music, reading English comics or stories, etc. They can be a positive approach for children from their parents because parents have a central role in helping children acquire strong English language competence. By actively involving themselves in the language learning process, parents can make a significant contribution to the growth of their children's English vocabulary.

CONCLUSION

Education is very important for children, so education at an early age must be provided by parents. In mastering English vocabulary, children must be taught from an early age, not only by teachers but also by parents. Based on the results of this research, parents' efforts to expand their children's English vocabulary are still low. Interview

results show that most parents find it difficult to improve their children's English skills, especially in expanding their children's English vocabulary. Some parents feel that they do not have a good enough method for increasing their children's English vocabulary, but some parents do not play an active role in increasing their children's English vocabulary because of the parent's lack of knowledge. It can be interpreted that the role of parents in increasing children's English vocabulary has not gone well. During observations, there were still many parents who were unable to become teachers for their children, so it was necessary to provide learning methods for parents to educate their children to develop their children's English vocabulary. When a parent doesn't have a skill in English, the parent should seek help by providing tutoring in special courses or privately.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The researcher would like to thank to University of Pembangunan Panca Budi which has provided support and funds for conducting this research and its output.

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