**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF USING PUPPET AS MEDIA TO IMPROVE STUDENTS’ VOCABULARY MASTERY FOR THE FIFTH-GRADE STUDENTS AT SDN 2 KAGUNGAN KEPIL WONOSOBO**

**IN THE SCHOOL YEAR 2012/2013**

**By**

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**Abstract**

This research is quantitative research by using experimental method. The objective of the research is to find out whether the use of puppet as media is effective or not in improving students’ vocabulary mastery for the fifth-grade students at SDN 2 Kagungan Kepil Wonosobo in the school year 2012/2013. The population of the research is the fifth grade students of SDN 2 Kagungan Kepil Wonosobo by taking the sample from the two classes. The first class is VA which consisted of 18 students as control group. The second class is VB which consisted of 18 students as experimental group. This research used the purposive sampling. The result shows that the use of puppet as media is effective to improve students’ vocabulary mastery for the fifth-grade students at SDN 2 Kagungan Kepil Wonosobo in the school year 2012/2013.. It could be proven by the computation of the t-test. The computation showed that the t-value was higher than t-table. The t-value was 8.213 while the t-table was 2.042. It meant that 8.213 >2.042. Besides, the mean score of experimental group was raised after given the treatment from 55.33 to 73.11.

Keywords: Effectiveness, Puppet Media, Vocabulary Mastery.

1. **Background**

English is one of the languages used by people to interact with others. As one of the international languages, English is used and learned by people in the world. We have to practice to speak English everyday and we have to memorize vocabulary at least five words per day. So, we can master vocabulary. Vocabulary is one of the most important things to make our communication run well. Vocabulary is central to language and of critical importance of the language learners. It is very important to learn vocabulary. Learning vocabulary is learning words. Teaching vocabulary to the students in the early age, which means those between five and twelve years of age, is not an easy thing to do. The students are often more enthusiastic and lively as learners, but sometimes they have problem in learning and memorizing vocabulary in the target language.

Napa (1991:6) who describes that vocabulary is one of components of language and that no language exists without words. Words are signs or symbols of ideas. Vocabulary is also essential in communication with others. If someone does not know the meaning of words used by others in communication, he or she will be unable to respond in the communication. According to Hiebert and Kamil (2005:3) generally, vocabulary is the knowledge of meaning of words. What complicates this definition is the fact that words come in at least two forms: oral and printed. Oral vocabulary is the set of words for which we know the meaning when we speak or read orally. Printed vocabulary consists of those words for which the meaning is known when we write or read silently. Reyhner (1997: 339) states that puppet is a doll with a hollow head a person or animal and cloth body, intended to fit over the hand can be manipulated with the fingers. According to Champlin (1998: 25-30) the types of puppet are finger puppets, hand puppets, body puppets, rod puppets, and string puppets.

From the explanation above, the researcher believes that puppet as media can develop students’ vocabulary mastery. It will be applied for students of elementary school. So, the researcher chooses the topic “ The effectiveness of using puppet as media to improve students’ vocabulary mastery for the fifth-grade students at SDN 2 Kagungan Kepil Wonosobo in the school year 2012/2013”.

1. **Research Method**

This research is experimental quantitative research. It was conducted at SDN 2 Kagungan Kepil Wonosobo on 10th, 16th, 17th, 23rd May 2013. According to Arikunto (2006:130), population is the whole of research subject. In this reseach, the population is the fifth-grade students of SDN 2 Kagungan Kepil Wonosobo consists of 2 classes. The total of population is 36 students. Arikunto (2006: 131) stated that sample is a part or representative population of the research. The researcher took all the classes as the sample because the total population was less than 100. To get the sample accurately, the researcher used purposive sampling technique, because considering of time, effort, money. In collecting the data, the researcher used multiple choice test as instrument. The researcher gave two tests they are pre-test and post-test. The test is intended to find out the effectiveness of puppet as media in improving students’ vocabulary mastery.

In this research the researcher used descriptive analysis and inferential analysis to analyze the data. The descriptive analysis is to describe the students’ vocabulary mastery before and after the researcher gave the treatment by using puppet as media. The descriptive analysis consists of the computation of mean, median, standard deviation, and variance. Meanwhile, the inferential analysis consists of test of normality, test of homogenity, and test of hypothesis.

1. **Finding and Discussions**

The aim of the research is to find out the effectiveness of using puppet as media in improving students’ vocabulary mastery. As previously stated, the researcher gave the treatment for experimental group by using puppet as media. From the computation, the mean score of pre-test was 55.33 and the mean score of post-test was 73.11. The researcher also calculated that the highest score of experimental group after being given the treatment was 80 and the lowest score was 64. The mean was 73.11, the median was 72, the mode was 72, the standard deviation was 5.28, and the variance was 27.87.

Furthermore, in the inferential analysis, the researcher computed test of normality, test of homogenity, and test of hypothesis. The result of normality test that was computed by using chi-square formula was 7.713. From the result of normality test, the data is normal because t-obtained is lower than t-table (7.713<11.070). Then, the result of homogenity test that was computed by dividing the highest variance with the lowest variance was 1.91. it showed that the data was homogeneous because f-obtained is lower than f-table (1.91<2.29). To make the analysis more reliable, the researcher computed the data by using t-test formula. The result of t-value was 8.213. It showed that t-value is higher than t-table (8.213>2.042).

To find out the effectiveness of using puppet as media, the researcher compared the pre-test and the post-test result. The result of t-test is higher than t-table (8.213>2.042). It means that puppet as media is effective to improve students’ vocabulary mastery. Based on the hypothesis testing, it means that Ho (Null Hypothesis is rejected and Ha (Alternative Hypothesis) is accepted. Therefore, the hypothesis in this research (Ha) stated that “the use of puppet as media to improve students’ vocabulary mastery for the fifth-grade students at SDN 2 Kagungan Kepil Wonosobo in the school year 2012/2013 is effective” and this hypothesis is accepted.

1. **Conclusion and Suggestion**

Based on the research finding which has been discussed, the researcher makes the conclusion, that the t-value is higher than the t-table (8.213>2.042). In addition, the mean score of experimental group before the researcher gave the treatment by using puppet as media was 55.33, and the mean score after the researcher gave the treatment by puppet as media was 73.11. It means that the mean score improve than before. From the t-value, it can be concluded that the alternative hypothesis stated that the use of puppet as media to improve students’ vocabulary mastery for the fifth-grade students at SDN 2 Kagungan Kepil Wonosobo in the school year 2012/2013 is effective and this hypothesis is accepted.

Moreover, the researcher would like to give the suggestion for the teacher; that teachers should use teaching media like as it puppet in teaching vocabulary. It is able to engage the students in learning vocabulary. For the students, they should be more interested in English and be active in every activity, one of the way is by using puppet. So, the students will be able to memorize the vocabulary easily. For the readers, it is expected that this final project can give information and references to improve the readers’ knowledge about using of puppet as the media in teaching vocabulary to young learners especially to the elementary school.

1. **References**

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