

## ENRICHING STUDENTS' VOCABULARY BY USING CHARADE GAME AT PRE-INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

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### **Abstract**

*The study aims to improve English speaking skills with vocabulary mastery through charade game techniques. This research uses library research methods. The biggest problem of today's students lies in mastery of the vocabulary itself. Therefore, teaching staff are required to be able to continue to create ways or techniques of learning in the classroom that can lead students to master English vocabulary more. This game indirectly helps to improve the vocabulary of students. In this game words will be demonstrated with gestures so that students are able to express words with movement. This technique also helps students to be more active in the classroom and motivates students due to the presence of competence in the game. Charade games also help students understand reading texts because vocabulary is difficult to understand first.*

**Keywords:** Vocabulary; charade games

### **Pendahuluan**

Teaching vocabulary is not getting the priority for English teachers in classroom. They tend teaching about reading, speaking, writing or listening, but neglecting vocabulary lesson. That subject is considered as additional thing in teaching English. From the writer observation in Elementary school, it was rarely for English teacher to teach vocabulary.

Mostly, teacher usually used to direct translation in teaching vocabulary. This way sometimes does not appropriate for the students. They get bored and rarely forget easily about the words they have ever learned.

Most of the time, the teacher failed to conduct vocabulary lesson in classroom. It happens because the teacher could not often create and interesting environment in classroom during teaching and learning process. Some of teachers asked students to memorize a number of words list everyday. This way lead to unsuccessful learning. When students can touch, hear and see things that names it, there will a big chance to remember. In other words, teacher's creativity is needed most.

Along with Knowledge progression in teaching field, some techniques and teaching methods in English have been introduced by many experts. Using media and games are very effectively in enriching students' vocabulary. Variety of activities can be given by teachers as long as the purpose of the lesson can be achieved.

Using Charade Game is one of the interesting activity in enriching students' vocabulary. The students may expand their vocabulary by implementing this game. That's way the writer suggest using charade games as one way to enrich students' vocabulary.

Vocabulary is defined by many experts. Cruse (2000) defines vocabulary as list of words that have meaning. It is support by Bolton (2003) that vocabulary as list of difficult or foreign words with an explanation of their meaning. Furthermore, Aitchison (2003) state that vocabulary is an important part of learning a language and improving one's skills in language. So, vocabulary can be interpreted as basic unit of language and important to acquire it as skill for learning to read, write and communicate effectively.

In teaching vocabulary, there are various approaches and methods explained by experts. Nunan (2000) states that focus in vocabulary is how to encourage the students to develop strategies to develop strategies for inferring the meaning of new words from context in which occur and teaching them to use range of clues, both verbal and non-verbal to determine meaning.

Moras (2000) adds that meaningful task is the best answer to teach vocabulary, as it is rely on students' experiences and reality to facilitate learning. Meaningful task requires the students to analyze and process language more deeply, which help them retain information in long term memory.

Besides, Wazenk (2003) says that the goal in vocabulary is that the learner can understand the meaning of new words. The instructional components of vocabulary include describing the meaning of words in sentence or identifying synonyms and antonyms of a word given. Some activities are to connect meaning to words students already known and to demonstrate more concrete meaning and knowledge.

In addition Moras (2000) suggests some consideration that the teacher can use in presenting new vocabulary such as wall (with visual) to introduce and reinforce unit specific vocabulary, provide numerous opportunities for practice, maintain personal dictionary of science and teach essential vocabulary using a variety of strategies.

In teaching vocabulary, Ur (2000) says that teacher should consider several things are pronouncing and spelling (know a word sound like and what it looks like), grammar (know its form) and collocation (aspect of meaning and word formation).

In presenting vocabulary, there are many techniques teacher can apply. Cameron (2001) adds the basic techniques that teacher can explain meaning of the new words:

1. By demostrating

Teacher may use an object, cut-out figure, gesture, photographs or diagrams to describe word meaning.

2. By verbal explanation

It froms teacher's explanation and new words in defining context.

3. Translating into another language

The activities such as illustrate words, visualizing and imaging, using media, fill in the blank exercises and have students generate examples and non-examples for words. Similary with Cameron, Shaptoshvili (2002) adds that teaching vocabulary also through these activities, memory game, word association, miming, guess the tool,

human sounds, suggestion chain, notices and warnings, and exaggerate. From explanation above, it can be concluded that teaching vocabulary can be conducted in various ways. But overall, the most important thing is that teacher should match it with students' need and the condition and also students' learning style.

### **The Concept of Charade Game**

Charade game has been out in West Country. It is an acting game. Some kinds of charades that people played; word, phrase, action and feeling. According to Glouberman (2003) charade is a game using the face and body to communicate. Some points that should be examined in the game are keeping from talking, physical communication skills, shared and non-shared cultural references, learning to see things from the other person's perspective, emotion in communication, development of specific vocabulary, and effect of competition on effectiveness and enjoyment. It can be concluded that is a game or guessing game using body, face, gesture and mime to visualize words, phrases, feelings, and actions without utterance.

### **Advantages of Using Charade Game**

There are several advantages that both teacher and students get from Charade Game. This game may reduce students' anxiety in classroom. Fun and enjoyable situation will raise students' motivation in learning English. It also enables students to acquire new experience in foreign language. It helps students to expand vocabulary so that students know words that they think they do not know before. Students' confidence may build through communication in doing this game.

Furthermore, students learn about fair play since the Charade is a competition game. They are taught how to respect other teams who win the game. It also teaches the students to see things from other person's perspectives. It is important for the students to realize that they are different each other. They also have to respect others idea, opinion and thinking. Last, Charade helps teacher to make learning process become valuable and effective if it is conducted in right way.

### **Discussion**

Charade game is best method for reviewing the lesson, especially in reviewing specific vocabulary terms. In applying this game in classroom, the teacher should consider the learning outcomes and knowledge that students will get from this activity. In order to make activity succeed, the teacher should do all parts in sequence. It will help the teacher manage the class as a whole. Procedures of the game should be written in order to reach the purpose of that activity.

First, teacher has to find several topics for Charade game that will be given to the students. Topics should be appropriate with students' level, which is Pre-Intermediate level. Before starting the game, it is better for teacher to give warming up activity, divide class into few teams, if it is a competition. Let students know that they are going to have charade game and will compete in teams. Teacher explains how to play and rules of the game.

Then, teacher writes a list of words that have related with the topics of the lesson in index cards. It is important for teacher to know meaning of words given. Index cards are used to list of words and later put the in basket or box. It helps teacher before the class begins so the teacher does not run out of time.

During the game, teacher acts all the words that have been written. It is suggested to try out first the game with the teacher's colleagues in order to measure the rank of difficulties of the game. All students involve and participate in the game. Teacher takes note for every mistakes students made in guessing the words. Last, the teacher has to be ready for discussion topic after the game as follow up activity. Time is also be a consideration in doing that activity. In order to make students more motivated, teacher can make charade competition at the end of the meeting for every semester. It is good as evaluation or might be as entertaining activity.

### Conclusion

As we know, knowing as many as possible words in all fields is important for many people in communication. In helping students expanding and enriching vocabulary, the teacher has to use many teaching strategies and aids in classroom. One of strategies is using Charade game. It can help the students enrich and expand their vocabulary. This game also can attract the students' interest since there is a competition in the game.

In using the game, the teacher has to be creative in choosing the topic of the game. For students, they have to give big effort in the game since it is a competition game. In this case, it can be concluded that charade game may use as one of teaching strategies in enriching students vocabulary in order to make learning process become fun and enjoyable.

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