

CHAPTER I

1.1 Background of the study

In 2004 the government has a new curriculum which English subject is not only local content, but also compulsory subject starting from first grade to sixth grade in elementary school. This new curriculum called Competence Based Curriculum. The purpose of this curriculum is to develop students' understanding about the relationship between language and culture. Moreover, it aims at developing students' ability in communication orally and written form (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) (Curriculum 2004). Concerning about that, to make good communication in English, students must have good grammar, so they can understand their partner.

In practice, learning grammar is, of course, not easy for Indonesian learners who study English, specially for Elementary School students who have new experience in learning grammar. The fact they seem to understand when the teacher explains about grammar in the classroom, but when they have to apply it both written or spoken English, they are not able to use it properly. This is because there are many aspects of grammar such as simple words, tenses and meaning that are totally different from their mother tongue.

Moreover, students have to understand the rules of grammar that it is learned in the classroom if they want to use it properly both in writing or spoken English. The writer believes that those aspects are not easy to understand for students.

One of the ways of creating a good design of material and nice situation in learning and teaching English is by using teaching media. The use of teaching media can help the teaching and learning process in the way that they can increase the students' interest, and help the teachers to vary their techniques of teaching.

Although the use of media is essential in language learning, teacher must select the media that is appropriate with the students' interest and needs. From the available selection of media, the writer chooses pictures to be used in this thesis.

Learning English Comparison is not as easy as it looks. The teacher always uses textbook when he teaches his students. This makes the students think that learning English comparison is drudgery. To sustain the students' motivation and to produce positive attitude toward learning, picture comes in handy.

The importance of using pictures in teaching English comparison is indisputable. Using pictures can knock down the students' boredom and increase the students' motivation toward English comparison. It is because pictures more interesting (Esnestovo, 1981:5).

Comparison is defined as the form when we compare two things or groups of thing (Geoffrey and leech, 1989:84). Comparison itself is branch of the characteristics of adjective, which has two parts, those are, comparison of adjective and comparison of adverb. There are types of comparison with gradable adjective and adverb, namely, to a higher degree, to the same degree, and to a lower degree (Greenbaum and Quirk, 1990:152-156). Comparison to a higher degree is stated by the inflected form in *er* and *est* or with *more* and *most*. *er* and *more* are called comparative which generally used to express a comparison

between two person, two items or two sets. In this research the researcher only focus on the same degree form or positive degree form. It is started by *asas* :

Knowing the importance and the effectiveness of using visual media in teaching English based on the statements and findings that had been mentioned, the writer can conclude that elementary school teachers need teaching media in their English classes. In this case media can : a) activate the students, b) reinforce teaching learning process, c) help to stimulate motivation for language learners, and d) give learners to study easily. The researcher chooses the fifth grade of Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Modern Sunan Giri because he is an English teacher at that school and the researcher want to investigate the effect of pictures to his students.

1.2 Problem Statement

Based on the to background of the study, the researcher provides one question as the problem of the research as follow :

How is the effectiveness of using pictures in teaching English Positive Degree to the fifth grade students of elementary school in Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Modern Sunan Giri Gresik?

1.3 Purposes of the study

Related with the problem above, this study has purpose to find out the effect of the pictures in teaching English Positive Degree.

1.4 Hypothesis

The researcher states the hypothesis of the study as follow:

“Using pictures in teaching of English Positive Degree to the fifth grade students of elementary students can increase students’ ability of English Positive Degree”.

1.5 The Significance of the study

The writer has some expectations from this study for students and teachers;

1. This study is expected to be useful as a consideration in improving and developing the teaching “English Comparison Of Positive Degree ”, especially in Elementary School.
2. This study is expected to be useful as a consideration for teachers to use visual aids in their teaching of English.

1.6. Scope and Limitation

The scope and limitation is focused on teaching English Positive Degree on fifth grade of elementary school of Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Modern Sunan Giri Gresik.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

It is better for us to know and understand about the definition of each key term below;

1. Comparison

Comparison is comparisons involve (at least) two peoples or two things
(Geoffry and Leech ,1989; 84)

2. Pictures

A picture is an aspect of method where through their representation of places, objects, and people they are essential part of the overall experience we must help our students cope it (Andrew, 1982:2)

3. Effectiveness

Power to be effective; the quality of being able to bring about an effect.