

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF USING SONGS TO IMPROVE STUDENTS' MASTERY OF PRESENT PERFECT TENSE AT THE EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS OF SMP NEGERI 10 PURWOREJO IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR OF 2014/2015

Laila Lutfiana

Lutfiana.laila@yahoo.com

English Education Program, Teacher Training And Education Faculty,
Muhammadiyah University of Purworejo

Abstract

The objectives of the study is to find out whether English songs are effective or not to improve students' understanding of present perfect tense at the eighth grade of SMP N 10 Purworejo in the academic year of 2014/2015. This research was carried out at SMP N 10 Purworejo in five meetings on May 2015. The population of the study is the eighth grade students of SMP N 10 Purworejo. As the sample, the researcher used 64 students of the total population. The researcher used purposive sampling technique to make sample. To collect the data, the researcher used test as the instrument. There were pre-test and post-test. To analyze the data, the researcher used t-test formula. The result of data computation indicates that t-value is 4.65. It means that t-value of this study is higher than the t-table. The t-table is 1.999. It means that using English songs to improve students' mastery of present perfect tense at the eighth grade of SMP N 10 Purworejo in the academic year of 2014/2015 is effective, therefore H_a is accepted.

Key word: *Effectiveness, Songs, Present Perfect Tense*

A. Introduction

Language is a means of communication that is used to transfer information, ideas, and feelings from one person to another. It is used to communicate both in written and spoken form. People use to communicate with other in their social group, to express their wishes, feeling, and thought. Therefore, language is very important to learn because by learning language hopefully we can communicate well with others.

Nowadays, English becomes the first language that has to be mastered by everyone who wants to communicate globally. It places English as the international language which is used in every field of life, economic, social, politic etc. Being an international language, English is used in international events and used as the medium of information like science, technology and culture. The goal of teaching and learning English is mainly to prepare the students to have all language skills: listening, speaking, writing and reading. These skills must be taught integrally for



instance teaching speaking or writing will influence other skills of English. They correlate one another in the English learning process. The students are expected to master all skills in balance.

When you study language, the first time you must study about the rules or the basic of language. Grammar is one of the basic aspects which must be learned by the students to produce and arrange words into sentences. Thornbury (1999: 4) states that grammar is a process for making meaning clear when contextual information is lacking. Besides grammar is a tool for making meaning, grammar also has important function depending on the sentences. One sentence may express different meaning and express variety of time in different tenses. It is important to study grammar because when we use uncorrected grammatical sentences, it can raise misunderstanding between the speakers and the listeners; it is the reason why people should study grammar.

Teaching grammar at school is also not easy. The teacher can use some media that help them to convey the message to achieve the goal of learning process. But, nowadays, conventional method in teaching learning process is still used. The student will be bored, and they are not interested in the subject. In teaching grammar (present perfect tense), the teacher teach this tense by giving a note on the whiteboard, giving some examples, and then asking the students to take a note. After that the students are only given limited time to do some exercises. Here, the students easily feel bored of the teaching methods since there is no interesting and attractive activity involved in their learning process. Therefore, teacher must be creative and smart to make interesting atmosphere because it can influence the learning process.

As we know, there are many kinds of media, but not all of media can be used to teach grammar (present perfect tense). One of media that can be used is song. Song or music gives positive effect to stimulate the learners. Music and song are included as teaching media. The use of music and song in the classroom gives positive stimulate to learner who learns a language. According to Hornby (2005: 1459) song is a piece of music with words that you sing. Song can change the atmosphere in a classroom or prepare students for new activity; it can amuse and entertain, and make a satisfactory connection between the world of leisure and the world of learning. Here, the teacher can explain the grammatical sentences from the song lyrics. Therefore, the students get appropriate method to study grammar especially in this case of present perfect tense.

According to Eastwood (1999: 26), defines that present perfect tells us about the past and the present. Therefore, present perfect tense is a tense which is used to express something



in the past is connected to something in the present. On the other hand, in Indonesia there is no kind of tense that used to describe or to tell activities that happened in the past and the present. To indicate the time, in Indonesia just uses time signals that is why most of the students still feel difficult to master it in their learning.

"We Are the Champion by Queen, *Have You Ever* by Brandy, and *I'm Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking for* by U2" these songs lyric are precious resources to develop student's abilities in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. It is also appropriate to teach grammar subject. Its lyric contains several kinds of tenses. Here, the teacher can explain more detail about grammatical sentence especially present perfect tense and improve his or her students ' mastery about tenses.

B. Research Method

This research is experimental design. This research took place in May, 11th to May, 21st 2015. at SMP N 10 Purworejo in the academic year of 2014/2015. The samples are VIII H as experimental group and VIII F as control group. According to Sugiyono (2011: 118), sampling is the technique to get the sample. In this research, the researcher used the purposive sampling. According to Arikunto (2013: 192), test is the way to measure the ability, knowledge and intelligences from individual or group. In this research, the researcher uses test as the instrument.

C. Research Finding and Discussion

1. Descriptive Analysis

The result of control group are he highest score of the pre-test (H) is 82, the lowest score (L) is 50, the range (R) is 32, the median (Me) is 64, the Mode (Mo) is 64 and the total score of pre-test is 2104. While the highest score (H) of the post test is 84, the lowest score (L) is 50, the range (R) is 34, the median (Me) is 70, the mode (Mo) is 84, and the total score of the post test is 2214.

The result of experimental group are the highest score of the pre-test (H) is 72, the lowest score (L) is 36, the range (R) is 36, the median (Me) is 52, the Mode (Mo) is 54 and the total score of pre-test is 1628. While the highest score (H) of the post test is 94, the lowest score (L) is 60, the range (R) is 34, the median (Me) is 78, the mode (Mo) is 76 and the total score of the post test is 2540.

2. Inferential Analysis



a. Test of Normality

Normality test was used to see whether the distribution of the data is normal or not. In testing of normality of the data, the researcher used Chi Square Formula. The normality test of experimental group from the table Chi Square values is 6.12. Then, it is compared to the value of Chi Square table with df (degree of freedom) $6-1=5$. Based on the table of Chi Square, it is known that at the chi square value on the level 0.05 is 11.070. Because Chi Square obtained is lower than the value of Chi Square table ($6.12 < 11.070$). It means that the distribution of the data of experimental group is normal.

The normality test of control group from the table Chi Square values is 4.92. Then, it is compared to the value of Chi Square table with df (degree of freedom) $6-1=5$. Based on the table of Chi Square, it is known that at the chi square value on the level 0.05 is 11.070. Because Chi Square obtained is lower than the value of Chi Square table ($4.92 < 11.070$). It means that the distribution of the data of control group is normal.

From the normality test of experimental group and control group, the researcher found that the distribution of the data of both group are normal.

b. Test of Homogeneity

From the computation, the value of F is 1.396. Then, it is compared to the value of F table with df of numerator ($32-1 = 31$) and df of denominator ($32 - 1 = 31$). Based on the table on F table, it is known that at the F value on the significant level 0.05 is 1.822. Because F obtained is lower than the value of F table ($1.1039 < 1.822$), it means that the variance of two sample is homogeneous.

c. T-test Findings

The calculations of the mean score of experimental group and control group are 79.38 and 69.38. If we compare the two means, it is clear that the mean of the experimental group is higher than the mean of the control group. The difference between the two means is 10.19. It indicates that the treatment is effective.

To make the analysis more reliable, the researcher analyzes it by using *t-test* formula. The result of t value was 4.65 and the t-table is 1.999. It can be shown that t value was higher than t table. Thus, it can be concluded that H_a is accepted. It

means that English songs are effective to improve students' mastery of present perfect tense.

D. Conclusion

Based on the research finding which has been discussed in the previous chapter, the researcher can conclude that the use of songs in teaching present perfect tense at the eighth grade students of SMP N 10 Purworejo in the academic year of 2014/2015 is effective. It can be seen from the mean score of experimental group is higher than the mean score of control group ($79.38 > 69.19$). It means that present perfect tense mastery of the students in experimental group belonged to excellent category and in control group belonged to sufficient category. By analyzing t-test formula, the researcher obtains that the result of t-test is higher than t-table that is $4.65 > 1.999$.

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