

## IDEAS TO ENHANCE ENGLISH LEARNERS' MOTIVATION THROUGH TECHNOLOGY BASED TEACHING MEDIA

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**Abstract:** we see and face that our students not really motivated when they learn English, feeling bored and not interesting to English. Teaching media usage can face this problem, because the use of teaching media can attract students' attention to the subject. However, even the teacher used teaching media to explain materials, sometimes it is not a good way to avoid students' boredom, because they not really interesting to teaching media used. This article tries to give some ideas related to the problem above, by offering ideas about interesting teaching media that is technology based teaching media. This issues based on the fact that the growth of technology today is very massive, and students are very familiar and interested in technology. So, it is hoped as an English teacher to adapt students' interest in term of technology as teaching media.

**Key words:** *English learners, Motivation, and Technology based Teaching media.*

Learning foreign language, especially English, teaching media usage is very critical for it will help both the teacher and students in the classroom teaching and learning process. Teachers used teaching media to visualize the materials conveyed to students, and students can understand materials easily. It is also important to used teaching media in teaching English for young learners, because they can understand the concrete things only, not the abstract things. Furthermore, teaching media is very helpful for both teacher and students.

Other advantages of teaching media usage both for young and adult learners in teaching English is to reduce the use of mother tongue. Teaching media can translate the word or the sentence said by the teacher, so the teacher can use English maximally in the classroom. For example: teacher presenting a new word and students do not know the meaning of this word, so teacher may not translate directly, but teacher may showing the slide consist of some picture related to the new word as clues. This way will help students to guess the new word meaning, and can help the teacher to use mother tongue by giving direct translation. The next advantage of teaching media is attracting students' motivation and attention. By using teaching media, students will interest and

pay attention much to the materials. Firstly, students may not interest to materials, but they are interested in teaching media showed by teacher, and later they will interest to materials too. Teaching media usage also increase students' positive attitude toward teacher, because they think that teacher is the one who not only extent materials, but also bring some new things in their class. It will create a new and good atmosphere in the classroom. Students also consider that their teacher is a creative teacher and has many ideas in managing classroom. Both teacher and students are profited under this class circumstances.

Not all of the things used by teacher to conveys materials are belong to teaching media, for those things must be have some characteristics in order to they can be included into teaching media. Teaching media can help the teacher to distribute materials to all students wherever are they. Supposed that teachers' absence occurred someday, teacher may distribute the materials by email, Facebook, or video phone. So the absence of the teacher is not become the barrier of teaching and learning process in the classroom. In the same hand, teaching media can manipulate the materials, means that it can change the materials in term of size, length of time, and others. For example: when the teacher wants to explain about narrative paragraph, then the video of car crash used as the media, so the video as teaching media used can manipulate this event by make the event shorter. Of course, it gives an advantage in case of saving time to use this teaching media. In addition, what is called as teaching media also can save and record the materials. Interview and observation are two activities that need teaching media as this function.

According to Gerlach & Ely (1991) mentioned that there are three characteristics of teaching media are fixative property, manipulative property, and distributive property. Firstly, Fixative property means that the teaching media can save and record the event, picture, and event. Secondly, manipulative property means that teaching media can manipulate and transform the event faster or slower than the original one. The third, distributive property, it means that the teaching media has function to distribute the materials to all of students. By having three or one of those characteristics above, the object used by the teacher to convey materials to students is called as teaching media.

Some consideration must be taken by teacher in choosing teaching media will used, in order to teaching media used is appropriate for students and really works as its function. The level of students is one thing must be considered by teacher before selecting teaching media. There must be differences between teaching media used to teach young learners and adult learners. It is related to students' ability in understanding teaching media. For example: the use of video may inappropriate to teach English for young learners than adult, because young learners have short span attention, 2 up to 3 minutes, means it will be hard for them if they have to pay attention in a long time as the video show over. Scott and Ytreberg (1990: 6-7) stated that instead of love to play, young learners in the age of 5 up to 7 also have short time to pay attention when the teacher explain materials, they cannot focus to the one thing longer than 3 minutes. So, showing picture slides that have short time display may become a good choice to teach young learners.

Other consideration before selecting teaching media is the topic. The reasons of teaching media usage is to visualize the materials, and materials have to related to topic going to discuss in the classroom. So, teaching media usage must be support to the topic and materials. Time allocation is also needed to be considered, teachers have to estimate how long the time to prepare teaching media, if the teaching media need a long time, it must be prepare before the lesson begin. Ronald H. Anderson (2008:194) also suggested that there are four steps in selecting teaching media, they are: decide the learning purposes, considering students (age, background, culture, and ability), considering students' mental development, and then selecting teaching media.

### **MANUAL TEACHING MEDIA vs TECHNOLOGY BASED TEACHING MEDIA**

As we know that there are many teaching media classification, based on dimension, they are two and three dimensional teaching media. Two dimensional teaching media define as teaching media has long and wide size only, like kinds of card, puppet, picture, map, etc. However, it is different for two dimensional teaching media, in which beside long and wide size, three dimensional teaching media has volume size, such as: Rotatoon, miniature, glove and finger puppet, globe, and others.

Other classifications of teaching media are audio, visual, and audio visual teaching media. Arsyad (2009:105) stated that there are three kinds of teaching media, visual, audio, and audio-visual. Visual means every teaching media that can be seen, touched, and felt by students, such as picture, kinds of card, realia, etc. The audio teaching media means the teaching media that has the sound available only, like radio, recorder, cassette, etc. Then, audio-visual media means teaching media has both descriptions above, like television, video, etc.

Some of teaching media above become manual teaching media, which is produce manually or by hand, like cards, shadow puppets, and flannel board. Moreover, some of them are produced by using modern property or technology, like kinds of multimedia, video, TV series, and digital game. In the other hand, the fact that is manual teaching media is not very interesting for learners today than modern teaching media that developed using technology. One of the factors is the growth of technology that is very massive today, including in term of technology applied as teaching media. Many teaching media develop used modern technology gear, like: video, movie, internet and many more. This kinds of teaching media is more interesting for students, for now days they are more familiar to technology than others. Everything is done by using technology application, including some facilities in their school, like library service, school fee, etc. This situation is influence students attitude not only toward technology itself but also teaching media used technology application.

### **IDEAS OF TECHNOLOGY BASED TEACHING MEDIA**

The fact that most of learners, especially adult learners are familiar to technology for now day, so the suggestion is addressed to teachers to choose, develop or design technology based teaching media. Wellington (2002: 42) stated

that we know that learners in general enjoy using computers and that they are motivated and engaged by multimedia material. Research further suggests that multimedia (along with other IT) can widen learners' experiences by giving them access to activities which would be impossible or time consuming to organise in other ways. Finally, IT can provide opportunities for learners to take more control over their learning and accept more responsibility. Below are some ideas of technology based teaching media available and may be possible to be applied in the classroom.

### **Multimedia**

What is called as multimedia? And what kinds of multimedia can be used as teaching media? Teaching media defines as the combination of two or more teaching media to presence picture or slide, sound, graph or even the video in the same time using computer property. According to Fenrich (1997) in Reddi (2003:4) Multimedia is the exciting combination of computer hardware and software that allows you to integrate video, animation, audio, graphics, and text resources to develop effective presentations on an affordable desktop computer. Phillips (1997) also stated that multimedia is characterized by the presence of text, pictures, sound, animation and video; some or all of which are organized into some coherent program. So, it is clear that such multimedia can be defined as an integration of multiple media elements (audio, video, graphics, text, animation etc.) into one synergetic and symbiotic whole that results in more benefits for the end user than any one of the media element can provide individually. For example: video, film, animation, and others.

Multimedia also give some benefit to student, some of multimedia allow students to learn individually in their home without their teacher attendance. Like: educational game, and e-tutorial. Students can practice their grammar using a soft ware of "hot potato quiz" developed by their teacher. The second benefit of multimedia usage is getting a direct feedback. When the students play "hot potato quiz" they directly get the feedback of their answer from this program, weather they have correct and incorrect answers. Even some kinds of educational game can give explanation when they have incorrect answer. In conclusion, multimedia can save the time in learning; beside it allows everybody to learn wherever and whenever.

Multimedia is not only giving some benefits to students, but also to teacher. First, multimedia allows the teacher to work more creative, because many applications and programs are offered here. So, teachers may select what kind of program and application they want to work with, and which one of them is more interest and appropriate for their students. Second, multimedia also allows teacher to replace an effective learning, for example: in one circumstances students and teacher may face the external disturbance when they are learning, crowded situation force the teacher to postpone the explanation. In this situation, teacher may divert the explanation by having activities using multimedia.

Although multimedia has advantages, yet they also give disadvantages related to their application and provisioning. Higher budget, of course becomes one of the barrier to develop multimedia for certain school. Knowing that not all

the school have sufficient budget to supply the teaching media, multimedia become a luxurious thing for those school. A set of computer, and internet access as a requirement in developing multimedia, and big budget is needed indeed. Time is also as one of the obstacle in developing multimedia, for it will take longer time to develop multimedia than other media. Related to teachers' rush is to be one of the reasons why multimedia infrequent to be developed in the school. Not only teachers' time, but also teachers' ability, because not all the teacher have good ability to develop multimedia, even to operate a computer only.

### **Internet**

Nowadays internet as the basic need for every people in daily life, because it provides information needed by people, beside it is easy to access whenever we want and need. This easiness and benefit of internet also took advantage of educational field that is using internet as learning sources and media. In case of internet as teaching media may provide materials, videos, short movies, slides, and pictures that can be used as teaching media. Teachers have to be careful in selecting teaching media from the internet, because sometimes the contents of internet are inappropriate to use as teaching media.

Other usage of internet as teaching media is an email. An email can replace teacher's attendance in the classroom when she/he cannot come to the class. By sending materials through the email, the materials can be learnt by students in the classroom. As notation, when students cannot understand materials they may discuss to their friend, or even asking their question to the teacher in the next meeting when the teacher comes to the class.

### **Facebook**

Social media becomes trending topic to be discussed today among teenager and adult, kinds of social media like twitter and facebook are very familiar among them. This trend can be taken as advantages to teacher to use them as teaching media. Ask students in every class to made and join a group in facebook, including the teacher. Teacher can use this facility to have summary of the subject have conveyed to students, and asked them to give a comment. Moreover, other students are allowed to give comment to their own friends' comment. This event, give a chance for students among a class to discuss and change their opinion, including the teacher. By this way, the teaching and learning process is not only happen in the classroom, but also outside the classroom, and outside their school hours.

Teachers can do many creative ways or activities beside what have described above, like having a quiz via facebook, so students can answer the quiz in the comment form. Besides having quiz, teacher may use facebook as a chamber to give motivation or to introduce the topic going to discuss the next day, or giving some question or clues about what will discuss tomorrow in the class. Having this ways are considers can increase students motivation toward the topic and the subject, for they fell very curious about what the teacher means. In addition, difference activities can create by using facebook, therefore the monotonous situation in the classroom can be avoided.

## SAC

SAC or self-access centre is one of the facilities in the school or in the university, in which students can access many learning sources, and they can learn by themselves through this facility. They can find many English books, novel, magazine, and newspaper. Students are also offered watching English movies, or others English video. SAC gives a good environment in learning English, because students can explore many English materials there. Although this facilities is good for students in learning English, but not all schools or universities have this facilities, because of limited budget.

## CONCLUSION

A good teacher is the one who can convey materials to students well, many ways available to reach this purpose, one of them is by using appropriate teaching media. Appropriate means suitable to topic and also to students. In the same hand, appropriate also means suitable to students want, interest, and era. Today is not very common to used manual teaching media, because most of students are not interested in this media, they feel not familiar and not challenging toward manual teaching media. However, they are interested in technology based teaching media. So, it is suggested to the teacher to use technology based teaching media, like: kinds of multimedia, facebook, internet, email, and SAC or self-access centre. Although it is complicated to develop, but it is effective to be applied for students today.

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