

Students' Perception Towards Islamic Boarding Activities in Improving Their English Performance

Siti Sarah*¹, Ema Dauyah¹, Suryani¹

¹) Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, FKIP, Universitas, Abulyatama, Jl. Blang Bintang
Lama Km 8,5 Lampoh Keude Aceh Besar.

*Email Korespondensi: sayyidirraiss@gmail.com

Abstract: *Islamic boarding school activities refer to the English activity which is done outside of the classroom provided by the school. These activities are supposed to assist the students to improve their English performance and yet the effectiveness of those activities is still unknown. This research was conducted to find out the students' perception toward Islamic boarding school activity in improving students' English performance. The research was conducted in Babul Maghfirah Islamic Boarding School in Aceh Besar. By using qualitative approach, the questionnaire was used as research instrument to collect the data from 28 participants. The result was analyzed by using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 23 for windows. Then, the data were interpreted to expand the explanation of the data. The descriptive analysis was done to elaborate the result. The result showed that the students perceived the Islamic boarding school activities assisted them in improving their English performance, increasing their confident in speaking English and giving many opportunities to try many new things.*

Keywords : *Islamic Boarding School, English Activities, Students' English Performance*

Abstrak: Kegiatan pesantren yang mengacu pada kegiatan bahasa Inggris yang dilakukan di luar kelas diselenggarakan oleh pihak pesantren. Kegiatan ini seharusnya membantu siswa untuk meningkatkan kemampuan bahasa Inggris mereka, namun keefektivitasan kegiatan tersebut masih belum diketahui. Penelitian ini dilakukan untuk mengetahui persepsi santri terhadap aktivitas pesantren dalam meningkatkan kemampuan berbahasa Inggris santri. Penelitian ini dilakukan di Pondok Pesantren Babul Maghfirah Aceh Besar. Dengan menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif, kuesioner digunakan sebagai instrumen penelitian untuk mengumpulkan data dari 28 partisipan. Hasil penelitian kemudian dianalisis dengan menggunakan Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) versi 23 for windows. Kemudian data tersebut diinterpretasikan untuk memperluas penjelasan data tersebut. Analisis deskriptif dilakukan untuk mengelaborasi hasil penelitian. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa santri berpandangan bahwa kegiatan-kegiatan di pesantren membantu mereka dalam meningkatkan kemampuan bahasa Inggris mereka, menumbuhkan kepercayaan diri mereka dalam berbicara bahasa Inggris dan memberikan banyak kesempatan untuk mencoba banyak hal baru

Kata kunci : *Pesantren, Aktivitas Bahasa Inggris, Performa Bahasa Inggris Siswa*

Islamic boarding school is an educational system that combines science and Islamic knowledge in one institution which is set by the government to meet the national standard of education in Indonesia (Mahdi, 2013). Referring to Law No. 20 of 2003 concerning the national education system and the function of education especially in point 3, it is said that national education functions to develop the potential of students so that they can be human being who believes and fears God Almighty, has good character, healthy, knowledgeable, being capable, creative, independent, and becomes a democratic and responsible citizen. In line with the goal of national education, islamic boarding school educates the students to meet that standard.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher intends to conduct a study to answer one main question: How do the students of the Islamic Boarding Schools perceive the influence of boarding activities in their English performance. The purpose of this study is to find out students' perception toward the influence of Islamic Boarding School activities in improving their English performance.

This research is expected to motivate English teachers to increase their creativity in providing appropriate ways for students in order to improve their interest and motivated to master English. Then, this research hopefully will be useful for students in their English learning. The students are expected to be active in mastering the English skill because there are many activities that are mentioned in this research to help their English mastery. Finally, the result of this research can be a reference for other researchers as a foundation research to do other studies that related to the same field of research.

METHODOLOGY

Place and time

This research was conducted at islamic boarding school of Babul Maghfirah. This school is located at lam Alu Cut, Kuta baro, Aceh Besar Regency, Aceh.. The time of this research was on Thursday Mei, 26th 2022. There were two phases of doing this research The first phase was conducted at 8 – 9 am for the male students and at 14 – 14:30 pm for female students.

Research Design

The approach used in this research was qualitative approach because the

researcher wanted to identify students' perception toward islamic boarding activities influence their English performance. According to Creswell (2012), qualitative research is a method used to explore attitudes, behavior, and experiences through interview or focus group. The qualitative research is useful to explore and understand the phenomenon that happens around environment. It is useful to find out the thought among the participants in the particular issue. In addition, to scale the answers of this research, the researcher asked the participants about their response toward islamic boarding activities especially language activities applied in their boarding school in influencing their English performance. Then, the data were obtained by contributing questionnaire. Then, the obtained data were calculated and analyzed.

Population and Sample

According to Majid (2018), the population is a group interest that will generalize the result of the study. Furthermore, the population of this research was all senior high school students in Babul Maghfirah Aceh Besar. Sample is representative from the population of interest (Majid, 2018). The sample in this research is 28 students from the second grade students of senior high school at Babul Magfirah. The purpose of choosing the second grade students was to ensure the students were already familiar with islamic learning activity applied in their boarding school.

Furthermore, the researcher chose the second grades of senior high school students at Babul Maghfirah. The students were chosen by considering their experiences involved in the islamic boarding school activities. The students were selected by using the purposive sampling. The purposive sampling method was chosen to ease the researcher to select the participants and to obtain variety of response from the participants (Creswell (2012). Therefore, the total of sample was 28 students.

Research Instrument

For the purpose of this research, the questionnaire was used as the main instrument for data collection

Questionnaire

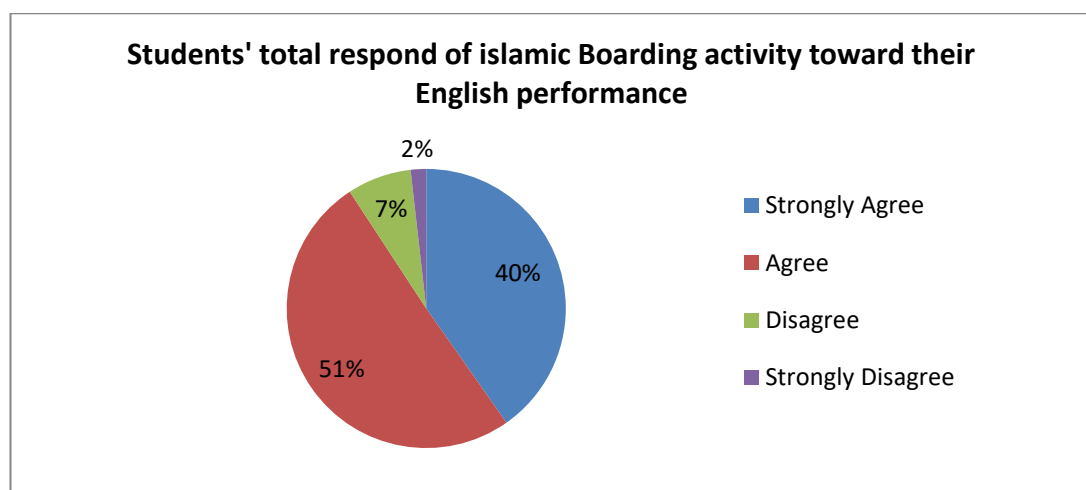
The questionnaire is a technique of data collection done by giving a set of questions or a written statement to the respondent to be answered (Sugiyono, 2009). The questionnaire in the form of closed statement is given to respondents individually and

directly. The questionnaire in this study was be a closed questionnaire. The closed questionnaire is the type of question where the answers are determined and the participants just need to choose the approval answers. The scale model of measurement used is a Likert scale. There were 18 questions in total set for the questionnaire. Each statement consisted of 4 possible answers had been provided; they were strongly agree (SA), agree (A), disagree (D) and strongly disagree (SD) about their perception toward islamic boarding school activities whether or not improving their English proficiency.

The technique of data collection will be elaborated below: The questionnaire was distributed to second grade of senior high school of Babul Maghfirah. The printed questionnaire was printed in order to ease the students in answering the questions. The source of of questionnaire was adopted by Kasnodihardjo (1993) cited in Astalini and kurniawan (2019). The questionnaire was objected to gain the participants' opinion toward the islamic boarding school activities whether or not they improve students' English performance. The questionnaire was given on Tuesday, Mei 26th 2022. The participants were asked to give check symbols (✓) in the column of the questionnaire based on their experience and perspective. The questionnaire was written in Bahasa Indonesia so that the students could easily understand the questions.

RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

Research Result



The chart of students' total respond toward islamic boarding school activity showed that students gave positive respond about English activity provided by islamic boarding school toward English performance. With 51% of the students chose "Agree" and

40% students chose "Strongly Agree", the English activity surely affected their English performance. Even though there were 7% of students who chose "Disagree" and 2% of students chose "Strongly disagree", the total respond showed a positive attitude toward English activity. The result indicated that the activities which were applied in islamic boarding school gave positive influence toward students' skill especially in upgrading their English performance such as vocabulary mastery and speaking skill. It was also obtained that the students could improve their confident in speaking and their learning activity was helped by the activity done outside the classroom. In conclusion, it was obtained that the students gave more positive respond than negative respond about the influence of islamic boarding school activity especially language activity toward students' English performance.

Discussions

After analyzing the result of this study, a discussion was presented in order to answer the research questions as stated in the chapter 1. The only research question is "How do the students of the Islamic Boarding Schools perceive the influence of boarding activities in their English performance?". To answer this research question, questionnaire was used to collect the data from the subject of this research.

Based on the result of the questionnaire, the students perceived that the English activities which were provided in Islamic boarding school of Babul Maghfirah assisted them in learning new knowledge and try variety of activities of learning such religious subjects, science, sport, art and language program. It is in line with Nurjaman (2013) who said that islamic boarding school provided many different activities that can be gained by the students in order to expand their knowledge in different fields of disciplines. Then, the result also showed that students were comfortable with the number of activities applied in the school. They said that they could manage the time properly and the activities did not disturb their break time during their learning activities in boarding school. As mentioned by Maksudin (2010) as cited in Rizkiani (2012), islamic boarding school is supposed to support students' characteristics and behavior so that the program was set to treat them to have Islamic value.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Conclusion

According to the result on the previous chapter, there are several conclusions that can

be presented in this research. Firstly, students perceive that Islamic boarding school activities encourage the students to learn more knowledge such as religious education, language acquisition, etc. The result also reveals that the activities do not interrupt students' personal activity in the boarding school. However, the number of activities compound students' improvement of English performance because they hardly focus on particular subject or knowledge.

Secondly, the finding showed that students were assisted by the variety of English activities provided by Babul Magfirah Islamic boarding school. The activities such as vocabulary delivery, daily conversation, public speaking, bringing notebook and language week contributed for students' improvement of English ability. For instance, the number of students' vocabulary mastery was increased during their learning in boarding school. The result was proved by the majority of students answered the questionnaire with positive response for each item. From the result, it was also obtained those English activities which were done outside the classroom helped the students in the formal English learning in the class.

Suggestion

In this section of research, the researcher provided some suggestion that could be considered by whom it might be concerned.

1. For the islamic boarding school stakehorlders

From the result of this result, it was obtained that the English activities surely helped the students to improve their English performance and confident of speaking. However, the school needs to consider about the number of activities provided in that boarding school. Too many activities could interrupt the focus of language acquisition of the students since they have to learn properly another subject or discipline. It would be wise for the islamic boarding school to divide the students' schedule based on their interest. For instance, if the students are interested more in English acquisition, the activities are given only to improve their English. For another activity, students can choose it as optional so that they can be more focus to particular skill or knowledge.

2. For the Students

From the result of this study, it was obtained that the students have been

already assisted by the variety of English activities. Thus, the students should maintain the good thing as they do today. For the rest of the students who still face some difficulties in improving their English performance, they should try to involve in the English activities properly. Sometimes, students are still hesitant to involve in the activities which affected their success of finishing the program. If the students involved in the activities properly, they could get better result.

3. For the further Researcher

From the result of this study, it was obtained that some students still considered that the English activities did not assist them in improving their English performance. It is necessary for the next researcher to find out the particular causes why those students did not get any aid from the activities provided by the boarding school. Then, since this research was focused on the students' perception, it is necessary for the next researchers to do some experimental researches to find out the effectiveness of each English activity in islamic boarding school.

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