# Teacher's Perspective Toward The Use Of Song In English Language Classroom

Alfiyah Zulfa, Susanti Amalia, Bella Nusa Bahari, Akmal

Abstract: Songs as a kind of music that contains linguistic, pedagogical, cultural and entertaining features can use as media and materials in the teaching-learning process. This study aims to know the advantages of using a song based on the teacher perspective and the limitation in applying in the classroom. Moreover, this research uses qualitative as research design, and use the interview as an instrument of this research. By using the openended question in an interview to some experienced teachers who have already taught using songs, the result showed that the advantages of the song as media increase the students' motivation and interest in learning English. Besides, as materials, songs are easy to get and to present in the classroom. Meanwhile, the teacher should select properly the song considered to the aspect of content, vocabulary, grammar, of the song that suitable or not with the student's language level.

Index Terms: teaching, teaching materials, teaching media, songs

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

English language teaching or ELT is a process of transfer knowledge and share information about the English language. They are many things that should teacher prepare before teaching. One of the teachers should prepare about teaching materials. Teaching materials are a key component which is importantly considered in language program [1]. He also mentioned that one of the teaching materials is authentic materials. Authentic materials are the teaching resources that are not specially prepared for a teaching and learning process, such as newspaper, movie, and song. The song is one of the teaching media that can use in the classroom. Moreover, the use of the song in the classroom can make the teaching process more interesting. The using of songs can teach how the correct sound. It also can help the teaching process to be more interested [2]. Besides, the song is commonly used as teaching material when the teaching practice does [3]. His research explained that the participants commonly used the song for teaching listening skill. However, this study believes that using a song as teaching materials for teaching listening skill is effective. Since based on the participant's experience when used song in the classroom, it can make the students more interested in the learning process. It is proven when the participants teaching a listening skill by used a song from the song; it makes the students to be more interest in the learning process. Furthermore, the used song as teaching materials can make the students more motivated in the learning process[4]. It is proven by the researcher's experience when she made a conversation with other teachers. It was found that most of the teacher used the song for teaching listening skill. They are mention that, when they used the song for teaching listening skill, make their students motivated in the learning process[5]. For example, when they used baby shake in the classroom for teaching in the elementary school, the students will be attracted, and it is caused students to be more motivated in the learning process. Regarding the experiences above, the researcher finds the advantages of using the song as teaching material. It makes the researcher interested to find

out the advantages and limitation from teachers perspectives in using song when teaching English Language teaching. In line with it, the researcher wants to do this research. It aims to answer two research questions. First, what are the advantages of using the song in a language classroom based on teacher perspective? Second, what are the limitations of using the song in a language classroom based on teacher perspective?

# 2 METHODOLOGY

#### **Data Collection**

The researcher used the interview as the data instrument. To interview, the researcher needs some steps to do. They are preparing interview guideline, making an appointment, explain what research objective is [6]. The researcher interviewed with an open-ended question. In this interview, the researcher used the questions and sequences of them are determined in advance. Then, transcribing the interview, and do member checking to make sure the validity of the data. Moreover, this research used descriptive qualitative analysis for analyzing the research questions. The researcher checked the transcription and did a coding of the data gained.

#### **Participants**

The participants of this research were the teachers who study at Magister program at one university in Yogyakarta. The researcher chose four students. The researcher chose the target of the population, which are teachers who study at Magister program that has been teaching a minimum of three years. Therefore, the researcher believed those participants enough experiences in teaching practice.

### Location

This research was conducted at Magister program of English Education Department in Ahmad Dahlan University Yogyakarta Literature Review

#### •The use of songs in English language classroom

When we talk about the use of songs in the English language classroom, it is important to talk first about a definition of the text which enlightens our perceptive of songs. It goes far away from a printed word: "a text is a whole thing that possible to read and to rewritten; our realities and life experience are texts we can read out loud and rephrase by being significant readers of them"[7]. This definition is important. Since songs

Alfiyah Zulfa, Susanti Amalia, Bella Nusa Bahari are currently pursuing masters degree program in English Language Education in Ahmad Dahlan University. E-mail: alfiyah1234@gmail.com

Akmal is currently pursuing lecturer in English Language Education in Ahmad Dahlan University

are seen in this research as texts that can read by all of the people from their own opinions having a significant position; in here, texts means not a sequence of paragraphs, but it is means that represents a comprehensive unit of vocalizations. Moreover, songs can make students more motivated in English classroom. The significance of songs can help students to study English and to enhance learner participation [8]. Besides, the song can help the teacher and the students at the same time since in-process learning, and teaching songs can give entertaining for students and teacher. Songs also can make students relax in the classroom. Therefore, they can become enjoyable when learning English by using a song. Furthermore, the song is useful to increase language abilities. It is especially oral skills. Besides, learning English through songs is providing a different situation for students who are usually anxious when speaking the English language in a classroom. The teacher can choose the materials (song) that will be used based on the student's interest [9]. Using authentic material, such as songs can make students express their opinions, feelings, and reactions [10].

# • The use of songs procedure

Process of several listening activities can be achieved by activating previous understanding, students can categories their learning by thinking on their purpose for listening, and if speaking is also a goal of the classroom, using the well-structured speaking assessment [11]. It is also can be applied when using a song. He also explained that some step in teaching listening skill (including song). First is active prior-knowledge. Second is while listening. The third is the post-listening.

# • The Previous research

They are some review of the previous studies that Related with the same case. They are under the title teaching the English language by use songs: Using Song in Teaching English Speaking Skills for Young Learners. Moreover, other the study is under the title Fixing Students' Pronunciation Using Songs. Lastly, the other research entitle is Using Songs in Teaching Oral Skills to Young Learners: Teachers' Views and Attitudes. The first research under the title teaching the English language by use songs: Using Song in Teaching English Speaking Skills for Young Learners [12]. This research found that some advantages and disadvantages of the use of the song in teaching English in speaking aspect. The advantages of using song are: First, the song could become a media introduction of new languages. Second, the songs improve students' pronunciation. Third, the song could give a good contribution to increasing students' motivation in speaking. Fourth, the song can strengthen the memory of students. In other hands, the disadvantages of using song are: First, not all students can receive which will be delivered by their teacher. Second, the song can disturb the class adjacent lessons. Third, the song can lose control in the classroom. Fourth, the song has a poor vocabulary. The second research is under the title Fixing Students' Pronunciation Using Songs [13]. This research found that most students can fix their pronunciation. Moreover, this research also found that the students have a strong interest in listening and understanding English songs for the learning process. The third research is to come with entitle Using Songs in Teaching Oral Skills to Young Learners: Teachers' Views and Attitudes [14]. This research found that most of the teachers that were

surveyed are realize about the pedagogical value when using songs in teaching English for oral skills to young Learner. However, they cannot use songs for teaching because it is contra with their religious and cultural beliefs. Based on the previous study above, it is about the use of the song in teaching. The researcher found that they are only focused on one skill. Such as the use of a song that focused only on speaking skill. However, the other research's that only focused on pronunciation and oral skill that part of speaking skill. Based on this case, in this research, the researcher wants to know how the use of the song in general aspect. It means not only in speaking skill but also in listening and other aspects. In line with it, this research comes with the use of the song in the English language classroom based on the teacher perspective.

## 3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

# 3.1 The advantages of using the song in the English classroom

The research found three advantages of using songs in the English language classroom. First, the song can make students more motivated in the classroom. Second, the song can make students more interested in the classroom. Third. the song is easy to get for the teacher. Below is the detail explanation about the advantages of the song in the English classroom. First, the song can make students more motivated. This research found that songs can make the student more motivated in the English language classroom. The participants believe authentic material can give motivation for students because authentic materials provided real-life context, and make students easy to understand. Authentic materials (that including songs) have a positive effect on learner motivation because they are intrinsically more interesting and motivating that created materials [15]. Second, using a song can make the students more interesting. The song as authentic materials can give positive effect for student's interest [16]. The factor that can make students interest is divide into two. First is song can make students enjoy so that they can be interested in the classroom. Second, the song is fun for students so that they will enjoy the English lesson in the classroom. Besides, using a song can be anticipated, students fell bored so that they will be more interested in the learning process [17]. Third, the song is the available materials. It means songs are easy to get when the participant used in their teaching practice. The participant one tends to mention songs are easy to get because the participant can get from the Internet. Moreover, in now day internet access is quick and easy to access. It helps the teacher retrieve the materials easily.

# 3.2 The limitation of using the song in the English languageclassroom

Another aim that the researcher explored in this research is how the limitation of using a song in the English language classroom. After the participants explained the advantages of using the song in their English language classroom, the participants explained the limitation of using songs in their English language classroom. In this finding, the researcher divided the limitation of using the song in the English language classroom into two categories. First is when the teacher using songs on English language classroom, the teacher should be more careful in selecting the songs. Second is when a teacher using songs in the English language classroom, the teacher

should have well preparation in teaching media. First, all of the participants in this research believe that they should more careful in determining the materials for students. It is because the source of songs can be from anywhere. The teacher should have much time to determine the suitable materials for students when using a song [18]. The other reason, it because there no standard what song that can be taught in an English lesson. There are no 'standard' songs for teaching, so the teacher can use song based on their purpose [19]. Therefore. the teacher should consider many aspects. They are content, vocabulary, grammar, of the song that suitable or not with student's language level. Second, the teacher should have the proper preparation. It means the teacher should prepare teaching media that will be used. When the teacher uses songs in the learning process, they should make sure that teaching media are in good condition [20] since it can help the students in understanding the materials taught by the teacher. Moreover, this research found when the teacher using a song automatically, the teacher will play the song for the students. Therefore, the teacher should preparation the media that can make the students can listen to the song goodly. Another aim that the researcher explored in this research is how the limitation of using a song in the English language classroom. After the participants explained the advantages of using the song in their English language classroom, the participants explained the limitation of using songs in their English language classroom. In this finding, the researcher divided the limitation of using the song in the English language classroom into two categories. First is when the teacher using songs on English language classroom, the teacher should be more careful in selecting the songs. Second is when a teacher using songs in the English language classroom, the teacher should have well preparation in teaching media. First, all of the participants in this research believe that they should more careful in determining the materials for students. It is because the source of songs can be from anywhere. The teacher should have much time to determine the suitable materials for students when using a song [21]. The other reason, it because there no standard what song that can be taught in an English lesson. There are no 'standard' songs for teaching, so the teacher can use song based on their purpose [22]. Therefore, the teacher should consider many aspects. They are content, vocabulary, grammar, of the song that suitable or not with student's language level. Second, the teacher should have the proper preparation. The proper preparation here means the teacher should prepare teaching media that will be used. When the teacher uses songs in the learning process, they should make sure that teaching media are in good condition [23] since it can help the students to understand the materials taught by the teacher. Moreover, this research found when the teacher using a song automatically, the teacher will play the song for the students. Therefore, the teacher should prepare the media that can make the students can listen to the song goodly. In line with it, the researcher can conclude that, using the song in the English language based on teacher perspective give some advantages. They are: song can make students more motivated in the classroom. The song can make students more interested in the classroom. The song is easy to get for the teacher. Therefore, these advantages make the English language to be easier to teach by using the song. However, based on teacher predictive using the song in English classroom have some limitation. They are: First is when the teacher using songs on English language classroom,

the teacher should be more careful in selecting the songs. Second is when the teacher using songs in the English language classroom, the teacher should have well preparation in teaching media.

#### 4 CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

The result of this research shows they are some advantages and limitation of using songs in a language classroom based on teacher perspective the advantages of using the song in the language classroom are dividing into three. They are: first, using songs in ELT can give motivation for students. Second, using songs in ELT can make students interested in the teaching-learning process. Third, using the song in ELT is helping the teacher, since it is straightforward to get a song as teaching material. However, the result of this research also found the limitation of using in language classroom. They are: first, when the teacher using songs on English language classroom, the teacher should be more careful in selecting the songs. Second is when a teacher using songs in the English language classroom, the teacher should have well preparation in teaching media. This research also provides a suggestion regarding the using of the song in the English classroom. Thus, the recommendation is for the teacher, institution, also other researchers who want to research the same topic. The first suggestion comes for the teacher. The teacher should know the advantages and the limitation of using the song in the teaching classroom. When the teachers know about it, they can easily select the song as their materials in teaching practice. The second, for the institution. Based on the result of this research, the institution hopefully can provide teaching media like a speaker that can make the teacher more easily teaching English song in the classroom since it can help the teacher improve students listening skill. The last suggestion is for other researchers. The other researchers hopefully find out more detail information and expand toward the use of the song in the English classroom. For example, the other researcher can research by exploring the use of the song in the English classroom based on the student's perception.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We wish to express our sincere thanks to IJSTR publisher who has allowed publishing the result of our research, which was done with UAD. We also express our deepest gratitude to the participants and our supervisor, who have generously share time and thoughtful attention. The grand research foundation of UAD supported this research.

## REFERENCES

- [1] J.C. Richards. 2001. Curriculum Development in Language Teaching. United Stated of America: Cambridge University Press.
- [2] R. Wickham. "10 ESL Activities for Powerful Pronunciation Progress". Copyright by: Fluent Flix Limited. Available at : https://www.fluentu.com/blog/educator English/ESL pronunciation activities/, 2018.
- [3] A. M. Belaid. Using authentic materials in the foreign language classroom, Teacher attitudes and perceptions. International journal of learning & development, 5, 1-13. 2015.
- [4] M. Hadian. The use of song lyrics in teaching listening (A Case Study of Junior High School Grade 8 in Bandung). Journal of English and Education, 3(1), 96-105. 2015.
- [5] P.X. Romero. Teaching and Learning English through

- Songs: A Literature Review. MSU Working Papers in SLS. Vol. 8, 2017.
- [6] S. C. Weller., B. Vickers., H. R. Bernard, et al. 2018. Open-ended interview question and saturation. Available at: https://doi.org/10.1371/jurnal.pone.0198606.
- [7] C. M. Chapeton. Literacy as a Resource to Build Resiliency. Bogota: Fondo Editorial Universidad Pedagogica Nacional. 2007.
- [8] A. L. K. Putri. The Use of Song liyrics for Teaching Vocabulary at SMP Amal Mulya Tawamangy. Article Publication. 2015.
- [9] M. A. AlAfar. The Value of Songs and Rhymes in Teaching English to Young Learners in Saudi Arabia. English Language and Literature Studies, 6(4), 1923-4776. 2016.
- [10] N. D. Džanić., A. Pejić. The Effect of Using Songs on Young Learners and Their Motivation for Learning English. An Interdisciplinary Journal. 1(2), 40-54. 2016.
- [11] A. Kuśnierek. The role of music and songs in teaching English vocabulary to students. World Scientific News. 43(1), 1-55, 2016.
- [12] S. Nurvita. Using Song in Teaching English Speaking Skills for Young Learners. A thesis. 2016.
- [13] A. I. Asmaradhani., R. Evendi., A. Mursidi., R. A. Gani. Fixing Students' Pronuncation Using Songs. ). Journal of Language and Language Teaching, 2(2). 2018.
- [14] M. Alumutari., N. Shukri. Using Songs in Teaching Oral Skills to Young Learners: Teachers' View and Attitudes. International Journal of Linguistics, 8(6), 1948-5425. 2016.
- [15] J.C. Richards. 2001. Curriculum Development in Language Teaching. United Stated of America: Cambridge University Press
- [16] J.C. Richards. 2001. Curriculum Development in Language Teaching. United States of America: Cambridge University Press.
- [17] G. Lucas. "Multiple Intelligences: Digging Deeper". ©, 2017 George Lucas Educational Foundation. Available at: https://www.edutopia.org/your-multiple-intelligences Millington.
- [18] N. T. "Using Songs Effectively to Teach English to Young Learners". Journal of Language Education in Asia, 2(1), 134-141, 2015.
- [19] B. Ebong, and J. S. Marta 2017. "Developing Pronunciation through Songs". London: British Council. Available at: https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/developing pronunciation through- songs.
- [20] S. Bewafa. Developing Teaching Medua of Kangaroo Smart Frieze to Enrich Elementary School Students' Vocabulary. Journal of English Language Teaching, 4(1). 2015.
- [21] J.C. Richards. 2001. Curriculum Development in Language Teaching. United Stated of America: Cambridge University Press.
- [22] B. Ebong, and J. S. Marta 2017. "Developing Pronunciation through Songs". London: British Council. Available at: https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/developing pronunciation through- songs.
- [23] J. Bransford., L. D. Hammond, & P. LePage, 2005. Introduction. In L. Darling- Hammond & J. Bransford (Eds.), Preparing teachers for a changing world: What