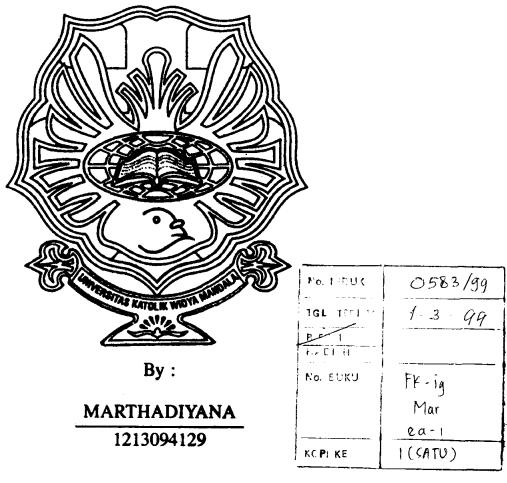
THE EFFECT OF PICTURE CARD GAMES ON THE CHILDREN'S VOCABULARY ACHIEVEMENT

A THESIS

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching



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FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN
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The Writer

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ABSTRACT

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Key words: Picture Card Game, Vocabulary Achievement, Effect

English has become an important language in Indonesia as a compulsory subject for all students of both junior and senior high school in Indonesia. Based on 1994 curriculum, English is offered to the students of Elementary School as an optional local content.

Realizing the importance of the vocabulary as a central part of language, the writer believes that by mastering the vocabulary, the students can understand and express their idea when those words (vocabularies) are used in a daily life. Based on that, vocabulary should be stressed the most from the very beginning.

The teachers of English themselves in teaching vocabulary in Elementary School should have one thing that should be kept in mind that is, the ways children learn are quite different from those of adults. Children usually do not have autonomous motivation and easily get bored if they learn a foreign language. Because of this, teachers should be aware of this situation and they have to create a technique to attract the children in learning English.

Taking this consideration, in this study, the writer found a technique of teaching English vocabulary. This technique is using Picture Card Game. It helps the teacher to break the routine activities, to avoid boredom, and to arouse the students' motivation.

The writer chose Picture Card Game because it has a great number of advantages. With picture card the students can learn more easily and it makes them more interested than study only with card or without picture cards. Pictures can represent real things which cannot be brought into the classroom, such as buffalo, an elephant, etc., and real actions which cannot be created inside the classroom, such as cooking rice, watching television, etc. Besides, picture card with words is an effective way to attract the student's interest.

This is a quasi experimental study emphasizing the treatment of two groups and posttest design. The objective of this study is to find out whether there is a significant difference between the vocabulary achievement of the students who are taught using picture card game and those who are taught using conventional technique. The other objective is to decide which technique can give better vocabulary achievement. The

subject of this study is the third grade students of SDK Theresia I Surabaya belonging to the academic year 1997/1998. The subject is divided into two groups. One group is an experimental group which is taught using picture card game and the other group is as a control group which is taught using conventional technique. All of the groups are given the same posttest as the research instrument to collect the data. The data are then analyzed using t-test since the writer wants to compare two means test of the experimental groups which is taught using picture card game and the control group which is taught using conventional technique to see whether there is a significant different or not.

The finding of the study shows that the mean of the experimental group, that is the group which is taught using picture card game, is higher than the control group. In posttest I, the mean of the experimental group is 8.638, while the mean of the control group is 8.296. In posttest II, the mean of the experimental group is 7.24, while the mean of the control is 6.38 and the mean of posttest score of the experimental and the control group (test I and II) are 7.93 an 7.34. Based on the means of the two groups, it can be said that picture card game can give better vocabulary achievement.

Based on the finding of the study, the result shows that at 5% level of significance t-observation is higher than t-table. In posttest I, t-observation is 1.571 whereas t (0.05) = 1.671. In posttest II, t-observation is 2.114 whereas t (0.05) = 1.671 and t-observation between posttest I and II is 2.406 whereas t (0.05) = 1.671. Based on the finding of the study, it can be concluded that there is a significant difference between the vocabulary achievement of the students who are taught using picture card game and those who are taught using conventional technique or without using picture card games.

Based on the findings of the study, the writer wants to suggest that English school teachers consider using picture card game in teaching vocabulary.