

IMPLEMENTATION OF ENGLISH WITH THE DIRECT METHOD TO INCREASE MOTIVATION TO LEARN AND PREACH ISLAM AT NURUS SALAFIYAH ISLAMIC BOARDING SCHOOL

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Abstract:

Motivation plays a vital role in education, with motivation students will be diligent, diligent, enthusiastic about learning, and become quality people. However, at Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School, there are still students who are lazy and lack enthusiasm for studying Islam. This research aims to describe how important it is to use the direct method to increase students' Islamic learning motivation at Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School. The method used is descriptive qualitative. The results of this research illustrate that the application of the direct method has a significant positive impact on increasing the student's learning motivation. In this research, the students showed increased enthusiasm, perseverance, and passion for studying Islam. This direct method seems to have awakened their interest in religious learning and encouraged them to be more dedicated to pursuing an understanding of the Islamic religion. These findings provide an important contribution in the context of religious education and the development of effective teaching methods.

Keywords: *Education, Religion, Islamic Religious Education*

INTRODUCTION

Islamic religious education has an important role in shaping individual character and morals (Somad, 2021). Islamic religious education is also a vital component in the formation of individual character, morals, and religious identity, especially in the context of *Madrasah Diniyah Awaliyah* (MDA) (Wafiroh et al., 2019). Especially for students at MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School, which is located in Probolinggo, it has become one of the Islamic educational institutions that plays a role in forming an understanding of the Islamic religion for its students. However, a problem that is often faced by many educational institutions is the lack of motivation to learn among Santri (Suprihatin, 2015), especially in the context of Islamic learning (Putri et al., 2022; Syamsurizal & Dewi Khusuma, 2022). This also happened to the MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School students. Their level of motivation to study Islam varies greatly, some are high and many are low. In fact, according to (Rahman, 2021) motivation is one of the keys to the success of a santri or santri. Likewise, according to (Rahmad, 2019; Wafiroh et al., 2019) high learning motivation will have an impact on good learning outcomes.

The problem that arises at MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School is the low level of attendance and the lack of enthusiasm of the students in attending Islamic religious lessons. Santri is often absent or late to class, indicating a lack of motivation and interest in religious learning. In addition, many students are passive in class, not actively asking questions, discussing, or participating in learning activities, which reflects their lack of involvement in the educational process. It is

also seen that students do not submit assignments or homework well, possibly due to a lack of motivation or interest in completing assignments. They are also not active in extracurricular religious activities such as study groups or charity activities. In addition, students do not seek opportunities to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the Islamic religion outside the school environment, such as not taking additional religious studies or reading religious literature voluntarily. When there is a religious discussion, students with low motivation do not show enthusiasm or interest in talking about Islamic religious topics, and may even tend to be indifferent to the discussion. All of these problems indicate the need for action to increase students' learning motivation and involvement in Islamic religious education.

If this problem continues, it is feared that it will result in First, a decline in students' understanding of the Islamic religion. Santri may not develop an adequate understanding of Islamic religious teachings if their motivation to learn is low. This can result in misunderstanding or shallow understanding of religious teachings, which in turn can affect their religious practices. Second, lack of appreciation of Islam: Lack of motivation to learn can result in students being less involved in worship and religious practices.

They may not feel a deep connection to the Islamic religion and not internalize religious values within themselves and in their behavior in society. Third, the decline in the quality of religious education: MDA is one of the educational institutions that has an important role in Islamic religious education.

If students are not motivated to learn, the quality of the Islamic religious education they receive can be affected, and this can impact the younger generation who lack understanding of their religion. Fourth, non-participation in religious activities: Santri may not be active in religious activities such as prayer, religious lessons, and religious studies if they are not motivated. This can reduce the quality of the religious environment. Fifth, potential loss of religious identity: Lack of motivation to study Islam can cause students to lose or experience a decline in their religious identity. This may result in a shift in the values and beliefs underlying their behavior. This is also caused by the monotony of the learning methods used in the classroom by teachers.

Based on the above, the researcher offers the following problem-solving concept and plan: Solution concept: There must be the development of learning material that is interesting and relevant to the daily lives of students. The material must be presented in a relevant and motivating context so that students feel that what they learn has practical applications in their lives. Apart from that, training was also provided to teachers at MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School. Conduct intensive training for religious teachers in applying the Direct Method effectively. This training must include an in-depth understanding of the principles of the Direct Method, the use of English in teaching, and interactive techniques that can encourage the active participation of Santri. Furthermore, what is no less important is integrating technology into Islamic religious teaching, such as the use of multimedia and interactive online resources. This can make learning more interesting and relevant for the younger generation.

To plan to solve the problem, researchers have taken steps to increase the motivation to study Islam among MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School students. The researcher held an additional English class after regular school hours. This additional class involved several MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School students, and the results showed variations in the student's interest in learning English. Some Santri show a high interest in learning English, while others are not interested at all. The conclusion from these results is the basis for why the researcher decided to apply the direct method in teaching English in this additional class. Researchers realize that the direct method is one of the teaching methods that can trigger Santri's interest in learning English. This method emphasizes teaching that directly involves students, and as such, relies heavily on creativity and the teacher's ability to transmit material directly to students. With proper implementation, the direct method is expected to motivate students to be more interested and enthusiastic in learning English.

RESEARCH METHODS

The research method used is a descriptive qualitative method. In this research, the main focus is to describe phenomena related to the problem of low learning motivation and student involvement in Islamic religious lessons at MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School. Qualitative method to explore and understand the subjective views and reasons behind the students' lack of enthusiasm and lack of involvement. Meanwhile, a descriptive approach is used to provide a detailed and systematic picture of existing problems, including absenteeism, non-participation in class, and lack of interest in religious activities.

The data obtained from this research will form the basis for identifying solutions or actions that may be needed to increase students' learning motivation and participation in understanding the Islamic religion in the MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School educational environment. According to Sugiyono, the approach used in this research is a qualitative approach. The qualitative approach places more emphasis on the qualities and most important aspects of a thing, item, phenomenon, or social phenomenon. Qualitative research is descriptive or descriptive and tends to use analysis as part of the process. Qualitative research is research that aims to understand phenomena experienced by research subjects, such as behavior, perceptions, motivation, actions, etc. The type of research used in this research is a qualitative case study (Rahmad, 2019). This type of research focuses on human understanding and behavior based on human opinions. This case study emphasizes an in-depth exploration of a limited system (bounded system).

The data collection methods used in this research include observation and interviews. Through observation, researchers collected data by involving various parties related to the MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School Islamic Boarding School, including teachers and students. Apart from that, through interviews, the researcher interviewed two Santri who were considered to represent other students in the class, as well as conducted a short interview with a teacher who taught at MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School. The data collection technique used in this research is qualitative data analysis, which requires researchers to understand the data in depth and identify patterns, findings, and

meanings that emerge from the qualitative data. Based on the background of the problem above, it can be formulated that the formulation of the problem in this research is how to implement English using the direct method to increase the learning motivation of Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School students. The goal is to describe the application of English with a direct method to increase the learning motivation of Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School students.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In general, English is known as an international or foreign language for Indonesian people which is needed in everyday life (Maduwu, 2016; Tariq et al., 2021). Unlike neighboring countries that have made English a second language (YUSUF, 2015), in Indonesia itself English still has a position as a foreign language. This proves that the average population in Indonesia still speaks little or no English. Apart from that, learning English as a foreign language means that students only get the opportunity to use English in the context of classroom interaction, whereas, in everyday life in society, there is no opportunity to use the target language.

This is also the reason why most Santri in Indonesia only learn English at school and do not continue learning or using it outside school hours. In a situation like this, researchers realize that if Santri has high curiosity regarding English, it is difficult to express it and this risks causing Santri's curiosity and motivation to be buried, it can even affect their enthusiasm for learning about religion and even their enthusiasm for preaching as has been stated. by (Juriana, 2018) English education has a very important role in the world of da'wah, starting from the basic education level as given at MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School. Based on the results of the researcher's observations of the MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School Santri located in Probolinggo, Matur District, it can be stated that many of the MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School Santri shows a strong interest in learning English. Some of them have even actively studied English at their school, and interestingly, the teaching method used by their teachers is the direct method. These students reported that with the teacher's approach of explaining the material through a direct method, they found it easier to understand and master the English language lessons given to them.

The research findings show that English education not only plays an important role in developing students' English language skills but also has a positive impact on supporting Islamic religious learning and the potential for da'wah. The research results confirm that the application of direct methods in teaching English can act as an effective tool to increase students' interest in learning. This is in line with research (Wulandari, 2022) and (Ramdhani & Waluyo, 2020) which say that with this direct method at least students can speak simple English, and they are increasingly enthusiastic about learning. Positive impact

It is hoped that this increase in interest will help students understand and deepen the teachings of the Islamic religion. Apart from that, the results of this research also highlight the potential support that English language education can provide in supporting the da'wah efforts of Santri in the future. It's just that several aspects influence the learning motivation of MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School students. Based on the results of interviews with several students, several

aspects influence students' learning motivation, including The teacher only explaining the material while talking, there is a lack of activities and objects used by the teacher in teaching English, the teacher's communication not cover all the students in the class and There are some students who are motivated but cannot understand the lessons explained by the teacher.

Apart from that, at MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School, students do not have a platform to channel their learning motivation regarding English, because English is not a mandatory subject at this institution. This is because MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School is an additional school that focuses entirely on Islamic religious studies and does not include other formal subjects in its curriculum. In an interview with several MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School students, one of the MDA students was Mutia Azizatul Ulya. Mutia's response shows that she has a high interest in English and is very motivated to learn it. Mutia also realized from the start that English would be very useful for their future. Mutia believes that "English language skills will help them in communicating with people from abroad, especially in conveying da'wah." This means that these Santri need a method so that the goal of da'wah can be achieved. One of the methods of da'wah adopted by the Prophet Hud.

As is looking for as many points of similarity as possible with his people. Therefore, a preacher (da'i) must be able to speak English so that his preaching can be well received by audiences (mad'u) who come from various international backgrounds (Juriana, 2018). This is a form of implementation of God's word:

وَلْتَكُنْ مِنْكُمْ أُمَّةٌ يَدْعُونَ إِلَى الْخَيْرِ وَيَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَيَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ

There should be among you a group of people who call to virtue, enjoin (do) what is virtuous, and forbid what is evil. They are the lucky people. (QS: Ali-Imran: 104).

The results of the second interview with another MDA student, namely Siti Raujatul Jannah, revealed a contrasting view to the previous source, namely Mutia. Just like Mutia, Siti also realizes the importance of learning English. He has the same motivation as Mutia, namely to communicate with foreigners. However, what is different is that Siti is not very motivated to learn English because she finds it less fun and feels less interested in hearing people talking in English. Siti also believes that the lack of motivation to learn English is caused by boredom when her school teacher teaches English material. It is important to note that Siti is still in the 3rd grade of elementary school. As previously explained, MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School is very focused on learning related to the Islamic religion, such as reciting the Koran, tahfiz, and fiqh. Therefore, during normal class hours at MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School, students do not study other formal subjects at all, including English language education. However, the results of interviews with several MDA students show that many of them have the motivation to be able to use English in everyday life and in communicating with foreigners.

This motivation arose because MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School is located in Probolinggo District, which is famous for its brown sugar production. Many tourists from abroad are interested in seeing the process of making brown sugar. This is the motivation for MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School

students to learn English, namely so that they can communicate well with foreign tourists and share the culture and characteristics of their village with them.

Before starting the research, the researcher conducted a short interview with the head of MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School, Mrs. Relita Rosma, S. Sosi, MM. In this interview, the researcher obtained information that Mrs. Relita realized the importance of learning English in the growth of students. However, Mrs. Relita emphasized that “MDA does not include English in its curriculum because it is considered irrelevant to the theme of Islamic religious learning which is the main focus of MDA”. Even so, Mrs. Relita did not refuse The researcher requests to teach English at MDA as long as the learning is positive and by Islamic teachings.

The English language teaching process by the researcher began at 16.50 WIB, after the congregational Asr prayer. This is an informal learning activity or additional course, where researchers focus more on repetition and clarification of material that has been studied by students at school. The aim is to assess the level of understanding and the extent to which they have learned English. When the teaching process began, the researcher realized that one class of MDA students was very enthusiastic about learning English. This is due to the use of the direct method (*direct method*) which can attract the attention and interest of the class. Even though they had been taught with the same method at school, the researcher believed that the teaching at their school was more rigid, where the teacher only focused on direct conversation without any activities that could motivate the students to learn English.

Therefore, MDA students are more enthusiastic about learning English at MDA because the teaching is more interesting and interactive compared to their school.

Initially, researchers explored the extent to which MDA students had learned English. It was found that on average they were still at the stage of learning simple vocabulary. This is normal considering they are still in elementary school. After hearing the answers from the MDA students, the researcher decided to teach one of the basic lessons in English, namely giving greetings. In the teaching process to MDA students, the researcher used a direct method in delivering learning, the same as their school teachers. However, researchers took several different steps to arouse the enthusiasm of students and encourage their motivation to be more interested in learning English.

As explained, the direct method has several key characteristics. One of these characteristics is the direct use of English and the delivery of material through direct communication. The researcher implemented these characteristics by acting as a teacher who delivered material orally to MDA students. The results found were that students felt more enthusiastic than when they studied at school. This is due to the language used by researchers, which is informal and more friendly to students. Researchers not only act as teachers but also as friends for the students. This shows that students are more motivated to learn if the teacher can communicate according to their level of understanding. The language that is suitable for students can increase their motivation to take lessons.

Apart from that, the direct method also involves a lot of physical activity, both carried out by teachers and students. In this study, researchers used singing (song) as one method. Because this song method is one of the effective ways to increase

students' enthusiasm for learning (Garryn C. Ranuntu, 2018), (Sophya & Sophya, 2013), (Sophya & Sophya, 2013).

The researcher delivered the material using songs and invited the students to sing together while doing simple physical movements such as clapping their hands and snapping their fingers. The use of these songs provides opportunities for repetition and practice, which are important for language acquisition in early childhood. Apart from that, singing also helps students internalize the structures and patterns of the English language. When students sing, they gradually understand the specific structures of foreign languages and English. As they sing, the students realize that learning English can be a fun experience, which in turn increases their motivation to learn English.

After the English learning session at MDA ended, the researcher realized that the direct method was the most suitable method for the MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School students. If this method is implemented correctly, it will be very effective in raising students' motivation to learn English. On the last day of learning, several MDA students even started to apply English in their daily lives. For example, they greet each other with the phrase "good night" when they meet at the mosque at night, which is one of the greeting expressions that has been taught using the direct method previously. Thus, it can be concluded that the use of the direct method is very suitable for MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School students as long as the application is appropriate to the student's level of understanding.

CONCLUSION

MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School students in Probolinggo District, have an interest in learning English because their environment often interacts with foreign tourists who visit the area. Although English is not a compulsory subject at MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School, several students have started learning English at their school. However, their motivations for learning English vary. The direct method is used in teaching English to MDA Nurus Salafiyah Islamic Boarding School students. In this teaching, researchers succeeded in motivating students differently compared to teaching at their school. Teaching English using the direct method has succeeded in increasing students' interest and motivation in learning English. The language used in teaching is informal and more suited to the student's level of understanding. The result of teaching English using the direct method is that students begin to apply English internally their daily life after learning. This shows that the use of the direct method can be an effective choice for motivating students to learn English while studying Islam.

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