

---

## The Implementation of Language Learning Programs in UIN Syahada Padangsidempuan

Sasmita Tarihoran<sup>1)</sup>

<sup>1)</sup>Universitas Negeri Padang

email: [sasmitaoffice0987@gmail.com](mailto:sasmitaoffice0987@gmail.com)<sup>1</sup>

### Abstract

This research discussed about the implementation of language program towards students' in Islamic University of Syekh Ali Hasan Ahmad Addary Padangsidempuan. The purpose of this research are 1) To perceive the implementation of language program towards students' foreign language acquisition, 2) To discover the difficulties are faced by language sections in implementation of language program in university. The research design in this study was qualitative approach. The subjects of this study were advisors and members of language section and the student in UIN Syahada. The research instruments were observation and interview. The data analysis was using Millies and Huberman. The research findings were that there are three kinds of language programs; those are English class, daily language program and weekly language program. Daily language program is some programs which the students can learn more and practice foreign language in daily activity. There are three which consisted, English conversation, vocabularies enrichment and english announcements. Weekly language program provides the students can practice foreign language in a certain day. There are two activities which consisted of weekly lecturing and students performance. The difficulties in implementing this program comes from the students that have different background knowledge, lack of vocabularies, interest and self-awareness.

**Keywords:** Language Learning, Language Program

### Introduction

The development of science and technology have brought many changes in almost all aspect of life that demands a quality system in international scale. So that everyone expected to have knowledge and skill in order that they can compete the era of globalization. Therefore, people who want to be acquainted or familiar with technology and scientific advances should master this language well since it is much used in science and technology in almost all countries and also because language is not only used for daily conversations but also in education, research and science, including the broadcasting and the writing of newspaper, magazine, and technology and scientific books as well. Students are expected to be able to speak English well so that they are capable of governing the global science and technology development. Hence, school or college as an educational institution takes important roles to create the students, as generations, to be competitive, active and creative to respond the developments.

One of the alternatives considered capable of meeting this challenge is the implementation of language learning programs. This is considered to accelerate students in acquiring English as a foreign language in anticipating the development and technology, as well as to support the establishment of the International Standard School. This is based on the law No. 20 of 2003, article 50, verse 3 which states that local governments conduct at least one unit of education at all levels to be developed into an international standard educational unit. It means that every school or university unit has opportunity to establish itself to be an international standard unit. It is intended to create the students to have good ability, particularly English speaking ability, so they are capable of applying the science and technology in the global era, and it can be arrived through the application of language programs.

Islamic University of Syekh Ali Hasan Ahmad Ad-dary (UIN SYAHADA) Padangsidempuan is one of university that have provided language learning program since 2014 for all the students who study in this university not only English but also Arabic that are taught by professional lecturer in attractive ways. Nevertheless the lecturer and language staffs have provided the students with attractive material and strategies but there are some of students still get lower score in examination and also punishment because they do not speak both of the language instead of using Indonesian language or their local language.

Therefore, in this research focused on observing the implementation of language programs and to find the difficulties are faced by language sections in implementation of language program towards students' foreign language acquisition in Ma'had al-Jamiah UIN Syahada. This research only focused on English learning program that considered to be the most used language in the world an taught widely at formal school starting from elementary school up to the university.

Cited by Sri Utami. According to Ronald (1972) Language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human communication. Communications means as Understanding and expressing ideas, thoughts, and feelings while also advancing science, technology, and culture. Understanding and synthesizing spoken and written content into the four language skills of listening, speaking, writing, and reading constitutes communication ability. To understand about the language people tend to learn further about the language itself so they could be master of it. The terms of learning refers to the process of gaining knowledge or skills about a topic or a skill through study, practice, or instruction (Slavin, 2011). Giving directions, assisting someone in their study of something, supplying them with knowledge, and causing them to know or understand are all examples of ways to teach or assist someone in learning. Furthermore, Language learning and also known as language acquisition defined the process by which people develop the ability to understand language, make words and sentences, and utilize those words and sentences to communicate. Structures, rules, and interpretation are all involved in language learning.

In learning a new language people will take time and effort. The struggle is to get past the limitations of the first language and into a new language, a new culture, and a new way of thinking, feeling, and doing, the entire person is impacted. Delivering and receiving messages in a second language successfully requires whole dedication, total involvement, and a total physical, mental, and emotional response. The acquiring procedure involves a lot of factors. Learning a language is not a series of simple instructions that can be pre-programmed in a simple way. There are amount of factors at play that foreign language classes are frequently insufficient preparation in and of themselves for the successful acquisition of a language. If any individuals become fluent in a foreign language exclusively through classroom instruction. Cited by Doughlas Chaima (2001), Doughlas stated that There are three main factors that influence people to acquire the language include linguistics factors, psycholological factors, and sociocultural factors.

UIN Syahada is one of the extraordinary university compared to another university in North Sumatra, because this university has dormitory called as "Ma'had Al-Jamiah" or in Indonesian namely boarding school or boarding campus. This university elaborate the campus and the boarding school in one location In boarding schools, the application of relationship and time management norms serves as a training ground for students' eventual independence. It is a truth that students cannot communicate with their families every day and are not free to leave boarding school, which limits their ability to interact with individuals outside of the school environment.

Rizal Siregar as advisor in this program stated that the mission of Ma'had Al-Jamiah is tend to make good character and educate students so they can have basic competencies as knowledgeable and faithful students because this because this boarding school is used as a bridge for spiritual or religious education by students and also for strengthening foreign language such as English and Arabic. To make it possible, this program provide skill to be able to read Al-Qur'an and they also study Arabic and English not only for speaking but also writing, listening, and reading.

Based on researcher's experience as student who followed the program could say that the advisors, and the lecturers, the students in senior year that worked in the dormitory have important role in this program I think this program is very interesting. While learning the language in the class the lecturers will

apply some strategies and methods to help the students can understand the easily and quickly. While in the dormitory , the students will be provided vocabularies that given daily by students on senior year that lived in the dormitory and every weekend the advisors will give the lecturing section to strengthen their knowledge about the target language so the students will practice the language that they have learnt by speaking Arabic and English in the daily conversations and also they will have examination every month in case to know the improvement of the student.

Language programs have been applied by many educational fields in Indonesia and there are also amount of researchers have been discussed about this issue. Jauhari (2017) in his research entitled “The Implementation of Language Program Towards Students’ Foreign Language Acquisition at Bilingual Islamic Boarding School of Darul Amien Nagara Academic Year 2016/2017”. The findings of this study implied that there were two different categories of language programs: weekly and daily. The daily language program is one of the ways that students may improve their language skills and use them in daily activities. English Day, Vocabulary Enrichment, Drilling Sentences, English Conversation, and Announcements are the five activities that were covered. Students who participate in a weekly language program might practice a foreign language on a certain day. Speech training and report writing were two of the tasks. Furthermore he also stated that there are three challenges with the language program's execution in the language sections for students learning foreign languages. First, it's challenging to maintain control of the class for a full day, second, there's a lack of knowledge about proper usage of the language, and third, it's challenging to impose punishment.

Alfauz (2012) conducted the research about "The Activities of English Learning Applied in Improving Students' Speaking Skills at Modern Islamic Boarding School of Darul Hikmah Tawang Sari". His study focuses on how speaking assessments and English learning activities are used in schools to enhance student speaking abilities. The findings indicated that two different speaking exercises were used in the school. Both within and outside the classroom, it was an activity. Seven activities were used outside of the classroom, compared to three activities that were used within. All students, regardless of level, participated in the events at Darul Hikmah, a contemporary Islamic boarding school.

Furthermore, Qongidatus Saadah (2010) also discussed the research about “The Implementation of English programs in Boarding School to Improve Students’ English Learning at MAN 1 Semarang”. The result found that there are three kinds of programs that the school used to teach the students such as English course program, English Speaking area and English speech. She also conducted about the difficulties in implementing English program in school such as the teacher only use one method to teach the students, the programs is lack of material and syllabus so they just focused on fluency than accuracy that might lean to inadequate control of grammatical system, and also in speaking area there is no monitoring from the nursemaid directly that can makes students make mistake continually.

## Methods

The kind of this research is qualitative research conducted by using case study approach . Martha (2016) defined case study as the comprehensive explanation about some aspects of individual, group, community, program or social situation . It is based on the research that focused on analyzing the implementation of language program in UIN Syahada . the participants of this the research are the people who get involved this program such as lecturers, advisors and also the students of UIN Syahada that is located at Jl.T. Rizal Nurdin No.Km 4, RW.5 Sihitang, Kec. Padangsidempuan Tenggara, Padang Sidempuan, North Sumatra. The researcher used observation and interview for collecting the data. There was researcher who observed the program based on the experience that researcher had. To strengthen the statement the researcher did interview to the lecturers, advisors and the students. After collecting the data the researcher analyze it by using interactive method including reducing the data, displaying the data, taking conclusion and verification that suggested by Milles and Huberman.

## Results and Discussion

### *Implementation of language program in UIN Syhada*

In Ma'had Al-Jamiah the students are obligated to use English and Arabic as daily communication. To create bilingual environment the the university conducts language programs to develop foreign language acquisition and there are plenty program are conducted to help students in creating bilingual environment and training the students how to speak the target language easily and confidently. Based on observation and interview there are 4 kinds of language program that the university used to support students' ability in learning the language , they are:

#### 1. English Class

In Ma'had Al-Jamiah acquired the students to attend the class to improve their language skills whether in writing, listening, reading and speaking and they must attend the class on Monday until Saturday. To improve the language skills, the students will be taught by professional lecturers who have been followed several trainings and seminars to strenghten the teaching skills. Sarisma Matondang as lecturer explained that one of the training that she and her colleagues have followed is the training from university cooperated with IALF Bali for a month. IALF F Bali is a Teacher Training center providing international TESOL Certificate programs accredited by Trinity College London, as well as providing various IALF certified teacher trainings.

In addition, another lecturer stated the lecturers would teach the students based on the guided book from IALF (Eni, 2022). The book consist of materials that needed to improve students ability to learn English. The lecturers also used presentation, games and songs to make students easier to understand the materials. Furthermore Ma'had Al-Jamiah will held examination every month to know students' improvement in learning English the would test the reading, listening, writing and speaking skills.

#### 2. Daily Language Program

Daily Language Program refers to the daily activities that take place in Ma'had Al-Jamiah. . Because English and Arabic are used for daily communication in this situation, kids are encouraged to learn a foreign language. The several activities that consist in daily language program. First, Vocabulary enrichment. This activities used to provide some vocabularies given by the students in senior year that work for guiding, monitoring and teaching the students. the senior will give 5 vocabularies, also explain the meaning and ask the student to make it in a sentence. The purpose of this activities is to enrich students vocabularies that often use in daily conversation. This activities would held every evening at 19.00 until 20.00 PM. \

Second is English conversation, this activities obligate the students to talk in English everyday without any excuses if they do not speak in English they will get punishment such as for women they would wear a colorful hijab that made from various colors of cotton and sewn in to a piece hijab, they would used in a week wherever they go. Third, English announcement. English Announcement is a daily activities that is utilized to provide information verbally to both students and seniors The English announcement typically contains information on every section of Ma'had Al-Jamiah that is currently in session or to call sudents who are called by the senior or advisors. Announcements contain crucial information that children must comprehend verbally.

#### 3. Weekly Language Program

This program consist of two activities that can help the student to learnt the target language. First, weekly lecturing form the advisors. This activities makes the student to learn deeply about the language because the advisors will give certain material such as how to make good sentence and in daily conversation and giving some wise words in English. On Saturday night the student also held student show. This activities allowed each group of the students to perform their talent by using English whether in doing speech, poetry, drama and singing. All of these activities are carried out to support creativity and improve students' ability in learning English

### ***The Difficulties in Implementing Language Program in UIN Syahada***

After interviewing the lecturer and advisors the researcher found that the difficulties in doing this program one of them is the background knowledge of the students. Because the students come from different school, faculty and department it is difficult for the lecturer to equilibrate the strategy or method that they need to use. The lecturer also appointed that the students still lack of vocabularies, they just learn the material without improving or using it outside the class and the reason is because the students have plenty tasks and activities in dormitory so they have been exhausted to practice.

Furthermore, the difficulties in applying this programs is the students' awareness. Based on the interview with some of students researcher discovered that they rarely have interest in learning English especially the student who studies in non-English department. The student also stated the friends also affected them in learning English in case it can increase or decrease the students' awareness in learning English.

Related to the previous research conducted by Jauhari which relevant to this research and also have similarities in implement the program. In his findings concluded that Islamic Boarding School of Darul Amien Nagara had two language programs such as weekly and daily program with several activities in daily program serving as English Day, Vocabulary Enrichment, Drilling Sentences, English Conversation, and Announcements, while in weekly program had speech training and report writing. Furthermore Qongidatus found that there are three kinds of programs that MAN 1 Semarang used for gaining English speaking skills, namely English course program, English speaking area and English speech. In other hand Alfauz explained the activities there are ten activities applied to learn about in the classroom they had English course, public speaking, memorizing vocabularies while outside the classroom they made English week, delivering vocabularies, building sentence, jogging conversation, jogging conversation, language competition week, day of English song.

The differences between this research with the previous researchs were found in the instrument of the research. In the research above they mostly took the schools to be the object of the research while researcher brought university that had language program in their curriculum. This research also had three language programs that will support the students in learning English, not only in speaking but also in writing, reading, and listening. In this research the student had more formal education and strategies in learning English because they had well-trained lecturers and also monthly examination to see the improvement of the students. This program more focused on learning language rather than study another subjects.

### **Conclusion**

After analyzing the research finding, the researcher concluded that there are several activities that the university use to implement the language learning program. Based on the interview the program consisted of English class that make students learn in formal institution and taught by the professional lecturers that have been overtaken a teaching trainings held by IALF to improve the lecturers' teaching skills. University also provided daily language program such as vocabulary enrichment, English conversation and English announcement, the last activities is weekly program that build students confidence in speaking with by producing the dramas, songs, speech that is spoken English.

According to research findings, the researcher also found the difficulties in implementing this program. The lecturer stated student vocabularies are still in low level the second problem that lecturer face is the using of appropriate strategies, because the students because the students come from different background it is difficult to the lecturer to apply the suitable strategies or method. The students also stated their problem in learning English, one of them is because students are not interested in learning English and their students around them do not support them to do the things that can improve students' awareness in learning English.

In suggestion, it is better for the lecturers and advisors evaluate the suitable strategies in teaching the students. They also need to be resourceful while organizing language program activities for learning a foreign language. In order to encourage students to learn a foreign language in a school setting, educators

must provide them with a wide range of engaging activities so the students can have fun and effectively practice a foreign language. It is hoped that the student will occasionally practice their English and will understand how crucial it is for them to survive the globalization era.

### References

- Alfauz, Moh. F. S. (2012). *The Activities of Learning English Applied in Improving Students' Speaking Skills at Modern Islamic Boarding School of Darul Hikmah Tawang Sari*. Surabaya: UIN Satu Tulungagung Institutional Repository.
- Benkorich, I. C. (2001). *Principles of Language Learning*. USA: Pearson Education.
- Jauhari. (2017). *The Implementation of Language Program Towards Students' Foreign Language Acquisition at Bilingual Islamic Boarding School of Darul Amien Nagara Academic Year 2016/2017*. Banjarmasin: UIN Antasari Institutional Digital Repository.
- Law on the National Education System: Act of The Republic of Indonesia Number 20, Year 2003 on National Education System. <https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/ELECTRONIC/84435/93875/F8347727/IDN84435.pdf>
- Martha, E. & Kresno, S. (2016). *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*. Jakarta: Rajawali Press.
- Milles, B., Mathew, A., Huberman, M., and Saldana, J. (2014). *Qualitative Data Analysis: A Method Sourcebook*. USA: Sage Publications.
- Saadah, Q. (2010). *The Implementation of English programs in Boarding School to Improve Students' English Learning at MAN 1 Semarang*. Semarang: IAIN Walisongo Institutional Repository.
- Siregar, S. (2021). *Ma'had Al-Jamiah Sebagai Wadah Pembentukan Karakter Mahasiswa*. <https://www.iain-padangsidempuan.ac.id/mahad-al-jamiah-sebagai-wadah-pembentukan-karakter-mahasiswa/>
- Slavin, R. E. (2011). *Instruction based on cooperative learning*. Handbook of research on learning and instruction, 358-374.
- Utami, S. (2014). *Bahasa Sebagai Maha Identitas Manusia*. Jurnal Pendidikan Pembelajaran Volume 2, No.2