

STUDENTS' PERCEPTION ON ENGLISH CLUB ACTIVITIES AT SMP IT AL-HIKMAH BENCE

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ABSTRACT

English teaching in Indonesia is limited to academic environments, where students do not have many opportunities to use English in everyday life. This makes the role of schools very important in providing the basics of English language skills for students. To overcome this limitation, the school utilizes the English Club as a forum to develop students' English language skills. This study aims to identify English Club activities and analyze students' perceptions of them through qualitative methods with observation and interview data collection techniques at SMP IT Al-Hikmah. This study found that the majority of students of SMP IT Al-Hikmah Bence had a positive perception of the English Club activities, feeling an increase in English language skills and self-efficacy. In terms of language psychology, students were generally comfortable, although there were obstacles in understanding the material, interaction, and program management. Preferences for places to learn English varied, with the English Club being considered to offer a different and interesting experience. In terms of motivation, students had various reasons for joining, especially extrinsic motivation. Interactive activities such as games were highly preferred. The study concluded that the English Club has the potential to improve students' abilities and motivation, but improvements are needed in the delivery of materials, interaction, learning environment, and program management.

Keywords: English Club, Language Psychology, Learning Motivation, Students' perception

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Pengajaran bahasa Inggris di Indonesia terbatas pada lingkungan akademis, dimana siswa tidak memiliki banyak kesempatan untuk menggunakan bahasa Inggris dalam kehidupan sehari-hari. Hal ini menjadikan peran sekolah sangat penting dalam memberikan dasar-dasar keterampilan bahasa Inggris bagi siswa. Untuk mengatasi keterbatasan ini, sekolah memanfaatkan English Club sebagai wadah untuk mengembangkan kemampuan berbahasa Inggris siswa. Penelitian ini bertujuan mengidentifikasi kegiatan English Club dan menganalisis persepsi siswa terhadapnya melalui metode kualitatif dengan teknik pengumpulan data observasi dan wawancara di SMP IT Al-Hikmah. Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa mayoritas siswa SMP IT Al-Hikmah Bence memiliki persepsi positif terhadap kegiatan English Club, merasakan peningkatan kemampuan berbahasa Inggris dan *self-efficacy*. Dari segi psikologi bahasa, siswa umumnya nyaman, meskipun ada kendala dalam pemahaman materi, interaksi, dan manajemen program. Preferensi tempat belajar bahasa Inggris bervariasi, dengan English Club dianggap menawarkan pengalaman yang berbeda dan menarik. Dari segi motivasi, siswa memiliki beragam alasan untuk bergabung, terutama motivasi ekstrinsik. Kegiatan interaktif seperti permainan sangat disukai. Penelitian menyimpulkan bahwa English Club berpotensi meningkatkan kemampuan dan motivasi siswa, namun perlu perbaikan dalam penyampaian materi, interaksi, lingkungan belajar, dan manajemen program.

Kata Kunci: English Club, Motivasi Belajar, Persepsi siswa, Psikologi Bahasa