

THE USE OF MAKE A MATCH METHOD ON STUDENTS' VOCABULARY MASTERY AT THE EIGHTH GRADE ON SMP NEGERI 1 PAHAE JAE

Nande safna sormin¹, Siti Meutia Sari², Elissa Ewani.

¹Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan, Universitas Graha

email: penulis ¹ nandesormin686@gmail.com

ABSTRAK

Penelitian tindakan kelas ini bertujuan untuk menguji efektivitas penggunaan metode "Mencocokkan" dalam meningkatkan penguasaan kosakata di kalangan siswa kelas delapan SMP Negeri 1 Pahae Jae. Studi ini melibatkan 30 siswa dari kelas VIII-E dan dilakukan dalam dua siklus. Data dikumpulkan melalui observasi, wawancara, dan tes kosakata (pre-test, post-test Siklus I, dan post-test Siklus II) yang berfokus pada empat aspek: ejaan, makna, penggunaan dalam konteks, dan pengucapan. Temuan menunjukkan peningkatan yang signifikan dalam penguasaan kosakata siswa. Rata-rata skor pre-test adalah 32, dengan hanya 6,67% siswa yang memenuhi nilai minimum kelulusan. Pada Siklus I, rata-rata meningkat menjadi 68 (40% penguasaan), dan pada Siklus II menjadi 84 dengan 90% siswa mencapai standar kelulusan. Hasil ini menunjukkan bahwa metode "Mencocokkan" efektif meningkatkan penguasaan kosakata siswa.

Kata Kunci : *Mencocokkan, penguasaan kosakata, penelitian tindakan kelas, sekolah menengah pertama, pembelajaran bahasa Inggris*

ABSTRACT

This classroom action research aimed to examine the effectiveness of The Use Of Make a Match method in improving vocabulary mastery among eighth-grade students of SMP Negeri 1 Pahae Jae. The study involved 30 students from class VIII-E and was conducted in two cycles. Data were collected through observation, interviews, and vocabulary tests (pre-test, post-test Cycle I, and post-test Cycle II) focusing on four aspects: spelling, meaning, usage in context, and pronunciation. The findings revealed a significant improvement in students' vocabulary mastery. The average pre-test score was 32, with only 6.67% of students meeting the minimum passing grade. In Cycle I, the average increased to 68 (40% mastery), and in Cycle II to 84 with 90% of students achieving the passing standard. These results indicate that the Make a Match method effectively enhances students' vocabulary mastery.

Keywords: *Make a Match, vocabulary mastery, classroom action research, junior high school, English learning*

Pendahuluan

Vocabulary mastery is essential in English language learning as it supports students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills; however, many junior high school students still struggle due to conventional, memorization-based teaching methods (Ima et al., 2024). This problem was found among eighth-grade students at SMP Negeri 1 Pahae Jae, where most students failed to reach the Minimum Mastery Criterion (KKM) of 75, indicating the need for an interactive learning approach such as the Make a Match method, a cooperative technique that actively engages students in matching words and meanings (Prayuda et al., 2023; Simangunsong et al., 2022; Mursyid, 2024). Therefore, this study aims to examine the effectiveness of the Make a Match method in improving vocabulary mastery among eighth-grade students at SMP Negeri 1 Pahae Jae.

Kajian Literatur Dan Pengembangan Hipotesis

The Make a Match method is a cooperative learning strategy introduced by Lorna Curran that engages students in matching vocabulary-related cards through interactive activities. This method promotes active learning, collaboration, and enjoyment, which increase students' motivation and vocabulary retention, especially at the junior high school level. The method functions to reinforce vocabulary learning, improve social interaction, and provide immediate feedback through structured matching activities. Vocabulary mastery in this study includes spelling, meaning, pronunciation, and usage of words in context. Based on theoretical perspectives and previous research findings, it is hypothesized that the Make a Match method positively affects the vocabulary mastery of eighth-grade students at SMP Negeri 1 Pahae Jae.

Metode Penelitian

This study used a Classroom Action Research (CAR) design conducted at SMP Negeri 1 Pahae Jae during the 2024/2025 academic year, with data collection from February to March 2025. The population consisted of 120 eighth-grade students, and the sample was class VIII-D with 30 students selected due to low vocabulary mastery and participation. The research followed the Kemmis and McTaggart model implemented in two cycles using the Make a Match method. Data were collected through tests, observations, and interviews, with vocabulary mastery measured using 20 multiple-choice items covering spelling, meaning, pronunciation, and usage. Data analysis employed descriptive quantitative techniques by calculating mean scores, mastery percentages based on the KKM of 75, and improvement between pre-test and post-tests to determine the effectiveness of the method.

Hasil Dan Pembahasan

This Classroom Action Research conducted in two cycles at SMP Negeri 1 Pahae Jae shows that the Make a Match method effectively improved students' vocabulary mastery. The results, presented through tables and graphs, indicate an increase in the mean score from 32 in the pre-test (6.67% mastery) to 68 in Cycle I (40%) and 84 in Cycle II (90%), exceeding the KKM of 75 and the success indicator. The data analysis and interpretation demonstrate significant improvement in spelling, meaning, pronunciation, and usage, and these findings are consistent with relevant previous studies, leading to the acceptance of the research hypothesis.

Kesimpulan

This Classroom Action Research concluded that the Make a Match method effectively improved students' vocabulary mastery. Students' mean scores increased from 32 in the pre-test to 68 in Cycle I and 84 in Cycle II, with mastery rising from 6.67% to 90%, exceeding the success criterion. Therefore, the hypothesis was accepted, and the Make a Match method is recommended for vocabulary teaching, with support from teachers, schools, and future researchers for broader application.

Referensi

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