
APPLICATION OF THE TOTAL PHYSICAL RESPONSE METHOD IN LEARNING ENGLISH IN EARLY CHILDREN

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ABSTRACT

KEYWORDS

English, Total physical
response, Early children

ARTICLE INFO

Accepted: October 2023

Revised: January 2024

Approved: January 2024

English is used often in daily life and has a variety of uses, including in business, education, tourism, and health. Students' English proficiency needs to be raised because, being an international language, English is used in many sciences. Therefore, communicating well in English is advantageous, even in the workplace. In this instance, the proper approach is required to aid in developing and introducing English, especially in the early years. Total Physical Response (TPR) Method application in English Learning is one of the most appropriate and effective for being applied in teaching and learning process in the classroom. Total Physical Response (TPR) is one of the most suitable and relevant strategies for introducing an object in English language learning. The Total Physical Response (TPR) method encourages young children to learn English actively.

INTRODUCTION

One of the most common languages spoken around the world is English. English for early childhood is complicated for teachers to teach as a foreign language. In this situation, the instructor is expected to constantly develop inventive and new ways to engage the class's attention during learning exercises so that the pupils can comprehend the subject being taught. Even if it is only used for greetings or farewells, such as "Good morning" or "How are you?" "See you," "goodbye," and other similar expressions using foreign languages as everyday language is nothing new in Indonesia. Additionally, simple vocabulary introduces English to early children, typically words related to colours, body parts, and motions. Speaking about English language acquisition in early children is undoubtedly tricky because teaching English to early children differs from teaching English to adults. Therefore, teaching English to youngsters requires much patience from the teacher. Total Physical Response (TPR), a technique, can foster a positive learning environment for kids while also catering to their natural love of movement (Aprinawati, 2017). TPR is a language teaching approach that focuses on the coordination of speech and action and attempts to teach language through physical (motor) activity, according to Jack C. Richards and Theodore S. Rodgers in their book. Professor of psychology at the University of San Jose in San Jose, California, USA, Dr. James J. Asher developed TPR (Nugraheni et al., 2019). As defined by Larsen and Freeman, TPR is the understanding approach or strategy of learning a foreign language using instructions or orders. According to (Fahrurrozi, 2017), the TPR technique emphasises command instructions for the teacher to utilise and is simple for the pupils to grasp because it uses body movements.

Early children can learn and grasp a language using this TPR approach by connecting orders, actions, speech, and motion. Students can reply verbally as well as nonverbally by making physical gestures.

METHOD RESEARCH

With a case study methodology, this research employs a specific sort of library research. This library research strategy tries to develop a thorough awareness of the challenges researchers encounter while collecting data. First, researchers' research papers were used to gather the data for this study. This article aims to aid instructors, make their jobs simpler, make it easier for them to teach English, and foster a positive learning environment.

The findings from quantitative research can be predictive, explanatory, and confirming. As for the implementation, we use surveys, lectures, and mentoring methods. The details are explained below:

- a. The observation method was used to learn the teacher's understanding of the Total Physical Response (TPR) method for learning basic English in early childhood.
- b. Lecture method, outreach, and training methods regarding the Total Physical Response (TPR) method for Basic English learning for early childhood.
- c. Assistance method for ongoing activities in applying the Total Physical Response (TPR) method for Basic English learning for early childhood. The training material, in general, includes understanding the theory and applying the Total Physical Response (TPR) method in the class

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Early childhood is a period of rapid physical and psychological growth and development for each young individual. According to Hartanti (Aisyah, 2010: 1.5), early childhood is characterised by a variety of traits, including having a strong sense of curiosity, having a distinct personality, enjoying imitation, having a vivid imagination, enjoying exploration, having the most significant learning potential, displaying egotism, and being a social being. Early childhood has a distinct personality in terms of growth and development, particularly when learning English. As a result, engaging teaching strategies are required for their learning process. According to Permendikbud No. 146 of 2014, "a child's success in achieving optimal development according to their characteristics, interests, and potential will depend on the right learning approach in early childhood." As a result, we must use the TPR method, which will help students comprehend the teacher's instructions and enable them to respond while learning English (Arumsari et al., 2019).

Exposing young children to languages other than their mother tongue, especially English, is crucial. Children can communicate more efficiently and gain the worldwide knowledge they need to succeed in life if they use English (Putri, 2018). The introduction of this basic vocabulary with a stronger focus on the correct pronunciation of English words and their writing forms the foundation for teaching English to early children (AUD). In PAUD, learning English is packaged using engaging and enjoyable teaching techniques like games, which are adjusted to the student's developmental stage and the tenets of early childhood education, namely learning through play. In this study, the teachers and students were socialisation participants and questionnaire panellists about the Total Physical Response (TPR) method for essential English learning for early childhood and implementing training activities for applying the Total Physical

Response method. (TPR) for essential English learning for early childhood. It can provide additional knowledge about learning methods in teaching and learning in the classroom. Ummah (2017) stated that teaching English to children differs from teaching it to other second language learners. It is also not an easy job for the English teacher to teach English to early children. The TPR approach is appropriate for the following activities: The child's learning style or type is firstly related to TPR. Since they have a lot of energy and short attention spans, kids need to move about a lot. Children frequently engage with their surroundings and strongly need tangible, real-world objects. Secondly, games are TPR activities, so they are appropriate for kids who learn best physically. When they are exercising or connecting memories to motion, they are better able to remember knowledge. The TPR method can also be helpful for kids who prefer to learn visually and produce images or videos by focusing on the movements associated with the spoken commands. The words and rhythm of the song, along with the motions that the kid will remember when a song follows the TPR method, can assist children with an auditory learning type in addition to those with a kinesthetic learning approach. Early childhood learning concepts must be used when applying the TPR (Total et al.) method to this age group. For young children learning English, Total Physical Response is used with concrete materials, such as dollhouses, images, and natural settings. The Total Physical Response approach is implemented through enjoyable playtime activities, particularly motor games that encourage youngsters to move around. Early childhood English vocabulary will be introduced by the child's everyday activities and the theme. Nouns, verbs, and pronouns are among the English words that can be taught to young learners using the TPR (Total et al.) approach so that the vocabulary can be introduced to the media and motions as directed by the teacher. The use of the TPR (Total Physical Response) technique to teach English to children offers a great deal of potential for helping them understand the language they are learning, whether it be English or a foreign language. The TPR method can be used to teach English as a second language to young learners. It has several advantages for them, including increasing their vocabulary, assisting them in understanding the target language or English right away, helping them learn meaning in context, making learning more enjoyable for them, involving them directly in the learning process, and stimulating their interest in learning. The following is an example of application in teaching English, such as :

- **Simon says**

This is a great game to hone students' activeness in learning in terms of remembering. Simon said that to do something, you have to do it—the teacher, when in the classroom, usually asks all students to stand up to start. Throughout the game, students are asked to sit down if they missed a question, answered incorrectly, or answered when they should not. This game helps review vocabulary from a previous lesson or at the end of a tricky lesson. This game is also a practical activity to make it easier for students to remember something they did.

- **Action sequence**

The teacher gives orders to students, and students respond to the teacher by carrying out the orders. For example, the teacher tells students to close the door, point at the door, or walk to the door. Furthermore, when students understand the instructions given by the teacher better, the teacher can give longer orders. For example (Suhendan, 2021):

Take out a pencil.

Get out the coloured pencils and eraser.

Grab a picture book.

Draw a house.

Colour the picture

A series of commands is a series of actions or operations (Silver et al., n.d.).

CONCLUSION

Total Physical Response (TPR) is a language teaching method built around the coordination of speech and action; it attempts to teach language through physical (motor) activity. James Asher, a professor of psychology at San Jose State University, California, developed it. Total Physical Response (TPR) is a teaching method emphasising active learning through actions. It means learners' speaking skills through listening to their teacher before requiring them to speak and asking them to practice verbal communication accompanied by physical actions. Three basic steps used in this method are to listen, watch and do.

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