

**STUDENTS' PERCEPTION TOWARD ENGLISH TEACHERS'
ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE IN THE CLASSROOM AT SMP
MUHAMMADIYAH AL-AMIN SORONG**

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ABSTRACT

The object of this research is describing the students' perception and to investigate how the students their perception about their teacher in learning process among second grade students of SMP Muhammadiyah Al-Amin Sorong. The method of this research was descriptive quantitative, the collect data is analyzed by using Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS) version 17. The survey study was conducted to gather data from respondents. There were 31 students as respondents in this study. The instrument is questionnaire. The students' perception about their teacher academic performance was in high level category. The students have 2 positive perceptions and one negative perception. Positive perception is in teacher knowledge of subject matter and teacher attitude to work. While negative perception is in the teacher's skill of teaching the subject matter. Generally, the result of the data analysis and testing hypothesis shows that most of the students gave perception toward their teachers' performance in teaching and learning process.

Keywords: students' perception, teachers' academic performance

INTRODUCTION

In teaching and learning process, teachers become the main components on students' academic achievement. There are many variables that must be owned by a teacher. They are teachers' knowledge of subject matter, teaching skills, attitude in the classroom, teachers' qualification and teaching experiences. All of these teachers' variable influences students' academic performances as what Ehindero and Ajibade (2000:167) says that: "Students who are curious stakeholders in educational enterprise, have long suspected and speculated that some of their teachers (lectures in the university) lack the necessary professional (no academic) qualification (that is skill, techniques, strategies, temperament, etcetera). Required to communicate concept, ideas principles in a way that would facilitate effective learning".

Some efforts have been made to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of teaching and learning in Indonesia. The government makes some innovations to improve the quality of students' academic performance. One of them is giving some workshop and seminars in which English teachers must involved in it. English teachers must have a professional performance in which it can be applied in their duties in the classroom.

Teachers' academic performance will influence the success of the students in learning English(Glover, 1990:2 and Adediwura and Tayo, 2007). The students usually give perception towards their English teachers, especially in their academic performance. Perception is an activity of observing, interpreting, evaluating and giving opinion of something or someone else in their environment (Eggen and Kaucak, 2001). Students' perception furthermore is an activity of observing, evaluating, and giving opinions to their English teachers' academic performances during English teaching and learning process (Gorham and Christophel, 1992).

1.1.The Research Question

To lead to the result the problems of this research can be formulated as the following questions: What are students' perceptions toward English teachers' academic performance in the classroom interaction?

RESEARCH METHOD

2.1.Population and Sample

The population was the whole subject of the research. The population in this study was all the students of SMP MUHAMMADIYAH AL-AMIN KOTA SORONG. The total number was about 292 students

The sample of the research was a part of the population. The rules of taking the samples in the research was based on Arikunto's theory in which when the population is less than 100, preferable taken all, when the population is more than 100, the number of sampling could be taken between 10-15% or 20-25% or more. Since the population is more than 100, the number of

sampling who writer taken is 10% from the population. So, the sample of this research is 31 students.

2.2. Research Instrument

Data collection was doing through distributing the questionnaires. The questionnaire then was as an instrument in this research. The questionnaires consisted of some statements address to the students in the form of questions to obtain the necessary data for getting the information. The questionnaire used in this research was prepared according to the Likert Scale. The Likert Scale was used to measure attitudes opinions and perceptions of a person or group of people about social phenomena; in this case was the perception of the students toward the students' perception to the teachers' performance.

The design of the questionnaire was as follows:

No.	Indicator	Item Number	Total
1	Teacher's knowledge of subject matter	1, 2, 5, 7, 13, 17	6
2	Teacher's attitude to work	3, 6, 8, 10, 11, 15, 18, 20	8
3	Teacher's skill of teaching the subject matter.	4, 9, 12, 14, 16, 19	6
Total			20

2.3. Data analysis

The writer collected the data in SMP Muhammadiyah Al-Amin and the answer of the students would be analyzed by using SPSS (statistical package for the social science) version 17, and for find out the testing hypothesis used table t SPSS.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

1. The First Indicator : Teacher Knowledge of The Subject Matter

The result of the data analysis of teacher knowledge of the subject matter according indicator 1 which is consist of six statements showed that two statements were in high category. Most of the students had perception or (80.7%) that the teacher always gave instruction clearly and also (80.6%) or 25 students said the teacher clearly states the objective of the lesson. Both of

these statements were some of ability of a teacher in teaching, it was important to understanding the students in learning process. Two statements was in moderate category, there are (74.2%) or some of the students regarded that the teacher sometimes mastering the English subject matter and there were 19 students or (61.3%) said that the teacher able to create a good atmosphere in learning process. Two statements was in low category, both of the statement was negative perception because from the result of the data, most of students have low perception about their teacher in communicated in a way they can understand and clearly defines long-term assignment, we knew that many factors caused these cases happen. It could be concluded that Perception of the students towards their English teacher academic performance was in good.

Teacher knowledge is one of ability of a teacher in learning process. The key of successes studying depend of knowledge of the teacher. Depend of Eggen and Kauchak (2001:7) teacher knowledge of subject matter involves knowledge of content, pedagogical content knowledge and general pedagogical knowledge. Knowledge of the content implied that a teacher could not teach well if they didn't understand about the subject. Thus ability to teach effectively depends on the teacher knowledge and the knowledge occurs in variety forms. Therefore, with good perception of students towards their teacher will be increased students achievement.

2. The second Indicator : Teacher attitude to work (Teaching English)

The statements of teacher attitude to work consist of eight statements. Based on the result of the data analysis, there were six statement was in high category. The First was third statement, it was about the teacher was always treat everyone fairly. Most of the students gave option “always” and “enough always”. It meant that they had good perception about this statement. The second was tenth statement, teacher was always for and respect different opinion, and there were 27 or (87.1%) gave opinion of “always” and “enough always”. It meant they gave good perception about their teacher in different opinion of students which happened in learning process. Third statement

which has high perception was teacher always encouraged all students to learn. There are 28 students or (71.0%) had perception that their teacher gave motivation to study in the classroom. Fourth, it was fifteenth statement, the teacher showed respect to all students, and based on the result of the collected data, most of the student chose always and enough always. The fifth, it was eighteenth statement, there were 24 students or (77.5%) tend chose always and enough always, it meant that the teacher set high expectation to the student. The last statement which had high category is twentieth statement. It was about the teacher always communicates honestly to the students.

The last two statements were moderate and low category, based on the data there were 19 students or (61.3%) chose “always” and “enough always” for statement that the teacher graded their work in reasonable time, and only 10 students gave option always and enough always for sixth statement about teacher’s available for help outside of class time to the students.

It could be concluded based on the result data indicator 2 that the eight questionnaires or statements that are given to the students, there were six statement was included in high category, one questionnaire was in moderate and one statement was in low category. So the perception of students towards their English teachers’ academic performance especially in the teacher’s attitude to work was high or it could be said very well.

The result showed this indicator got positive perception, it included in very good category. A teacher must bring their students into such us a condition in which the student can focus or concentrate fully on their explanation. In line with teachers’ attitude Hammachech cited in Rondonuwu (2006:29), summarize that the teacher attitude are included in teachers’ personality and behavior. If a teacher had enthusiasm, caring, firm, democratic, practiced to promote students’ responsibility, use time for lesson effectively, have established efficient routines and interact freely so, it would give good effect to learning process.

3. Third indicator : Teachers' skill of teaching the subject matter

The students' perception toward their English teacher academic performance, based on the result can be explained that from six statements, there were five statements which in low category and one statement were in moderate category. The first was fourth statement, the result showed (42%) chose "always" and "enough always", it meant that most of them regarded the teacher did not always to teach and try out new techniques activity. Second, ninth statement was about how perception of the student toward their teacher in relates the lesson on the other subject or the real world, there were 6 students or (19.4%) chose "always" and "enough always". The students' perception in this statement was in low category. Third, it was twelfth statement, most of the students gave low perception toward their English teacher in using variety of activities. It showed that only 6 students chose "always" and "enough always". For the fourteenth statement, it is classified in low category based on the result of percentage calculation, and there were 17 students or (19.4%) who agree that the teacher managed the classroom with minimum of disruption. Fifth, it was sixteenth statement, teacher made sure class time is used for learning, there were 16 students or (51.7%) from 31 students chose "always" and "enough always" so that the category of this statement was low. One statement in category moderate was ninth statement, a half students or (51.7%) regarded the teacher enough always gave help reach the high expectation to them. Furthermore this statement was moderate category.

It could be concluded that the perception of students towards their teacher' skill of teaching English was in low category or they have negative perception. According Adewura and Tayo (2007:167) summarized in line teacher skill beside the ability to use oral communication for presenting the subject matter, the skill to organize material needed. It implies that skilful teachers summarize and link ideas together at the end of teachers' lesson. English teacher should pay attention to this reality since they must know many techniques to transfer knowledge their students.

CONCLUSION

Based on findings and discussion, it can be drawn the conclusions that students' perception towards their English teachers' academic performance in the classroom at SMP Muhammadiyah AL-Amin Sorong in academic 20011/2012 was in high level category or it can be said the students have 2 positive perceptions and one negative perception. Positive perceptions are in the teacher knowledge of subject matter and teacher attitude to work. While the negative perception from the students is in the teacher's skill of teaching the subject matter. Generally, the result of data analysis and testing hypothesis showed that most of the students gave positive perception towards 20 statements which reflected their English teachers' performance in teaching and learning process.

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