

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

The portrait of Indonesia education is experiencing moral and characters crisis. Character is very important in education world because it will help the students to interact properly with their teachers, fellow students, and even their environment, students will turn their classroom into a better learning environment. The quote states knowledge is power but character is more, it means we have to insert the character building in the education world. The government has taken a step through education by inserting a program that is concerned about the improvement of good characters, namely character based education. Since the curriculum takes a big role in education, the government tries to implement character building through developing a character based curriculum which is known as 2013 Curriculum.

Character building is the effort to help soul development of the children in the matter of inner self and outer world. Character building in education is very important because it is the effort to sprout of and develop good values to the child based on the prevailing moral. The government has also changed the curriculum from the School-Based Curriculum (*KTSP*) to Curriculum 2013. In Curriculum 2013, the government emphasizes the character building as the main point. The

Ministry of Education and Culture (*Kemendikbud*) integrates character building in the existing curriculum through teaching learning activities at school. All schools in Indonesia are required to implement this program. In line with the government's regulation, there are 18 character values to be developed (*Kemendiknas*, 2010) and implemented in the teaching learning process. They are 1) religiousness, 2) honesty, 3) tolerance, 4) discipline, 5) hard work, 6) creativity, 7) independence, 8) democracy, 9) curiosity, 10) spirit of nationality, 11) nationalism, 12) achievement appreciation, 13) friendliness/communicativeness, 14) love of peace, 15) love reading, 16) environmental care, 17) social care, and 18) responsibility. Character building should be integrated in every subject, including English. English language teaching should not just give knowledge about language, but also character input. One of the important things here is the materials given.

Materials is included anything which can be used to facilitate the learning of a language. They can be textbook ,modul, LKS (students worksheet), document, handout or media, and can be presented in printing form, live performance, and display on cassette, CD-ROM, DVD or the internet. It is not difficult to find out or access the materials for kindergarten level at book stores. But most teachers use the materials directly without editing or adjusting base on the students' needs, and some of the materials do not contain character building concepts especially foreign or outside materials. The integration character building concept should be adapted to the maturity of the students' development

as well. So, materials development is everything made by people (the writers, the teachers, or the learners) to give and utilize information and provide experience of the using language, which is designed to fulfill the learners' needs and consider the objective of the learning. Teachers should develop the materials by adapting them in order to improve or to make them more suitable to learners' needs. Adaptation can be carried out by reducing, adding, omitting, modifying, and supplementing learning materials.

According to Graves (2000), material development is the planning process by which a teacher can put the objectives and goals of the course into units and tasks. Developing materials is necessary in order to provide more resources to the learners. With more resources, learners can receive better result in learning the language. In developing materials, developers must consider some important points such as selecting the topics of the materials and the activities. Those points must be conducted in proper order.

The English materials in kindergarten level should be interesting, stimulating, attractive, and full of fun activities. The activities are variant and the process can be created in singing, drawing, coloring, pasting, drilling, or gaming actions. Since the aim of language learning for kindergarten level is to develop their interest and enthusiasm in learning, the children should not feel that they will have to bear a heavy burden in learning the new language. In this case the values of character building like religiousness, honesty, tolerance, discipline, hard work, creativity, independence, democracy, curiosity, spirit of nationality, nationalism,

achievement appreciation, friendliness/communicativeness, love of peace, love reading, environmental care, social care, and responsibility can be integrated in all those kindergarten activities above. By inputting character building in kindergarten English materials, it will shape the children to have better personality, not only for the present but also for the future. Children will consider when they are going to do something, whether it will have a good or bad impact for themselves or people around them. Also, children will understand about the boundaries that they cannot pass by while interacting with others. Character building teaches about cognitive, caring, and responsibility in a social life (Hudha et al: 2014). In this case, character building is the core virtues that give the effect of good for the individual and also good for society.

Concerning all the clarifications above, the researcher decided to analyze and design the developing English materials at RA Islamiyah GUPPI institution based on Character building Concept. Raudhatul Athfal (RA) is a kindergarten-level in early childhood education institution is one of the form of early childhood education units on the education track formal organizing educational programs with peculiarities of Islam for children aged 4 (four) years until 6 (six) years. RA Islamiyah GUPPI is chosen as the object of the study because the writer acts as the English teacher at this institution. Hopefully by doing this research the golden generations who master English and technology, have knowledge, good religion, characters, and good morals can be formed.

1.2 The Problems of the Study

Character building is one of the crucial issues to be analyzed in the 21st century. By implementing character building in teaching learning process will bear the educated, moral, and characterized generations. Based on the background of the study, the problems of the study are formulated as:

1. To what extent are English learning materials appropriate for RA GUPPI kindergarten institution based on character building concept?
2. How are the English learning materials for RA GUPPI kindergarten institution based on character building concept developed?
3. Why are the English learning materials for RA GUPPI kindergarten institution based on character building concept developed?

1.3 The Objectives of the Study

In general, research objectives describe what we expect to achieve by a project. Research objectives are usually expressed in lay terms and are directed as much to the client as to the researcher. Based on the formulation of the research problems, the objectives of this study are:

1. To find out how extent English learning materials are appropriate for RA GUPPI kindergarten institution based on character building concept.
2. To observe the English learning materials for RA GUPPI kindergarten institution are developed based on character building concept.

3. To analyze the reasons why the English learning materials for RA GUPPI kindergarten institution based on character building concept are developed.

1.4 The Scope of the Study

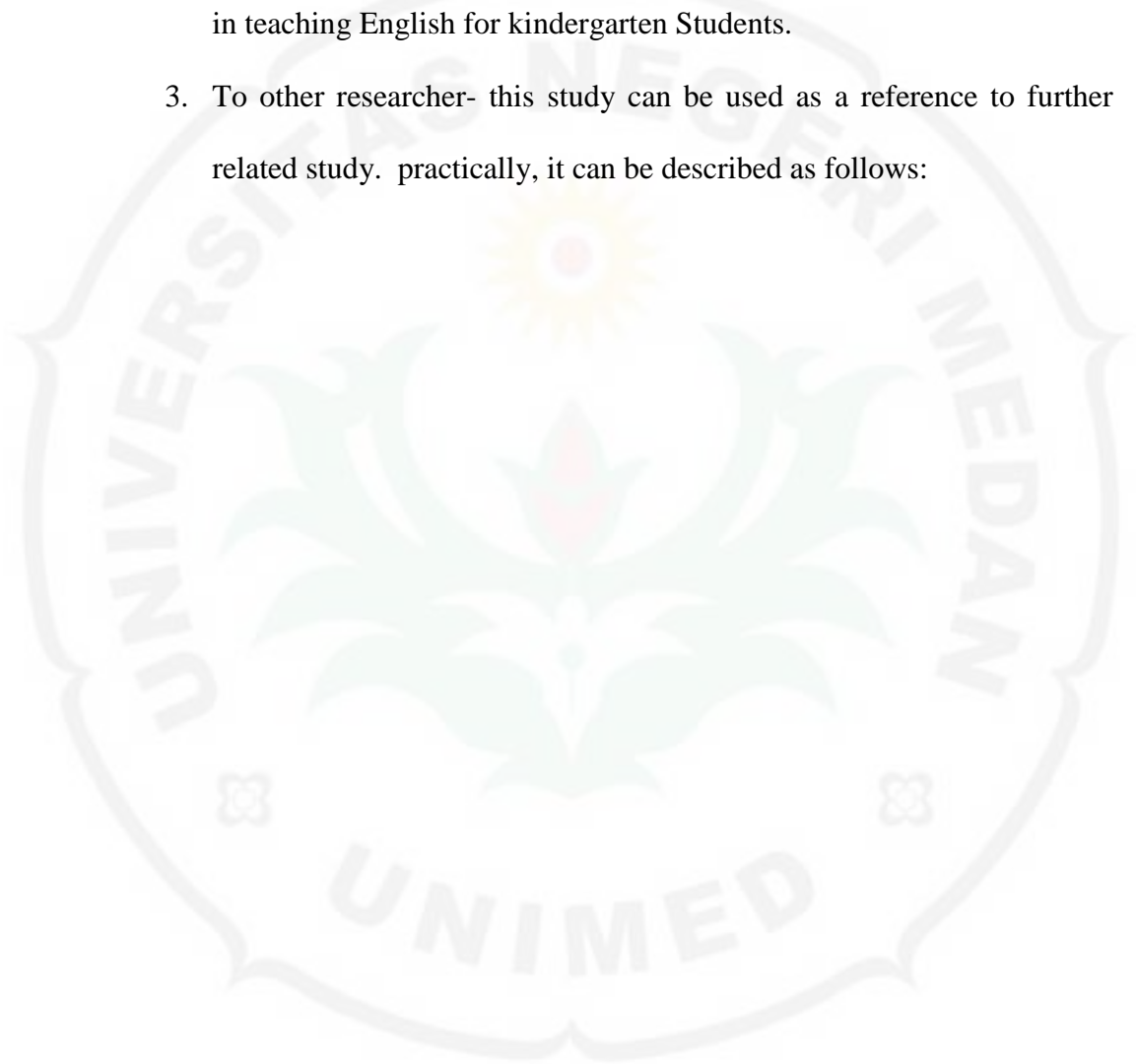
This research focuses on developing the English materials for kindergarten level based on the character building. The character values such as religiousness, honesty, tolerance, discipline, hard work, creativity, independence, democracy, curiosity, spirit of nationality, nationalism, achievement appreciation, friendliness/communicativeness, love of peace, love reading, environmental care, social care, and responsibility will be integrated in the kindergarten English materials. The developed materials are in the form of English modul that will be used by RA GUPPI Kindergarten Institution.

1.5 The Significance of the Study

Character building has always become an essential topic to be observed in education world. Education in Indonesia significantly will create characterized gold generation in the future. This finding of this research can be useful theoretically and

1. To Kindergarten Students this study provides relevant English materials so that it is expected can increase the students' motivation in learning English.

2. To English teacher-this study can be used as a reference or hand book in teaching English for kindergarten Students.
3. To other researcher- this study can be used as a reference to further related study. practically, it can be described as follows:



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