

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

Education is one of the important things for human life. Education should be apply from the beginning to the end of human life. Education is not only we get and need in the school environment. For example the parents educate the children by using a good attitude, and social norm, etc even when we are babies the first words is learn by our parents. The earlier education started from our environment in our home. It is useful to build children characteristic. Oemar Hamalik (2001: 79) stated that education is a process in order to influence students to be able to adapt themselves as best as possible to the environment and thus will cause changes in themselves that enable it to function strongly in people's lives. Therefore, the successful of education is not only seen from the academic value but can be seen through how a child makes a good attitude in the community.

Teaching is the process of meeting people's needs, experiences and feelings, and intervening so they learn certain things, and go beyond what is given. The purpose of teaching is how science can be convey well to students. Education must be run by a professional educator and an expert in their field. The educators must have an interesting way to make the students understand with the teaching material and teaching method. Aydın (2013 : 33) stated that teaching material development is significant in meeting learners' needs.

Every school have different teaching materials based on their needs. It can be seen in our school nowadays, there have kinds of application in teaching learning process. Because every student haven't the same abilities to transferring the knowledge, some students easier to understand the compilation of viewing media, and the other expert in reading and listening and the rest better in writing skill. The one of important skill to teach in the classroom especially preschool is language learning. The most important fact about language is that it is a way of communicating meaning.

Language is a system of communication which consists of a set of sounds and written symbols which are used by the people of a particular country or region for talking or writing. Tarigan (1989: 4) stated that two definitions language are a system systematic or generative systems and a set of symbols or arbitrary symbols. It's mean that all sounds in the form of symbols that have meaning and are systematically arranged can be said to be language.

The curriculum of preschool uses thematic learning with a meaningful learning approach and fun in providing educational stimuli. Teachers need to pay attention to how early childhood learns and the principles of learning in preschool. Children learn in various ways through processes interaction with the environment. In principle children learn through play, therefore it is necessary to provide play activities in accordance with child development and make the children can become active learners, and allows children to be more creative. Activities play that is supported by a conducive environment. When playing, children learn to share, care,

cooperation, responsible, and others. Cultivation of values character for early childhood will be awakened at the moment children do direct practice and see models / role models from others.

Montessori said, “to talk is in the nature of man, human needed language in order to communicate, the power that come with language were revealed. The evolution of the human language began when communication was done through pictograms or picture and drawings.

One method that is considered effective for teaching children language learning at an early age is by using the Montessori Method. The Montessori Method has a fun way to teach early childhood. Montessori use materials that children see as toys but are able to stimulate their abilities.

Harmer (2007:67) stated that children's understanding is not from explanation, but from what they see and hear, and importantly has opportunities to be discuss. Children more understanding when interact with physical activity rather than giving the full explanation in teaching learning process. Because the difficulties in teaching EYL is to get their focus and interest. Regarding this, an EYL teacher must full attention.

The Montessori Method was created by Dr. Maria Montessori (1870 - 1952), an educator and physician from Italy who did make an effort to develop the most effective educational philosophy for children. Maria Montessori constructed a philosophy of psychological development where she believed children would

follow if they are given freedom in our appropriate environment, and also they possess natural tendencies that enable them to fulfill their own optimal development. In Montessori classrooms children make creative choices in their learning, while the classroom and the highly trained teacher offer age-appropriate activities to guide the process. Based on the explanation above Montessori Method is a method that gives freedom to students in choosing activities that are preferred to make their development more optimal and creative in making learning.

Basically, Montessori Method applied in preschool and the other private school under five years old. Many school in Indonesia didn't noticed that Montessori applied in their school, because the teachers unfamiliar with this method. Based on my experiences the teacher in the preschool use this Montessori Method. For example matching the colour with the same form, puzzling, replace the object with the same characteristics and the others subject.

The researcher tried to focus on EYL (English for Young Learners) application methods. Based on the Montessori Method can increase the language of children. At the time in the class Montessori the children very active to speak to other friends. Reading and writing are one of the most essential milestones in the life of young children. These are two indispensable developmental skills that influence child's ability to communicate and make their way in the world of advanced learning. Basically, without these skills we wouldn't be able to express ourselves and put our ideas on paper that can be useful to ourselves and other people.

The children feel so excited about being able to talk and express their thoughts that they can stutter from time to time. It is a natural stage, when children start developing their verbal language, and it is when parents should become attentive listeners for their little ones, without focusing on their misword, misspeak or stutter.

Those relevance studies have differences with the research of Montessori Method to investigate the writing preschool. In this research, the researcher analyzed the Montessori Method to investigate students based on rating scale by Kristiyani (2018 : 54) stated that Montessori education concept is classrooms equipped with a range of multi-sensory literacy aids through which children make audio, visual and motor observations and Aydogan (2016 : 119) The examination of the affect of Montessori education on language development of preschool children. Thus, it can be concluded that the researcher wants to conduct The application of Montessori Method to language learning preschool.

Montessori School have ten teachers, each teacher has different job in the class. Toddler class (1,5 to 3 years old) provides two teachers, preschool (3 to 6 years old) provides six teachers, elementary school provide one teacher. The teacher educational background mostly from English education.

Miss RN as one of the teachers in the Montessori School said that she was very interested in this method because this is the right method to be applied to children. She also claimed that this was a unique method and would not necessarily

be found elsewhere. It conclude that the Montessori Method is a powerful method because it is innovative, creative and active.

Therefore the researcher was interested in doing the research in the Montessori school because the researcher interest to research language learning through the application Montessori Method . The researcher found that the school by searching in social media to support this research. Medan Montessori School the place to aim of this research because this is the one of the best Montessori school in Medan. We can see in their posted was very attractive at instagram. The researcher feel that the school suitable to collect the data. The school curriculum comes from Canada.

Lillard (2003) stated that the language area of the Montessori primary environment there six that is vocabulary, writing, reading, reading classification, word study & function of words, reading analysis & interpretive reading. Pinker (1994) the children at golden age can learn his language effortlessly and without fatigue after the age of six, when the sensitive period has passed, it becomes much more difficult for the child to learn to read and write.

The preliminary data based on Gutek (2004 : 108) stated that Montessori education is based on the liberty of the pupils in their spontaneous manifestations. Teachers give a freedom to children to choose what the materials their want. Children still get a control from a teacher but not directly, the teacher will helping if the children need direction.

Some activities based on preliminary data as follows:

1.T : Come here, *sayang*. Now, we are study about numbers. Oke?

St : Oke Miss.

T : **Please Focus, don't look others. Just look at this materials, and hear what I said.** Look at this, *This is number one (while hold the finger's of student to touch the material)*. What is the number?

St : Number one

T : *What? I can't hear it.*

St : Number one

T : Once more

St : Number one

T : Ok, this is number two.

St : Two. (Student feel bored and look away.)

T : **Hey. Look at me. (Holding the student's face looking at the material)**

Explanation : Teacher teach the student about Montessori method use the sandpaper letters, this activity conclude the written language. The function of this activity is make the language of children more fluent . Based on the theory, in montessori students are given the freedom to choose the material they want, because the purpose of Montessori method are how to get students interested in learning so that they are able. Not attracting students to learn to be able.

2. T : **Please you must focus.** This is names of colour. This is white, this is orange, this is black, this is green, this is yellow, this is blue and this is gray.

If i said 'orange' you must take the orange colour .

Explanation : Teacher teach the student kinds of colour use material. He must match the colour with two materials and pronounce names the colour. This activity make student more focus to match the things. When students are interested in playing the material, they don't need to be given directions to focus. They will focus on their own. But when they don't like the material, they feel difficult to focus.

The Montessori School inspiring by nature because the teaching material use the object naturally where the media and learning objects can be directly grasp and observed by children. When at home the child see his parents washing dishes, sweeping and so on, in this school children are taught directly such things so in each class they also provide a sink because in order for them to become independent and feel class is like their home so they are comfortable in the class. School fees at this school are quite expensive because of the diverse materials, for preschool classes around 1.6 million per month in every three months there will be additional costs for materials, so it can be totaled per semester parents have to pay around 10 million rupiah.

From the explanation above, the researcher is interest to do research about The application of Montessori Method to language learning in preschool.

## **1.2 The Problems of the Study**

1. What are the techniques of Montessori Method of language learning applied by the teachers in preschool?
2. How are the realizations of Montessori Method in preschool?
3. Why are Montessori Method realized in the ways they are?



### **1.3 The Objective of the Study**

On the basis of the research problems above, the objectives are described as follows :

1. To describe the techniques of language learning in Montessori Method applied by the teachers to preschoolers
2. To analyze the realization of Montessori Method in preschool
3. To explain why are Montessori Method realized in the ways they are

### **1.4 The Scope of the Study**

The Scope of this research is needed to give a focus of this research. This study focused on The application of Montessori Method to language learning in preschool.

### **1.5 The Significance of the Study**

The findings of this study are expected to be beneficial and give contribution theoretically and practically, as follows.

1. Theoretically, the findings of the research are expected to be used in providing information The application of Montessori Method to language learning in preschool.
2. Practically, it is expected that the research can be as a guideline for those who are interested in teaching about the Montessori Method, particularly

in teaching quality. The finding can be useful for published in publication of teaching young learners version.



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