

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of study

Education is a basic need of every human being to ensure life in order to be dignified. Every human need education whenever and wherever. This is contained in the Law of the Republic of Indonesia NO. 20 of 2003 article 3 concerning National Education System which states that “Education National functions to develop capabilities and shape character as well as the nation's civilization that is useful in the context of educating the life of the nation, aims to develop students so that they become human for those who believe and fear God Almighty One, noble character, healthy, knowledgeable, creative, independent and become a citizen a democratic and responsible state”.¹

Education is not only given to normal children, but for all children with special needs. which one has explained in the Regulation of the Minister of National Education of the Republic of Indonesia Number 70 in 2009 is defined as the education system which provides opportunities for all students with disabilities and have the potential intelligence and special talent to follow education or learning in an educational environment together with students in general.

The purpose of education for children with special needs is not much different from the goals of education in general, one of which is namely the development of basic learning skills in schools such as: read, write and count.

Children with special needs are considered different from children normal,

¹ Hasbullah, *Dasar-Dasar Ilmu Pendidikan*, (Jakarta: Rajawali Pres, 2015), p.121

they are considered handicapped and helpless. This view very detrimental to them, because every child has a deficiency and different advantages. As in the word of God SWT in the letter At-Tiin verse 4:

تَقْوِيمٍ أَحْسَنَ فِي الْإِنْسَانِ خَلَقْنَا لَقَدْ

Meaning: "Indeed, We have created man in the best form."

The verse above explains that Allah SWT created man in the most perfect state. There is no term defect in it, and someone called a cripple by that society also perfect. Because every human being has their own advantages, just like children with special needs. Children with needs also have the right to receive services, be it medically, social interaction and education.²

Mentally retarded children are conditions in which children's intelligence experiences obstacles so that they do not reach the optimal stage of development. Mentally retarded is part of the individual have special needs. One of the characteristics is having the intelligence below average normal child, so that their academic abilities experience delay when compared to normal individuals of his age.³

Children's ability to remember mild mental retardation is not like that good, but basically they still able to save and bring back messages ever known. Weak memory mild mentally retarded children often appear in their abilities when they wanted to express something through language, such as saying words, compiling words and sentences, make essays and difficulties in drafting concepts.⁴

² Nia Engelina, "Analisis Kesulitan Belajar Siswa Tunagrahita Ringan Dalam Pembelajaran Matematika di Sekolah Luar Biasa Kembar Karya Pembangunan 3 Bekasi", (Bekasi: FIP UMJ, 2018), p.2

³ *Ibid.*, p.35

⁴ Lutfi Dwi Masruroh, "Permainan Tic Tac Toe Terhadap Penguasaan Kosakata Bahasa Inggris Siswa Tunagrahita Ringan", (Surabaya: UNESA, 2013), p.3

Mentally retarded children have the opportunity and a place to get an education and appropriate learning, including in terms of development academics and skills. One of the academic developments that given is in English.

English is a universal language because it is used by most countries in the world. Even though in Indonesia English is a foreign language, it occupies important position in our society This is clearly seen in the world education in Indonesia. English is one of the subjects taught to students from elementary to tertiary level. If asked to Indonesian children what their goals are, most want to be pilots, doctors and so on. All of these professions need qualified English skills, so they can develop yourself re. It cannot be denied that English is an International language English is used as the standard aviation language International. Everywhere we go in all parts of the world, we are faced with the use of English the first time we set foot at the airport or airport of the country we are going to. This proves that English is widely used. Therefore, learning and mastering English is a necessity, if we don't want to say it's a must.⁵

In the current era of globalization, almost all science and technology modern use English. English is the world language which is very necessary in dealing with globalization as it is today, so it is important learned from an early age. Mastery of language foreign, especially English who acting as a global language is one of access to success in various fields. This is not closing the possibility for mentally retarded children to master English as foreign language. English standing as a foreign language is getting stronger with there is a government decision to choose English as a foreign language first. English as a

⁵ Byslina Maduwu, "Pentingnya Pembelajaran Bahasa Inggris di Sekolah", Jurnal Warta, Edisi 50 (2016), p.2-3

language foreign is one of the lessons additions and developed programs at school or local content which specially provided as knowledge language for mentally retarded children.⁶

Constraints for mentally retarded children arise because the language development of mentally retarded children is delayed, especially since English is a foreign language whose speech and writing are not the same. In addition, in carrying out daily interactions, language mastery is very limited.

One of the efforts to improve English language skills for mentally retarded children is to improve the quality of learning in the classroom. Improving the quality of learning can be through learning strategies, learning methods, and the use of appropriate learning media. The use of learning media for mentally retarded children in learning English must be formulated and planned according to the material and condition of the child. In terms of planning and selecting learning media, it is necessary to pay attention to the level of development and characteristics possessed by children.

This research investigated the methods in teaching English for students with mental retardation. The biggest interest to investigate these students rather than students with other disabilities is because teaching student with mental retardation is the challenges for the teachers to handle students with below average intellectual and responsible to make this category of students be able to understand foreign language that is natural difficult to be mastered even for normal students.

From the discussion above, in this study researcher choose mentally retarded children as subject of research. This study discuss about “English

⁶ *Ibid.*, p.2

Teaching Method on Mentally Retarded Student in Global Kids Centre”.

B. Formulation of study

Based on the background of study, the formulation of the problem in this study is:

1. What is the English teaching method for Mentally Retarded student?
2. How does the teacher apply the method?
3. Why does the teacher apply the method?

C. The objective of study

Based on the background of study, the objective of the problem in this study:

1. To describes what is the English teaching method for Mentally Retarded student.
2. To describes how does the teacher apply the method.
3. To describes why does the teacher apply the method.

D. The significance of study

In accordance with the objectives of the study and after the research, it is hoped that this research can be useful:

1. For Researchers

With this research, it is hoped that it can add insight for researchers to describe “English Teaching Method on Mentally Retarded Student in Global Kids Centre”.

2. For Teachers

This research for teachers is expected to be a reference material and develop

the potential of mentally retarded children in language learning English next.

3. For Parents

It is expected that parents who have children with special needs, especially mentally retarded children to always pay attention and motivate children in learning because a mentally retarded child does not make them failed in education at school.

E. **The benefit of study**

This research consist of theoretical and practical benefits as follows:

1. Theoretical benefit

This research will provide useful information and also as a reference for research related to English Teaching Method on Mentally Retarded Student. This research also provides descriptive advantages for future studies that wish to study the same case.

2. Practical benefit

a. For English Lectures

The researcher hopes this research can be implemented by lectures as information or reference in teaching English for Special Student.

b. For English Department Students

The researcher hopes that students especially the english departmen students to know information about English teaching method on Mentally Retarded Student.

c. For researchers

Can increase information and knowledge about English teaching method on Mentally Retarded Student.