

Designing Language Tasks and Activities

by Nury Supriyanti, MA., B. Yuniar Diyanti, M.Hum., Nurhidayanto PSP, Ph.D., Lusi Nurhayati, M.Appl.Ling., Siwi Karmadi K., M.Hum., Sudyono, MA

ABSTRACT

Abstract

Research conducted in schools still reported findings that English language teachers were still trapped in the old paradigm, which is focused on understanding and memorizing grammar rules and word lists. Whereas, in order to be able to communicate in English well and fluently, the teaching carried out that way is not suitable. The teaching of language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) needs to get a broad space. Meanwhile, based on the observations of the PPM (community service) team in the class of micro teaching, as well as the *PLPG* (in-service teacher education and professional training) and *PPG* (specialized training for professional school teachers) programs, the prospective teachers and teachers often had difficulty getting ideas to develop and explore teaching techniques, create tasks, and organize activities. There are several factors that contribute to the low ability and willingness of the teachers to explore. Those were the limited time available to prepare and implement the tasks in the classroom, the complexity of the preparation, and the lack of guidance for the teachers to create variety of learning activities. Responding to the above constraints, the PPM team held a "Workshop on Designing Language Tasks and Activities for English Teachers in *Madrasah Tsanawiyah* in Kebumen Regency." The method used in the training is a team presentation to refresh the knowledge of the theory and concepts of English language learning and how to prepare learning tasks. Next, participants worked in pairs in order that they got opportunity to plan and prepare learning tasks and activities. The training activities were ended with a teaching demo in which the participants demonstrated their prepared part of lesson. The training held gave the result that met the expectations i.e. the participants got the insight and skills in developing good tasks and enthusiasm to do it. It showed that similar training is useful and is still needed by English language teaching teachers.

Kata Kunci: *Keywords: task, activities, English language teacher banyak menggunakan*