

## THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD ENGLISH TEACHER AS PERCEIVED BY SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN NURUL JIHAD TEMBILAHAN HULU

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### ABSTRACT

This study aimed to find the characteristics of a good English teacher. The aim was to find out students' perceptions of a good English teacher in terms of technical knowledge, pedagogic skills, interpersonal skills and personal qualities. This research includes descriptive research. Data was taken by observation, interviews and then analyzed qualitatively using a questionnaire. The findings of this study indicate that the characteristics of good teachers with respect to technical knowledge are mastering English, understanding teaching methods, being able to teach clearly, understanding students' abilities, and understanding teaching methods. The characteristics of a good English teacher with respect to interpersonal skills are teachers who are relaxed, humorous, cooperative, and able to win over students. The characteristics of a good teacher in terms of pedagogy are teachers who have teaching skills, use interesting media and a variety of techniques, are creative and innovative in designing material, understand students' needs, motivate students to be enthusiastic about learning English. The characteristics of a good English teacher with respect to personal qualities are a good figure, kind hearted and obedient to worship, discipline, patience, having good habits, attitudes and behavior, always maintaining quality and enthusiasm in teaching. The results of the in-depth open questionnaire shown that students' perceptions of the characteristics of a good English teacher are very tedious and cognitive.

**Keywords:** *Good English Teacher, Knowledge of Good Teacher Characteristics, Interpersonal Skills, Teacher's Personal Qualities.*

### INTRODUCTION

Teacher's duties and teacher roles from day to day are heavier. A long with the development of science and technology requires people must continue to learn, especially teachers who have the task to educate and teaching, a little careless in

educating to be left with developments, including students being taught. According to Januari (2015: 3) Teacher is a educators not just a transmitter of material. Teacher make the students smart and also have a good personality. This implies that a good teacher and actions to be taken on his part in the classroom play a vital role in provoking effective and efficient and efficient learning on the part of the students. Teachers also have a fundamental role in their learners' academic achievement and their quality can highly influence student outcomes.

In general teachers try to do their work better every day. They have good interest in their students and this drives them to a constant search for more motivating activities, more efficient teaching methods, and better designed materials for their classes. Teachers who have competencies in carrying out his profession can affect the achievement of goals education. However, being a teacher is not easy as the people think. There are some competence need to be had by the teacher, such as professional competence, pedagogical competence, personality competence, and social competence. A teacher will become a model for the students. The students will see how the teacher carries a big responsibility in the classroom. From previous experience when apprenticed at MA Nurul Jihad Tembilahan Hulu the researcher chose English teacher characteristic because every teachers have a different characteristic in teaching English. Furthermore, a good teacher is indicating by reputation and their students' superior performance in a standardized test. By looking at these all specifications, It is not only explaining the subject in front of the class and leave the students to understand it by themselves.

Some research studies used teaching evaluation through students' perception because the researchers aware that what students think are about should not be ignored, because of students has their own perception to improve teaching skill all educators should see, hear, and consider what their students think about. The teacher should be ready to be evaluated. Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested in conducting a research entitled "A Good Teacher as Preceived

by Secondary School Student in Nurul Jihad Tembilahan Hulu". This research was designed to determine teacher characteristics which focus in characteristics teachers.

A responsible teacher is one who responsible for preparing materials, explaining them, providing strategies and activities to make their students understand their learning best. In the aspect of the professional competence of a teacher especially for Junior High School and Senior High School, In this study, I am referring to Dincer, Ali, Aysegul & Mine (2013) who said there are four competences of effective English language teacher, socioaffective skills, pedagogical knowledge, subject matter knowledge and personal qualities., there are five points that must be mastered by the teacher, namely mastering the materials, the structure and the concept of the subject taught, mastering standard competency and basic competencies of the subject taught, developing the learning materials creatively, developing their own professionalism and using media for study english in the classroom. But from the results of the researchers' experience during the internships in the schools both junior high and senior high school there are still many teachers who do not pay attention to this competency aspect, many of them only teach without mastering the material to be taught, they are also less able to develop existing and less creative technologies in developing the methods used during the learning process.

This is the main basis in this study, especially in learning English which is a lesson that most students consider this very difficult to master. Some students have their own perceptions of good teachers, especially good English teachers, but each student has a different way of learning so that the characteristics of English teachers are good seen from the four previous competencies. Based on the explanation above, the researcher is interested in conducting research to know what the secondary of students of MA Nurul Jihad Tembilahan perceive the characteristic of

a good English teacher. This school is included study English in the school but the process of teaching and learning English in this school is still less effective.

Because there are many students who do not like the way their teacher teaches them. That is the reason why the researcher wants to do a research by the title "A Good Teacher as Perceived by Secondary School in Nurul Jihad Tembilahan Hulu". Therefore, this research is design to know the students' perception toward the characteristics of a good English teacher which focus on the characteristics teacher English.

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

According to Dincer, Ali, Aysegul & Mine (2013) There are some characteristics of effective a good English teacher :

#### **Socio-Affective Skill**

Socio-affective skill mean that an effective english teacher must have good interactions/relationships with all their students. Teachers must also be able to build students motivation to learn english happily and comfortably in class. And teachers who have good interactions with students can increase students motivation in learning and can also prevent students from negative situations such as anxiety in learning and also fear in learning English.

#### **Pedagogical Knowledge**

In pedagogical knowledge, an effective english teachers must have effective teaching techniques, both in terms of preparation before teaching, teaching methods, learning strategies, implementation in teaching, and also how to test students in test. Teacher preparation in teaching can be in the form of a learning implementation plan (RPP) or the required teaching materials. So the teacher must prepare materials and activities so that learning can take place effectively. Meanwhile, in terms of methods, strategies, implementation in teaching and testing students, teachers usually have different ways.

### **Subject Matter Knowledge**

Subject matter knowledge can be interpreted that English teachers must have a fairly broad knowledge. Especially knowledge of English subjects. For example, mastering grammar and material according to the level to be taught. In addition, in teaching English the teacher is also at least able to communicate in English, so that the teacher can communicate in English with his students even if only a little to improve his students' English skills. In knowledge of subject matter, teachers must also be able to prepare certain materials that will be delivered in learning.

### **Personality Characteristics**

Personality characteristics in addition to having adequate knowledge, an effective English teacher must also have a good personal character. Good personal character is also very influential in the success of learning. As an ordinary person, of course, the teacher's personal character will also be carried away when teaching in class and affect the success of learning. Personal character can be in the form of activity, because when the English teacher has high creativity, of course students will be more interested in learning and it will be easier to absorb the material. In addition, the personal character of a good teacher can also be interpreted as a good personality, responsible, professional, positive thinking, patient, flexible, funny, caring for students, enthusiastic in teaching and the ability to work in teams.

### **Skills That Must be Mastered by A Good English Teacher**

According to Brown (2004), a good English teacher is a teacher who owns some characteristics. They are characteristics related to technical knowledge, pedagogy skills, interpersonal skill and personal qualities. O'Dwey (2006: 56) states technical knowledge has a function to guide students in learning the aspect of language use that can be learnt directly, and provide a standard for evaluating language like grammatical rules, convention, and stock, formulation expression. Pedagogy refers to an educator of using teaching skill and activities.

These skills generate to enable students to find out the knowledge and skill associated with different subject areas, (Curee in Nontin, 2016: 45). Gardners (2004: 78) in Nontin (2016) stated that interpersonal skill is the ability to understand what they feel, what motivates them, and how they interact with others. Teacher personality is that the first of characteristics to understand an efficient teacher (Stronge 2007 in Nontin, 2016). From those definitions about good English characteristics above, It means that the good English teacher characteristics should be owned by every English teacher to help in conducting the teaching-learning process.

#### **Excellent English Pronunciation,vocabulary and grammar skills.**

It sound obvious,but once you start work teaching in english you need to keep on improving your own language skills. Students need to be able to understand what you say and trust your grammar. Sometimes teachers dont get helpful feedback from their managers about this to support them to improve. All our english teacher training courses include intensive lessons in pronunciation,grammar and vocabulary.

#### **Confidence and Skills to Give Motivating and Interesting Lessons to Students.**

Teachers are a bit like actors. Student have to put on a show to get students focusing in teacher lessons and keep their interest. Some people can feel very uncomfortable doing this. So our courses will give student the skills to keep students learning.

#### **Develop Teaching Materials**

Student may be teaching english from course textbooks right now,but teacher want to find ways of developing material to use in class which will engage and challenge students at some point. Teachers who create great materials are popular with their students and get great feedback.

### **Assessment**

Good English teachers are great at assessing the progress, strengths and weaknesses of their students. Only by assessing students properly can teacher help them to fill gaps in their knowledge and them to learn best.

### **Use Media in the Classroom**

Interactive screens, websites and apps are part of a teachers job. Its vital to be able to use them properly and help students to do so. Its also important to be able to support colleagues in the staffroom to use media for study well.

### **Mastering the Materials**

English teachers need to master student material and have knowledge of various aspects of language in English (linguistics, discourse, sociolinguistics, and strategic). Mastering the spoken and written English, receptive and productive in all communicative aspects (linguistic, discourse, sociolinguistic, and strategic) (Stronge, 2007 in Nontin, 2016).

### **Qualities Perception of Characteristics A Good English Teacher**

Generally, there are five *Good English teacher characteristics related to personal qualities* as follows:

#### ***Patient***

Patience is a virtue. The most important quality that a teacher should have is patience. A great teacher is very patient with their students and their parents to deal with the same questions and problems over and over again. You never give up on your students and would try out new ways to help them succeed in school.

#### ***Honest***

As Honesty speaking the truth and acting truthfully—can help students communicate ideas sincerely and respectfully, set and recognize boundaries, and build strong relationships.

### ***Discipline***

Discipline means teaching acceptable behaviours and unlearning maladaptive behaviours with support, guidance and direction in managing behaviour. It is about setting limits, clarifying roles, responsibilities, and mutual expectations and creating a predictable, orderly and stable life

### ***Responsible***

Teachers have various daily responsibilities. Depending on their work environment, individual responsibilities may vary. Here are some of the most important responsibilities of teachers with detailed explanations of why they're so important.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

The researcher used Descriptive-Qualitative method in this research. Descriptive Qualitative method used to determine and describe the way things are test analysis (Gay et.al ,2006). This was employed to identify, analyze and explore deeply about the students' perception towards characteristic of a good English teacher in teaching English as foreign language and the result of this research would presented and interpreted into sentence form.

A questionnaire was required to collect data from the students or participants. The Researcher gave questioner to each student as the sample of research and would use Likert Scale to get data questionnaire from the students. A Likert Scale consisted of potential items such as Strongly Agree (4), Agree (3), Disagree (2), and Strong Disagree (1). The questionnaire consists of 10 statements that the researcher adapted from the indicators Teacher Qualification Standards Academic Qualifications and Teacher Competencies By (Dincer, Ali, Aysegul & Mine (2013).



## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Findings**

The characteristics a good English teacher was an appropriate to be understand in the school because this make teacher understand about characteristics personality in the classroom. But also, based on result of questionnaire, the majority of students had positive responses toward the characteristics a good english teacher at MA Nurul Jihad Tembilihan Hulu. The regulation of the charateristics a good english teacher was very interesting of students and teacher. Based on the data analysis above, the researcher presented the discussion of the research based on the questionnaire, it was found the students perceived on the characteritics a good english teacher was “ Less”. From the results of the research failure was caused because the school did not support in facilitating tools or media for learning and teaching English therefore to achieve a characteritics as a good English lessons was unsatisfactory. Moreover, the researcher given them motivated to carry out this activity. And then the total sum of all scores for each statement from the questionnaire that has been distributed showed the number 31,57% where this number is in positions <55% in the interval score table.

### **Discussion**

Based on the discussion researcher there are diffirent and similar, there are similar in several references to the research findings that I studied, which are more dominant in the characteristics of an English teacher. because in the school that I studied, you could say the teachers were minimal or limited and I also asked students' perceptions of how teachers teach in class, did they meet the characteristics of a good teacher? and I also did this research by giving a test like a questionnaire.

The researcher described the result of data analysis based on the problem statement. The findings of this research deals with scoring classification of students' questionnaire in the class. After the data is collected, the researcher analyzed the data. The researcher used a questionnaire to know the students' perception on the

characteristics of a good English teacher at the secondary grade in MA Nurul Jihad. The questionnaire consists of 10 statements that were distributed to 35 students.

## CONCLUSION

This research was conducted to find out the students perceived on the characteristics of a good English teacher at MA Nurul Jihad Tembilahan Hulu. After the researcher distributing questionnaire to 35 students, the results showed that on the final percentage which is 31,57% were the number in the interval table are in the range of “Less”. From the results of the research failure was caused because the school did not support in facilitating tools or media for learning and teaching English therefore to achieve a characteristic as a good English lesson was unsatisfactory. Moreover, the researcher given them motivated to carry out this activity. It can be inferred that the characteristics of a good English teacher give an important role in teaching and learning English. Teachers Socio-Affective skill, Pedagogical Knowledge, Subject Matter Knowledge, Personality Characteristics. They should learning happy in teaching English.

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