

## Outbound-Based English Fun Counseling for Boarding School Children At PP. Al-Ikhlas Suko

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**Abstract**—This PKM activity aims to increase interest and motivation to learn English, especially among the children of Pesantren Al-Ikhlas Suko. This activity is titled Fun English based on Outbound, which is a fun English learning activity using participatory and collaborative extension methods. This service activity is focused on speaking and writing skills, especially mastering vocabulary in simple sentences. This PKM is carried out for children who live at the Al-Ikhlas Islamic Boarding School. This pesantren is located in Suko Village, Maron District, Probolinggo Regency. The participants who participated were from junior high school (SMP) education backgrounds. The achievement of the PKM results is an increase in the participants' ability to master English vocabulary (in the topic or material taught). Thus, participants will feel happy and not awkward when participating in all the fun English activities in this PKM.

**Keywords:** Fun English, Outbound, Pesantren Children

### 1 Introduction

English is a language used in various fields, such as business, technology, and science. According to Hanafi (2016), English is a prima donna language for most people from various circles ranging from preschool children, school age, teenagers, and even adults. Indonesian people learn English as a foreign language because this language is officially taught and studied in schools ranging from PAUD / TK, SD, SMP, SMA to Higher Education. The role of English itself is inseparable from community life in the education, economic and social sectors (Purwaningsih et al., 2023). The three sectors are closely related in relation to the development of appropriate human resources (Tinggi et al., 2023). Overall, English is an important language for everyone to learn, especially for Indonesians. This is because English can open wider opportunities and opportunities for Indonesians in various fields.

However, considering that English is not a mother tongue in our country, to master English, intensive practice is needed, and it would be better if it is done early. English lessons are an important and challenging subject, but sometimes it is considered as a difficult and boring subject. Teachers who use monotonous learning methods, such as lectures and questions and answers, can make children feel bored and uninterested in learning English.

Primary school age (6-12 years old) is an important age for children's cognitive development. At this age, children are learning many new things and have high curiosity. Their cognitive abilities are also developing rapidly, so they can understand more complex concepts. Primary school-age children also prefer things that are operational rather than static. This means they prefer to do things rather than just see or hear. For example, they would rather play, move and observe than sit still for hours reading a book. Therefore, the learning atmosphere should be conditioned with the development of children of this age. Making the surrounding environment with a variety of fun into a place of learning is one solution, for example with outbound.

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Although the village is located in Probolinggo district, the residents, especially the parents in Suko village, are quite concerned about their children's education. Most of the children and teenagers pursue education up to senior high school and even college. In Suko village, the educational facilities available are still inadequate to fulfil the needs of the community. Village children have to go to school outside the subdistrict to get a better-quality education. In fact, to learn English intensively, village children have to go to the city or other places that have good tutoring institutions.

Starting from these things, the idea emerged to hold a program, namely the Fun English extension program for pesantren children at PP. Al-Ikhlas Suko. To increase interest and motivation to learn, learning activities need to be combined with fun and interactive outbound activities. By learning outside, it is hoped that the nature of learning will be more meaningful.

## 2 Method

The research design is clearly described and appropriate for the purpose of the study. The purpose, content and usage of data collection tools are explained and justified. The research design is clearly described and appropriate for the purpose of the study. The research design is clearly described and appropriate for the purpose of the study. The participants, their characteristics and their selection methods are described in detail and justified. Data collection and analysis procedures are clearly explained with a reference to the role and competency of the researcher(s).

English is a language that is widely used as a unifying language between nations (Mambu, 2023). Its presence and position in the scope of potential tourism areas is very crucial. Unfortunately, most local people are not able to use English and there are even some who are lacking and do not realise at all the importance of mastering English for them at least in speaking skills (Andika & Mardiana, 2023). The method used in this community service activity is a participatory and collaborative extension method. This method involves participants actively in the learning process and involves various related parties to achieve the desired goals. In addition, this PKM also uses outbound techniques to learn English through Fun English activities with stages.

This extension will be held for two days, on 15 and 16 September 2023. The counselling activities will include:

- Day 1
  - a. Opening
  - b. Ice breaking
  - c. Introduction to English Fun Learning
  - d. Learning practice using English Fun
- Second Day
  - a. Learning practice using English Fun
  - b. Outbound
  - c. Closing

English Fun that will be used in this counselling is as follows:

- a. Games: The use of games in English learning can make learning more fun and less boring. Games that will be used in this counselling include:

1. Bingo
2. Charades
3. Pictionary

b. Outbound: Outbound is an activity that can develop social, physical, and mental skills. In this counselling, outbound will be used to increase motivation to learn English and foster students' confidence.

The place where the programme is carried out is the PP Al-Ikhlas Suko area, either indoor or outdoor. Thus, this PKM activity will foster and foster the spirit of learning English for pesantren children in PP. Al-Ikhlas Probolinggo Regency.

### 3 Findings And Discussion

#### 3.1 Finding

Findings respond to the purpose of the study, and are presented systematically. Findings are supported with sufficient and relevant quotations, examples, tables and diagrams. For making a table, see the following example.

This outbound-based English Fun counseling activity ran smoothly and successfully. The pesantren children seemed enthusiastic about participating in this activity. This can be seen from several indicators, including:

- Attendance of participants

There were 30 participants in this outbound-based English Fun counseling activity, consisting of pesantren children from various levels. All participants were present on time and participated in the activity with enthusiasm.

- Participation of participants

The participants of this outbound-based English Fun counseling activity were very active in participating in various activities. They cheerfully participated in English games and sang English songs.

- Participant response

The participants of this outbound-based English Fun counseling activity gave a positive response to this activity. They stated that this activity was very fun and useful.

#### **The first day of Friday, 15 September 2023 Outbound-Based English Fun Extension activities at PP. Al-Ikhlas Suko.**

a. Opening

Outbound-based English Fun counseling activities at PP. Al-Ikhlas Suko starts at 15.00 WIB. The activity was opened by reciting the recitation of the Qur'an and remarks from the head of the pesantren. In his remarks, the head of the pesantren expressed his appreciation for the implementation of this activity and hoped that this activity could provide benefits for pesantren children.

b. Ice Breaking

After the speech, the activity continued with ice breaking. Ice breaking aims to break the atmosphere and build intimacy between participants. The ice-breaking that was carried out was a game of guessing English words. This game made the participants laugh and excited.

c. Introduction to English Fun Learning

After ice breaking, the activity continued with the introduction of English Fun learning. In this introduction, the speaker explained about the concept of English Fun learning. English Fun learning is English language learning that uses outbound methods. This method makes English learning more interesting and fun.

d. Learning Practice Using English Fun

After the introduction, the activity continued with learning exercises using English Fun. This exercise includes English games and English songs. These games made the participants actively use English.

Activities on the first day, outbound-based English Fun counselling at PP. Al-Ikhlas Suko ran smoothly and successfully. This activity was welcomed enthusiastically by the pesantren children. The children seemed happy and enjoyed this activity.

#### **Second Day Saturday, 16 September 2023 Outbound-based English Fun Counseling activities at PP. Al-Ikhlas Suko.**

a. Learning Practice Using English Fun

On the second day, outbound-based English Fun counselling activities at PP. Al-Ikhlas Suko continued with learning exercises using English Fun. This exercise includes English games and English songs.

One of the English games played was the game "Bingo, Charades, Pictionary".

In this game, participants had to follow the instructions given by the speaker. The instructions were given in English. This game made the participants actively use English.

The English songs sung in this activity also made participants actively use English. The songs included "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" and "Happy Birthday".

b. Outbound

After the learning exercise using English Fun, the activity continued with outbound. This outbound aimed to improve the participants' English language skills in a real situation. The outbound was a "Treasure Hunt" game. In this game, participants had to solve clues to find the treasure. The clues were given in English. This game made participants actively use English to communicate and solve problems.

c. Closing

Outbound-based English Fun counseling activities at PP. Al-Ikhlash Suko was closed at 17.00 WIB. In closing, the speaker gave conclusions about the activities that had been carried out.

Outbound-based English Fun counseling activities at PP. Al-Ikhlash Suko on the second day ran smoothly and successfully. This activity was greeted enthusiastically by the pesantren children. The pesantren children seemed happy and enjoyed this activity.

### 3.2 Discussion

This outbound-based English Fun counseling activity is an effective activity to improve the English language skills of pesantren children. The outbound method used in this activity makes learning English more interesting and fun. This can be seen from the enthusiasm of the participants in participating in the activity.

Here are some specific things that can be done to improve the effectiveness of the activity:

- On the first day, ice-breaking activities can be added with more interactive and fun games. This aims to increase familiarity between participants and create a more comfortable learning atmosphere.
- On the second day, learning exercises using English Fun can be added with more challenging English games and songs. This aims to improve participants' English language skills more effectively.
- Outbound on the second day can be added with more complex games that require teamwork. This aims to improve participants' English language skills in real-life situations.
- Counselling materials can be added with more complex materials, such as grammar and vocabulary. This aims to improve participants' English language skills more comprehensively.
- Extension methods can be added with more interactive and innovative methods, such as the use of technology. This aims to make learning English more interesting and fun.
- Learning media can be added with more interesting and accessible media, such as videos and pictures. This aims to increase participants' understanding of the material presented.
- Extension activities can be carried out in collaboration with language institutions or universities. This aims to get support and input from parties who are more expert in the field of English language learning.

By doing these things, it is hoped that the outbound-based English Fun extension activities at PP. Al-Ikhlash Suko can be more effective in improving the English language skills of pesantren children.

## 4 Conclusion

Outbound-based English Fun counseling for pesantren children at PP. Al-Ikhlash Suko is an effective activity to increase interest and motivation to learn English. This activity is carried out with a fun and interactive method so that children can learn English more easily and without feeling pressured. This counseling activity consists of two stages, namely the theory stage and the practice stage. In the theory stage, the children were given materials about the basics of English, such as vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. In the practical stage, the children were invited to play games and activities that use English. The results of

this counselling activity show that the interest and motivation to learn English of pesantren children in PP. Al-Ikhlas Suko increased significantly. This can be seen from the increasing enthusiasm of children in participating in counseling activities, as well as increasing their ability to use English.

Here are some concrete conclusions from the outbound-based English Fun counseling activities for pesantren children at PP. Al-Ikhlas Suko:

- Outbound-based English Fun counseling is an effective method to increase interest and motivation to learn English.
- This activity can be carried out independently by educational institutions or language communities.
- Extension material can be adjusted to the needs and ability levels of participants.
- Activities used in counseling should be fun and interactive.

Based on these conclusions, outbound-based English Fun counseling activities can be an alternative in increasing interest and motivation to learn English for pesantren children.

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