

ABSTRACT

Sari, Irma Hadi V. 2012. *THE USE OF CROSS-CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING TO EASE LEARNING ENGLISH AT THE SECOND YEAR STUDENTS OF SMA NEGERI 3 MOJOKERTO*. A Thesis. English Education Department, Faculty of Tarbiyah, State Institute of Islamic Studies Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisors: Masdar Hilmy, MA.Ph.D and Fitriah, S.Pd. MA.

Key words: learning English, cross-cultural understanding

Language is a symbol and an identity of a culture. So that, when we learn a certain language, we are unconsciously learning the culture of certain community. If we want to learn language well, we may need to pay attention to the way of native speaker in speaking and expressing their minds. Nowadays, there are so many kinds of cultural things that need to be sorted first before it is given to the students. In order to make students aware of cultural understanding, teacher gives cross cultural understanding strategy in classroom.

Based on the reason above, the research problems are: (1) How is the implementation of cross-cultural understanding to ease learning English at the second year students of SMA Negeri 3 Mojokerto? (2) What are the constraints in implementing cross-cultural understanding to ease learning English at the second year students of SMA Negeri 3 Mojokerto? (3) How is the second year students' perception toward the use of cross-cultural understanding to ease learning English at the second year students of SMA Negeri 3 Mojokerto?

In conducting the study, the writer used descriptive method. The subject of the study is 36 students of the second year of SMA Negeri 3 Mojokerto in the academic year of 2011/2012. The instruments used in collecting the data were observation, interview and questionnaire. Then, the researcher analyzed the data descriptively.

Based on the result of this study, it was revealed that the implementation of cross cultural understanding strategy was as the warmer, filler, ice breaker, even as the material supporter in teaching and learning process, in the form of texts, videos or audios (songs). The constraints faced by the teachers were time limited, designing cultural syllabus and students' response. Then, the last finding about the students' perception toward cross cultural understanding strategy was good. 70.3% of the students are interested in the use of that strategy.