

this case of learning, the learners study the material consciously and practice it in order to get good results.

From the explanation above, it can be inferred that learning is:

- a. Acquiring or getting knowledge;
- b. Getting information or skill;
- c. Involving active and conscious efforts, inside or outside of the classroom;
- d. Relatively permanent, but subject to forgetting
- e. Involving many form of practices, perhaps reinforced practice;
- f. A change in behavior.⁴

2. Teaching English as a Foreign Language in Junior High School

A lot of people speak more than one language in order to communicate with other people from different parts of the world. In Indonesia, English is taught as a compulsory subject in the junior and senior high school, including the vocational school. And now English is also taught in many elementary schools as a local content.

Teacher has to be able to understand the adolescent student's characteristics and dig their potency through a supportive and constructive way, so that besides achieving the goal of teaching learning process with enthusiasm the learners morally can be good learners.

Based on the reality above, there must be variety in the classroom, such as variety of activity and variety of organization. Based on this

⁴ Ibid.p.155

with a wealth of other particular information resulting from the experience of working with students in numerous contexts and different materials⁷.

B. Visual aids in English language teaching

In educational process, a good achievement of study is a hope for all of educator where the students are able to reach an achievement as well as possible. If hope of educator can be reached, it means that the educational process is successful. But the success of the educational process is influenced by some components of education. The aids that help in teaching languages and that can be seen are called 'visual aids'. They provide practical solutions to the problems of a language teacher whose equipment, as a rule, consists of nothing more than books and classroom. They include black-board, chart maps, pictures, flannel-boards, film strips, slides, epidiascope and actual objects that facilitate the process of teaching⁸. The exact medium of visual aids will be more influence the success of an educational process, beside visual aids will help the teacher in doing their duty.

1. Media

Media play an important role in a teaching and learning process. Media are needed to reach the objectives of teaching-learning process. As a teacher, we should use various media or teaching aids in giving the material to the students as stated by Harmer that “as a language teacher, we use a variety

⁷ Harmer, Jeremy. *The Practice of Language Teaching* (Cambridge: Longman, 1998)

⁸Brown, J. W; Lewis, R. B; Harcleroad, F. F. *AV. Instruction: Technology, Media and Methods* (New York: Mc Grow Hill Company, 1977)

a. Content

Do the media have significant relation with the lesson? The choice of certain media must be conformed to the lesson (message) that will be given to the students.

b. Purposes

The use of the visual aids should contribute to the teaching and learning process significantly. It means that the media can facilitate the teaching-learning process.

c. Price

Before buying certain visual aids, a teacher should consider whether the cost or money spent is accordance with the educational result derived from its use.

d. Circumstance of use

In choosing a visual aid, a teacher should take into account the environment (school) where he/she teaches. He/she should think whether the aid would function effectively in that environment.

e. Learner's verification

A teacher should think whether the aid has been tested to certain students. He/she should consider if the tested are similar to the students whom he/she teaches.

f. Validation

A teacher must think whether there are data providing that the

competence. It includes motion pictures, slides, film strips records and audiotapes¹⁴.

Some factors that should be known about choosing media are:

- a. The availability of media
- b. The ability of designer to produce the material that is appropriate with the media
- c. The flexibility
- d. Endurance
- e. The appropriateness media with the material
- f. The effectiveness of coast.¹⁵

The media must be based on these terms:

- a. Rational : Based on mind and could be though
- b. Scientific : Based on the knowledge and science development
- g. Economical : Based on the available treasure (thrifty)
- h. Practical : Used in school's practical condition and simple
- i. Functional : Useful for the lesson (used by teacher and student)¹⁶

Based on this, teacher must have abilities in teaching and using aid properly. It should have several criteria that related with teaching learning process.

¹⁴ Ibid. p.157

¹⁵ Setyosari, *Pemanfaatan Media*, cet. Ke-1 jilid 1 (Malang: Universitas Negri Malang Press, 2007), P.11

¹⁶ Ibid. p.13

can be used for make picture, schema, diagram, vocabulary, divination, announcement, etc. The function and usage of the blackboard is depending on creativity of the teacher. Without teacher creativity, blackboard has no meaning, and it is only nothing²⁴.

c. The advantages of visual aids

- 1) It helps the pupil in understanding languages by bringing him in direct contact with objects and things, by bringing the distant things near and by bringing the world into the classroom.
- 2) Audio-visual aids promote remembering by involving many senses of the learners, arousing their curiosity, making use of pictorial content and providing variety in teaching.
- 3) They make teaching effective by creating situations for presentation and practice of language items and reducing dependence on the mother tongue.
- 4) They help in formation of language habits by drill, repetition and constant practice.
- 5) They increase the pupil's experience of language by providing rich variety and better quality.
- 6) They promote teacher's efficiency by saving time and energy.

²⁴Jaylopez. "*Advantages of Visual Aids*". (www.getahead-direct.com. accessed on October 5, 2007, 9.26 am)

The advantages and disadvantages of wall chart:

- 1) The advantages : simple, easy to use, can be prepared, can be annotated via discussion and inexpensive.
- 2) The disadvantages: visibility can be a problem, low impact, takes time to annotate and easily damaged.²⁶

4. Problems in using visual aids

Common Problems with Visual Aids:

- a. Visual aids were too small or hard to see.

Use 3–5 fonts of letter or an 18-point font on overheads/ slide ware.

- b. Visual aids failed to serve the intended purpose.**

Putting up a visual aid that doesn't waste a time! If a visual aid is not mentioned, you do not need it.

- c. Additional visual aids would have helped.**

Do not skimp. If it takes three visual aids to illustrate your point, then, make them. Do not make 30, however.

- d. The visual aid was really just an object of discussion and not a visual aid.

They are supposed to aid or enhance a presentation, not just be there to be pointed at or touched unless some point in the speech is facilitated by this.

²⁶Jaylopez. *"Advantages of Visual Aids"*. (www.getahead-direct.com. accessed on October 5, 2007, 9.26 am)

