

## **THE ROLE OF GAMES IN TEACHING VOCABULARY**

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**Abstract:** This article is devoted to the importance of using games in teaching English. The article focuses on the role of games in teaching English classes. The use of active games aimed at developing student's thinking in lessons to achieve the goal set in the lesson.

**Key words:** vocabulary, game, communication, language, English, skill

In the globalization era, language is a very important thing to be able to communicate with each other in our daily lives. With language, everything we wanted to convey can be said clear and precise way. Language is a tool that can be used to unite the nation. These tools can help us communicate more effectively between countries with various cultures. Communication is one of the most basic human skills for interacting with others in everyday life. In order to communicate effectively, we should develop good relationships with a lot of people. Communication is very important in human life to interact with one another. Due to the importance of the language used to communicate, there are many languages from every part of the world that are used to interact with each other. English has become an international language all through the world to facilitate people from various countries to communicate more easily. English is the language used by almost all countries to communicate with foreigners. According to Rao (2019) English is the primary language of several countries (including Australia, Canada, New Zealand,

England, and many colonies, and the US) and is the second language in several multilingual countries (including India, Singapore, and the Philippines). It is the official language in some African countries as well (such as Liberia, Nigeria, and South Africa) but is spoken worldwide”.

Not everyone can master English. Learning English at a young age is the best way to master the language. Using English as a whole means that children can understand not just what they read in English, but also what they hear, speak, and write in English. Therefore, English should be taught to children from an early age. According to the President's decision PQ-1875 "Measures to further improve the system of learning foreign languages"[1], English has become a foreign language in Uzbekistan, and it is the most important language studied in Uzbekistan. English in Uzbekistan is generally taught as a foreign language, from Kindergarten to University. When we learn a language, especially English, we have to know and understand some important things about that language.

The important thing that we should know and understand is there should be some efforts that can be done so that someone can master English well. In mastery of English, sufficient vocabulary is needed because it is one of the requirements for mastering English. Mastery of the English language to be successful the four skills listening, speaking, reading, and writing have to be effectively integrated. Therefore, the emphasis in the English learning process should be on vocabulary because mastery of grammar and pronunciation will be useless without mastery of vocabulary. It means we have to master the vocabulary. If we don't have enough vocabulary we won't be able to understand or speak English well. Mastering vocabulary is an essential part of learning English.

Vocabulary is one of the keys to enhancing language competence. Learning English requires a high level of vocabulary mastery. It will be easier for students to learn English if they have a lot of vocabulary. Students will have difficulty in learning English if they don't have a good basic vocabulary. When they have a lot of vocabulary, they

will be able to pronounce it correctly and will be more involved in learning English. Education (2017) stated vocabulary is one important aspect that has a position in the four language skills, without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed. The point of the statement is mastery of vocabulary is the main component of successful language learning.

When people are able to master the rich vocabulary, they will be able to communicate effectively. People who have a strong vocabulary will be successful in learning every one of the language abilities. Moreover, people are able to communicate their opinions effectively. Appropriately, people with low vocabulary skills on the other hand would be unable to express themselves. Vocabulary is one of the most crucial aspects of communicating with others.

Another problems raised by Bazo [2] in mastering English vocabulary are the attitude of the teacher who is individualistic, the lack of interesting methods used in learning, the lack of motivation and encouragement of students to learn English, and the difficulty of students in understanding English vocabulary. Students also do not comprehend the meaning of sentences about collocation. It comes because students still struggle with words like noun, adverb, verb, adjective, pronoun, conjunction, preposition, and interjection. Despite other language components such as grammar, phonology, and so on, vocabulary is critical in language learning. The use of vocabulary in junior high is important since vocabulary is the foundational information required to acquire all language abilities in higher education. The success of teaching English in secondary schools depends on the level of creativity of the teacher. Those vocabulary issues must be solved and the alternative methods for increasing students' vocabulary must be discovered as learning requires an appropriate strategy. English teaching and learning approaches are a significant strategy for boosting students' attention and encouraging them to participate in class. Furthermore, students have more motivation so they are less likely to become

bored when studying. Therefore, the author assumes that one of the methods for teaching vocabulary techniques is through outdoor learning activities.

Thus, games play a very important role in learning vocabulary. Some teachers think that language games are a waste of time and prefer not to use them in classroom since games sometimes have been considered for its one element that is fun. In fact, games can provide EFL and ESL student's more than that. In fact, games can provide EFL and ESL student's more than that [3]. Among several strategies used to improve student's proficiency such as visual aids, CALL (Computer Assisted Language Learning), drama, role– play, and soon, games are another useful strategy to promote student's language proficiency [4]. According to Thorburry [5], student's seemed to learn new vocabulary more quickly and retain it better when it was applied in a relaxed and comfortable environment such as while playing ESL games. Gave the definition to games as a form of play governed by rules . They should be enjoyed and fun. They are not just a diversion, a break from routine activities, but a way of getting the learner to use the language in the course of the game.

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