THE EFFECTIVENESS
OF TOTAL PHYSICAL RESPONSE (TPR) METHOD
IN TEACHING PHRASAL VERBS

(The Case of Year Seven Students of SMP Ibu Kartini Semarang
in the Academic Year of 2009/2010)

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ABSTRACT

English students still find difficulties in understanding and using phrasal verbs. One of the reasons is that Indonesian language does not have phrasal verbs. Therefore, it is recommended for English teachers to apply an interactive method in teaching phrasal verbs so the students will enjoy the learning activities and consequently, they can accomplish the most favorable learning achievement. Furthermore, I would focus to apply this method in teaching phrasal verbs to year seven students of Junior High School. The purpose of the study is to find out the effectiveness of Total Physical Response (TPR) method in teaching phrasal verbs to year seven students of Junior High School.

I conducted the study in SMP Ibu Kartini Semarang. Furthermore, the study applied experimental research and its research design was one group pre-test and post-test design. Meanwhile, the population of the study was year seven students in the academic year of 2009/2010. Also, in taking a sample of the study, I applied random sampling since the classes’ ability was homogenous. As a result, it was obtained that VII A became the sample of the study. Moreover, there were four steps of collecting data that I did in this study. Firstly, I conducted a try-out test in another class to measure the validity and reliability of the instrument. Next, I conducted a pre-test in VII A. After that, I gave the treatment three times using TPR method. Finally, I gave the post-test to measure the effectiveness of TPR method.

Based on the data analysis, it was found that, from the try-out test result, five items were not valid. Thus, I applied 25 items for the pre-test and post-test. Meanwhile, the result of the try-out was greater than critical value of 95% and 99% with confidence level 0.312 and 0.751. It means that the test was reliable and valid. Then, the significant value that was obtained by the computation of pre-test and post-test is 5.06. Meanwhile t table of this test is 1.991. Since t value > t table meant there is a significant difference between post test and pre test. Hence, it can be concluded that Total Physical Response is effective for teaching phrasal verbs to the year seven students of Junior High School.

Eventually, based on the conclusion of my research, it is recommended that English teachers apply TPR method in teaching phrasal verbs to overcome English phrasal verbs teaching difficulties.