USING GUESS THE WORD GAME IN ENHANCING THE SPEAKING ABILITY OF SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS AT STATE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL NUMBER 30 PALEMBANG

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ABSTRACT

This research investigates the impact of the Guess the Word Game on improving the speaking proficiency of seventh-grade students at Junior High School 30. Palembang employed a singular class in an experimental design. The class utilized the Guess the Word game as the principal instructional method to enhance students' speaking abilities. Pre-test and post-test evaluations were administered to examine the pupils' advancement in speaking proficiency. The results indicated a significant enhancement in students' speaking skills following their participation in the game, demonstrating that the inclusion of interactive activities such as the Guess the Word Game can serve as an effective approach for improving student engagement and language competency. This study indicates that game-based learning may serve as an innovative approach to enhance speaking skills in educational environments.

Keywords: Guess the Word Game, Speaking Achievement, Game-Based Learning

1. INTRODUCTION

English is a global language that is essential for anyone to comprehend due to its significance. Rao (2019) asserts that English is extensively employed in trade, commerce, education, technology, science, business, engineering, tourism, and culture. English is taught and employed as a first, second, and foreign language in various places around. It might be contended that due to the pervasive use of English across several domains in contemporary global society, comprehensive study of the language is imperative.

Speaking is the capacity to engage in verbal communication with people utilizing language. In the context of language acquisition, speaking denotes the ability to express words, sentences, and ideas in the target language with precision and fluency. Herliani (2013) asserts that speaking is a crucial linguistic skill that foreign language learners should strive to attain. Factors such as context, participants, and

communication objectives influence the shape and meaning of spoken language.

Proficiency in will English become imperative for several individuals, particularly those participating in formal schooling or **English** courses. Students increasingly preferring sessions focused English conversation. Effective communication necessitates comprehensive understanding of several components, underscoring the intricacy of linguistic abilities. Students often find it challenging to attain proficiency in their second language. Students should develop the ability to talk, particularly direct communication, in classroom. Students can disseminate knowledge and articulate their viewpoints through verbal communication (Crisianita & Mandasari, 2022).

Vocabulary, often termed lexicon, constitutes a compilation of words, generally encompassing those known by an individual or those intrinsic to a language. Vocabulary is emerging as the primary element of language acquisition. Intriguing techniques will be employed for its introduction. Kumalasari (2018) cites Lewis and Hill, stating that learners' attitudes towards the learning process influence their success. Vocabulary in a specific language comprises the set of terms that an individual is acquainted with and use. This entails the ability to recall and utilize words in speaking, writing, or reading, as well understanding their meanings employing them appropriately in context. Expanding one's vocabulary involves

understanding antonyms, synonyms, and the various contexts in which words can be utilized in conversation. Mastery of vocabulary is essential for cultivating articulate and functional language skills.

A game is a structured activity or kind of relaxation usually undertaken for enjoyment, amusement, or entertainment. It involved participants, referred to as players, who partake in competitive or cooperative challenges, typically regulated by a defined set of rules or objectives. Games can manifest in diverse formats, encompassing physical activities like sports and cognitive challenges such as board games, video games, and puzzles. The essence of every game is in its rules, which delineate the dimensions and constraints governing the interactions between students and teacher. These the regulations delineate limits. specify allowable activities, and define the criteria for attaining victory or success within the game's structure. Rules ensure fairness and give structure, facilitating orderly gameplay and enabling comprehend participants to their responsibilities and interactions within the game environment.

In the game Guess the Word, participants must utilize the given information to deduce particular words or phrases. These games typically include providing participants with clues to deduce the word or phrase in question, including definitions, synonyms, antonyms, or other descriptors. These games can be played individually or collectively, and they are often utilized for entertainment or instructional

purposes. The benefits of the "Guess the Word Game" include a) interactivity and enjoyment, b) enhancement concentration and focus, c) stimulation of creativity and critical thinking, d) expansion of vocabulary. This research aims to assess the impact of the game "Guess the Word" on enhancing the English-speaking skills of seventh-grade students at Junior High School 30 Palembang. This project aims to enhance student engagement in English learning through game methods, so facilitating more effective improvement of their speaking skills, particularly for those with less interest in the topic.

Based on the previous explanation, the writer decided to conducted research entitled "Using Guess the Word Game in Enhancing the Speaking Ability of Seventh Grade Students at State Junior High School Number 30 Palembang"

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Concept of Speaking

Speaking, within the realm of language and communication, denotes the capacity to articulate thoughts, ideas, and information vocally through spoken language. It involves the ability to produce and articulate sounds, words, phrases, and sentences fluently and accurately for meaningful interactions with others. Speaking encompassed both linguistic and communicative competencies, incorporating pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, and discourse management. In addition to linguistic skill, effective speaking involves non-verbal clues, like gestures, intonation, and facial expressions, which convey meaning and improve communication. The notion of speaking differs among many languages and cultures, shaped by social conventions, communication styles, conversational tactics. Mastery of spoken language is essential for daily interactions, academic presentations, professional discourse, and cultural assimilation. Consequently, the speaking development of abilities necessitates practice, exposure to varied linguistic contexts, feedback, and tactics aimed at enhancing fluency, clarity, and communicative efficacy in discourse. Bygate (as mentioned by 2022) Fatriciya, identifies two components of speaking skills: production and interaction skills. In manufacturing, talent refers to capacity to operate without temporal constraints or limitations in interaction. Interaction skills are fundamental for and responding initiating in communication, essential for effective communicators.

Speaking denotes the capacity for verbal communication via a language, encompassing the skills required to thoughts, articulate ideas. information effectively through spoken expression. It encompasses both components, language including vocabulary and syntax, linguistic factors such as tone, gestures, and facial expressions, which enhance imparted meaning and facilitate interactive communication with others. **Proficient** speaking skills require practice, exposure to diverse linguistic

and the enhancement of contexts, pronunciation and fluency to ensure clear and successful verbal communication across various social, academic. professional and environments. Various experts define speaking in numerous ways. The act of exchanging ideas verbally is defined by Eliyasun, Rosnija, and Salam referenced by Putra (2020).Consequently, students who do not engage in speaking exercises during class rapidly lose interest in their studies and lack motivation to practice or improve their English speaking skills. This speaking talent is referred to as the art of oration, a verbal communication strategy that encompasses the expression of thoughts, ideas, and concepts to inform, entertain, or persuade others. As individuals cannot detach from their daily engagements, verbal communication serves as the primary mode of social contact.

Based on the aforementioned understanding, the writer would conclude that the concept of speaking refers to the capacity to convey thoughts, notions, or information verbally. The essence of this concept is that proficient speaking skills encompass the capacity communicate with clarity, effectiveness, and persuasiveness. This encompasses the utilization of suitable terminology, accurate syntax, proper tone, and the capacity to respond effectively to the interlocutor. Refined speaking abilities are essential for becoming an effective communicator in diverse contexts and environments.

The Nature of Games

A game is an enjoyable activity. The majority of students take pleasure in participating in gaming activities. Engaging in games may offer numerous benefits beyond mere enjoyment. A number considerable of discover that engaging in games aids in sustaining their focus and productivity. Play constitutes an activity. A game is a structured activity characterized by a aim. established specific rules. competition among participants, and communication among players through verbal or written language. Richard and Schmidt (as cited in Ningati, 2017). A game is typically characterized as a structured activity of play, regulated by rules and objectives, that fosters an frequently competitive engaging, experience for participants. It entails voluntary engagement in a unique environment, enabling participants to adopt roles or confront problems apart from quotidian existence. Games exhibit diversity in structure, encompassing components such as competitiveness, chance, imitation, and altered perception, as articulated by researchers like Roger Caillois. In addition to amusement, games serve social, educational, and psychological functions, frequently mirroring cultural ideals and human experiences. Games facilitate player engagement in significant activities and the exploration of alternative outcomes through choices, objectives, structured conflict, so fostering skills, creativity, and strategic thinking. Games provide a secure environment for acclimatizing to new information. When students experience enjoyment, they are more predisposed to take risks, make

errors without perceiving themselves as failures, and navigate their initial emotions to integrate them into their daily life. An expert asserts that engaging in games is the most effective method of learning. When a child encounters a novel English term, expression, pattern, or reads an English text while playing a game, they are far more motivated to learn and are far more likely to internalize it than a child who receives the new knowledge from their teacher in advance.

The aforementioned explanation indicates that games are essential for motivating students in the English teaching and learning process. Students are more relaxed when studying English due to their enjoyment and confidence. It provides them with an excellent opportunity to utilize English, and they seem less embarrassed. It provides tasks and stimuli to assist pupils in comprehending and appreciating English.

Based on the aforementioned understanding, the author could conclude that the essence of games is defined by their interactive, rule-governed, and goal-directed framework, which fosters competitiveness, engagement, and enjoyment. In conclusion, games function as potent instruments for education. social interaction, and amusement, cultivating abilities such as problem-solving, collaboration, strategic thinking, and creativity. Their varied formats, encompassing board games and video games, provide avenues for involvement across multiple contexts and age demographics. Moreover, games frequently provide a secure environment for experimenting and exploration, enabling individuals to assess limits and derive lessons from both triumphs and setbacks. The essence of games embodies their complex function in human experience, integrating aspects of play, challenge, and reward to enhance lives and develop essential abilities.

Concept of Vocabulary

A vocabulary comprises words of various types, including verbs, adjectives, and nouns, utilized in diverse language contexts. There exist six categories of vocabulary: word classes, word families, word formation, multi-word units. homophones. homonyms. and homographs. Word classes refer to a terminology employed in morphology, the scientific study of word formation and structure. Word formation is a process in English when words are combined, Kreasi Ads (2022).

Based on the aforementioned understanding, the writer could conclude that vocabulary is Extensive vocabulary denotes the possession and command of a diverse array of terms within a language. A broad vocabulary individual enables an to speak effectively, articulate thoughts with comprehend precision, and more intricate texts. It enables an individual to modify their speech style according to varying circumstances.

Guessing Games

It is a common misconception that learning must invariably be serious, and that when individuals are smiling and enjoying themselves, they are not

genuinely acquiring knowledge. Engaging in games is an excellent method for language acquisition while simultaneously enjoying oneself. Merriam-Webster (2024)defines guessing games as activities centered around determining the correct answer, sometimes interpreted metaphorically. The game is generally performed by two participants, where one offers hints while the other endeavors to deduce the fundamental rule. The premise of the guessing game is straightforward: one individual possesses knowledge that another seeks to uncover. The teacher would articulate the rules properly, enabling students to comprehend the game effectively. It also renders their practice more enjoyable.

Based on the aforementioned understanding, the writer might conclude regarding the game. "Guess the Word" is engaging game that enables participants to assess and enhance their vocabulary and reasoning abilities. Players would deduce the words the individual other is contemplating through given hints or riddles. The endeavor necessitates creativity, reasoning, and communication accomplish the objective of resolving the mystery. These games are not only enjoyable but may also serve as a valuable educational resource enhancing vocabulary and developing critical thinking abilities.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

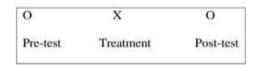
Quantitative methods denote a collection of techniques and approaches employed in research and analysis that

concentrate on quantifiable variables and investigate relationships through numerical data. These methods distinguished by their focus on measurement, mathematical modeling, and statistical analysis to extract insights and formulate conclusions from data. Quantitative approaches are essential in disciplines such as economics, sociology, psychology, and natural sciences for hypothesis testing, predictive analysis, and outcome evaluation with accuracy and impartiality.

They encompass stringent data gathering techniques, such as surveys, experiments, and observational studies, frequently employing statistical software for data processing. Results derived from quantitative approaches are generally conveyed through numerical summaries, charts, and statistical tests, allowing researchers generalize to findings, identify patterns, and make educated judgments based on empirical data. Consequently, quantitative approaches offer an organized and methodical framework for addressing research issues and comprehending complicated phenomena in a measurable replicable way. According to Frankel and Wallen (2008), teachers, principals, supervisors are examples professionals who are also practitioners of action research. Collaboration is essential for doing research due to their lack of proficiency in the methodologies. Identify concerns and opportunities initially, then formulate action plans, evaluate them, and produce results. Collaborating with individuals who will be evaluated is as vital for the writer. The teacher would collaborate with

administrators, supervisors, colleagues, and the students who are the subject of the classroom action research. The author employed the one-group pre-test and post-test design. The design is as follows (Fraenkel et al., 2014):

The One-Group Pretest-Postest Design



Technique Analysis Data

To found difference of students' score in used guess game, the writer used pre-test and post-test. After getting the data from pre-test and post-test writer analysed the data by using statistic calculations of the t-test formula with the significant degree 5%. The formula was:

$$t_{obt} = \frac{\bar{X}_1 - \bar{X}_2}{S_{\overline{D}}}$$

In which:

t: Value

X1: Average score of post-tests

X2: Average score of pre-tests

SD: Standard error of differences which can be calculated by the following formula:

$$SD = \frac{SD}{\sqrt{n}}$$

In which:

SD: Standard deviation of the

differences

N: Number of samples

SD: Standard deviation can be obtained by using the following formula:

$$SD = \sqrt{\frac{\sum D^2 - \int_{h}^{1} (\sum D)^2}{n-1}}$$

In which:

SD: Standard deviation

D: The differences between the scores of

the pre- test and post-test n: Number of samples

ii. I tuilloof of samples

4. RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

The Score of the Students in the Pre-Test

In analysing students' scores on the pre-test, the writer was assisted by the English teacher at Junior High School 30 Palembang to provide assessments to students. The score on the pre- test was 58 obtained by one student. The lowest score obtained by students on the pre-test was 12 which was also obtained by one student. The average student score on the pre-test was 34.028. The student scores obtained by the writer and teacher are divided into 2 tables. Student score information on the pre-test is shown in the table below:

The Students' Scores in the Pre-Test

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	-	(Teacher)				(Heneurcher)						
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Aloyah	14	15	-13	.14	55	1.5	17	1.3	14	29	114	57
Amanda	7	-8	. 8	5	26	H	7	7	*	363	38.	29
Autrys	10	y	40	10	715	·	4	10	310.	SA	766	.38
Aulia	7	- 6	7	W	38	. 6	16	.5.	7	24	.52	26
Cherya	-11	10	340	.6	314	301	11.		- 81	37.	766	38
Dinds	-4	- 9	13	11	364	-	*	11	313	377	76	236
Parlian	- 4	- 1	- 4	- 4	16	4		W.	4	211	36	116
Fory	- 3	- 3	- 3	- 3	12	4	3	- 3	- 2	12	24	12
Helse	- 19	101			35	9	11		-	37	72	76
Kanera	-				39	-2-	-	6	-	2m	41	26.5
Khaile	19	- 9	10	- 0	36	- 0	*	-	-	29	45	32.5
Bram	-	-	-	-	29	-	-	-	-	26	47	26.3
Faced	Ü	-11	-9	-	33	101	13	-		33	63	31.5
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Alviso	- 10	-	-	-	54	-	÷	10	-	33	67	33,5
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Bucks	10.	11	10	III .	44	10-	7.1	10	101	42	917	41
Navan	13	13.	12	12	40	1.1	1.3	130	13	4.5	101	90,5
Pont	- 14	-		12	3.7	6.	- #	0	11	31	68.	.54
Habrers	19	In:	7	16	34.	-	101	М.		-35	67	33,5
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Soboli	76	7	7	7	26	-11	-16		-	.2%	.54	27
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Yvepa	Ŧ.		*	19	33		- 19	. 10	213	35	407	333
Hairon	80.	10	9	.9	37	×	- 11	*	19	.34	71	35.5
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The Score Distribution in Pre-Test

Score Range	Categories	Pre-Test			
		Frequency	Percentage		
81-100	Excellent	0	0%		
61-80	Good	0	0%		
41-60	Enough	5.	14%		
21-40	Fair	29	50%		
0-20	Poor	2	17%		

From the table above, it can be seen that the majority of students obtained scores in the fair category. No students obtained scores in the excellent and good categories. As many as 34 students got enough and fair. This fact also shows that 2 students scored in the poor category. Then the total average score on the pre-test was 1225, and the total score from the 2 rater was 2450.

The Score of the Students in the Post-Test

During the post-test procedure, it was discovered that one student had the highest score 85. One student also received the lowest possible score of 41 on the post-test. In the post- test, the

students' average score was 62.47. It was discovered that the pupils' post-test average scores. The pupils' writing proficiency increased. More information about the students' scores was shown in table below:

The Students' Scores in the Post-Test

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	(Teacher)				(Researcher)							
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Atrysh	20	23	20	20	81	21	21	21	-22	95	166	83
Amanda	15	16	-16	13	.60	16	15	14	16	-61	121	60.5
Astiya	16	17	16	15	64	15	36	1.7	16	60	124	62
Aulia	13	14	12	14	53	14	14	13	14	.55	108	54
Cherya	19	1.8	.15	17	69	19	18	16	18	71	140	70
Dinda	1.5	17	19	18	109	14	15	17	18	-64	133	66.5
Farhin	10	- 11	-13	-11	45	-11	- 10	.11	10	42	87	43.5
Firmy	9	10	11	10	40	10	11	10	. 11	42	82	41
Hebu	17	19	15	16	67	15	18	.16	16	65	132	- 66
Kanaya	13	15	13	15	-56	1,3	13	14	1.9	55	111	55,5
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Sighted	44	100	14	10	100	1.0	4.0	10	1.0	146	118	- 24
Alvien	100	4.00	2.6	4.0	60	13	1.0	10.	1.6	40.0	1.56	403
Reyeas	114	700	14	12	76	14	-56	394	70	78	134	-71
RAGAZIA	30	2.5	31	24	163	23	21	26	361	44	170	40
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The Scores Distribution in the Post-Test

Score Range	Categories	Post-Test			
		Frequency	Percentage		
81-100	Exelent	2	6%		
61-80	Good	19	53%		
41-60	Enough	15	42%		
21-40	Fair	0	0%		
0-20	Poor	0	0%		

From the table it can be seen that the majority got scores in the good category. There were no students who got grades in the fair and poor categories. Then the total average score on the post test is 2249, and 4498 is the total score of the 2 raters.

The of Normality

The purpose of the normalcy test is to determine how normal the score distribution is. The Kolmogrov-Smirnov method in IBM SPSS statistic version 29 was used to measure the test, pre-test, and post-test normalcy.

The Results of Normality of the Post-Test Scores

	Kolmogrov-Smirnov*					
	Statiotic	df	Sig.			
Pre-Test	135	36	.097			
Post-Test	111	36	.200			

The pre-test and post-test have significance levels of 0.097 and 0.200, respectively, according to the results above. Given that greater than 0.05. The significance level, based on the above result, was 0.121. Since it is more than the significance level of 0,05, it may be said that pre- and post- test data have a regularly distributed distribution.

Test of Homogeneity

The writer determined that all of the data in the pre- and post-test were normally distributed based on the normality calculation. Finding the data's homogeneity was the next calculation step. Finding out if the data in both groups were homogeneous of heterogeneous was the aim of this computation. To determine the homogeneity of the data, the writer additionally employed **IBM SPPS** statistic version 29. Below is the homogeneity test result from the pre-test.

The Results of homogeneity of the Post-Test Scores

		Levene Statistic	an .	412	Sig.
Haril	Based on Mean	.078	- 1	70	.780
	Based on Medius	.090	- 11	70	,765
	Based on Median and with Adjusted alf	.090	1	199,852	.765
	Blood on Trimmed Mean	,084	- 1	70	.773

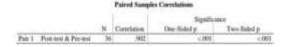
As a result, it can be said that the data from the pre- and post-tests are homogeneous. The homogeneity test result is shown in table 4.6, which also displays the Levene's test significant values for every value raised above 0.05.

T-Test

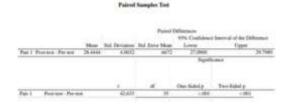
The paired t-test can be used to assess the efficacy of the writer's treatment based on the average scores of the pupils on the pre- and post- tests.

	Paired Numples Statistics								
		Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. literal Mouse				
Pair I	Pon-test	62,472	34.	9.1135	1.5199				
	Pro-nos	54.008	34	8,9771	1.4963				

This table shows the average score improvement of students after participated in the Guess the Word Game.



The table above shows a very strong correlation between the pre-test and post-test, indicated a strong relationship between these two sets of data.



In this study, the writer discovered that, at a significance level of 5%, the t-value achieved was 42.633 and the t-table value was 1.689. Given that the tote exceeded the tab's value of the

tab, consequently the null hypothesis (Ho) was rejected and the alternative hypothesis (Ha) was accepted. And it indicated that the use of guess the word game was effective in enhance student speaking achievement on the seventh-grade students of Junior High School 30 Palembang.

5. CONCLUTION

This study aims to collect empirical data on the influence of a word-guessing game on the speaking proficiency of seventh-grade students at Junior High School 30 Palembang during the 2023-2024 academic year. The findings and discourse from the previous chapter constitute foundation of the conclusion. The conclusion is thoroughly elucidated in subsequent paragraph. the The implementation of the Guess the Word positively influences improvement of students' speaking skills. This study employed quantitative methodologies and utilized a single class as the sample. The data analysis revealed a substantial enhancement in students' speaking abilities following the implementation of this game, demonstrating its efficacy in boosting the speaking skills of seventh-grade pupils.

According to the findings and discussion in the preceding chapter, it is advisable to implement the Guess the Word Game in the classroom to enhance student speaking proficiency. The students' average post-test scores are 62.472, surpassing their pre-test scores of 34.028, resulting in a gain of 29.444.

The data analysis indicates that, at a significance level of 0.05, the obtained t-value of 42.633 exceeds the t-table value of 1689. Consequently, it can be asserted that t-obtain exceeds t-table, signifying the acceptance of Ha (the alternative hypothesis) and the rejection of Ho (the null hypothesis). The Guess the Word Game is useful for teaching speaking skills and can improve the speaking proficiency of students at Junior High School 30 Palembang.

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