

**ENGLISH LEARNING  
IN ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN THE CONTEXT OF ESP  
(ENGLISH FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSE)**

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**Abstract,** Briefly, this paper discusses of learning English for the one of the formal education students who provide foreign language instruction is an Islamic University. In Islamic University, foreign languages are one of important course that students must take. The foreign language is English. The field of teaching English with a specific purpose or more known as English for Specific Purpose (ESP) is a teaching field English which is relatively new by adjusting the scientific majors in Universities. By teaching English in Islamic universities, it is expected Students are able to study Islamic science in foreign languages, especially English and are able to follow the development of world globalization that demands someone can master foreign languages.

**Keywords:** *English, ESP, Islamic University education*

**INTRODUCTION**

Islamic education is the process of cultivating Islamic values through teaching, guidance and exercises that are done in a conscious way and full of responsibility in the framework of formation, development, empowerment, thought development, dhikr to the God, and human creations so formed a true Muslim personable to develop his life with full responsibility which in order to worship Allah SWT to achieve the happiness of living on the world and the hereafter. Islamic Education in Indonesia has been going since the entry of Islam to Indonesia. Process the entry of Islam cannot be separated from its role language as a means of human communication in daily life. With language, someone can convey ideas, thoughts, feelings or information to others either verbally and writing. This corresponds to perceptions and thoughts that language is a means of communication between members someone's life, because of language is including human needs in dealing with others. Then the higher the level of mastery someone's language, the better use of deep language communicate. As a means of communication, language must be mastered properly in order to be communicate with other

people well.<sup>1</sup> Mastery of the language well is the thing that is pursued and learned, let alone a language learned is a foreign language. Based on Mulijanto's opinion Sumardi (1974: 56), that whatever goals someone wants to achieve who study a foreign language, aim the end is so that he can use the language spoken well and writing correctly, fluently, and free to communicate with people who use language.<sup>2</sup> Because of the demands of it foreign language skills increasingly increases, along with progress science, technology, information, and other fields. Someone can communicate more freely with other people who come from a different nation than himself if on understanding between individuals, groups, and nations. Formal education provide foreign language teaching one of them is Islamic University. In Islamic University, foreign language is one of the eyes lectures to be taken by University student. English as a global and foreign language universal in the world. Learn a language foreign is one of the first steps good to be able to communicate with others in scope international. English becomes global lingual franca (language liaison) mainly for two reasons, namely geographic-historical and social-culture. English used spread in a global world through migration of speaking people England, colonization by the British, America's role and influence in global scale, international communication, media, film, technology, and others.

In addition, English became main language of commerce, diplomacy, and also education in the world. In recent times like nowadays, a lot of research and English can be one the door to mastering knowledge-cutting-edge knowledge. Since period 1750-1900, science and technology has been written a lot use English. This affect source user sources in English such as academics and students. Source of knowledge written in English it can be books, articles, and journals. This matter demands that they speak the language English both written and spoken. An academic or student this works will be widely recognized if they could create something breakthroughs that benefit the world which is usually written or presented to the world community using a global language, namely English. English is not spoken limited to all sectors, this is because English as a support means of communication for all citizens of the world about various lines. In the world education, English is the language of instruction in the scope of science multidisciplinary. Use of Language English in multidisciplinary science this gave birth to

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<sup>1</sup> Zuliati Rohmah, "English as global Language", *Journal Bahasa dan Seni*, (Universitas Negeri Malang, 2015).

<sup>2</sup> Abbas, Saleh, *Pembelajaran Bahasa Indonesia yang Efektif di Sekolah Dasar Jakarta*: Depdiknas, 2006

the English for Specific Purpose (ESP) which focuses on acquisition of professional expertise integrated with a variety proficiency, discipline, and practice. For example, English in the world Education, Health, Economics, Law, Religion, and others.<sup>3</sup> ESP aims to make things easier communication between actors in a field certain. So, ESP learning in the academic world it is highly recommended to be encouraged, to remember every fields always experience its own developments include education with an Islamic background.<sup>4</sup>

## DISCUSSION

### A. English in Islamic Education University

In the world of education, including Islamic education. English Language has a very important role important, because in English can be likened to the key to master science. we can study that science using the language of instruction English. As we know, some references to Islamic education using the language of instruction Arabic, for example books on medicine ibn Sina's, about Mathematics belongs Al Jabar, about politics and history of belonging nor America. So that the books those who speak Arabic have it adopted and translated in English. By mastering the language England, we can also exchange information about Islam, science knowledge, or both that better known as Islamic Science.<sup>5</sup> And also we can preach with use writings like articles or compile books in English contains Islamic studies, then we publish it in Internet. As we know that Internet media is very effective as a tool in formation spreader.

English is the language that is often used on the internet. Then it can be understood that English is very important in the world of Islamic education. As a universal language, English in education Islam is including a medium communication to preach to the whole the world especially the Western world like America and Europe. We remain study Islam with use the original language, namely Arabic, after that we get spread to non-people Muslim. Besides, another reason why English is also very important is because this language can too used as a medium for resolve misunderstandings, for example if there is someone or some Western non-Muslims who are having a deep misunderstanding studied Islam, and them not or less able understand it, we can help them by giving an explanation about Islam by using English. In the

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<sup>3</sup> Hutchinson T. & A. Waters (1987) English for Specific Purposes: A learningCentred Approach, Cambridge: Cambridge university Press.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>5</sup> Alisjahbana, Sutan Takdir. (1990). The teaching of English in Indonesia. Dalam James Britton, Roberts E.Syeffeffer and Ken Watson (Eds.). Teaching and Learning English Worldwide. hal: 315- 327. Multilingual Matters: Philadelphia

world of education, there are still some obstacles inside teaches English mainly in Islamic education. The main problem is still lack awareness of learners for learn and use language English as their foreign language. This is still due to English considered a lesson difficult and the perception of some students in Islamic colleges that language English is the language of the infidels.

Apart from using the means traditional, English language teaching can use the lecture method in teaching English. There is other possible ways students are more attracted to English, for example often using the game method, watch movies using English after that discuss the film, both in terms of story, characters, culture or other things related to that film with use English for students in Islamic colleges. In Indonesia, English seen as an important medium for develop and stimulate economic growth, so that English teaching is expected can help achieve goals (Ali Sjahbana, 1990).<sup>6</sup> In the field of English language teaching, emphasis is given to necessity understand the manuscript and documents related to development technology (Alwasilah, 2005).<sup>7</sup> While that, Rudiyanto (1988) noted many scientists in Indonesia who study abroad for the sake of science and technology development.<sup>8</sup> They are study abroad requires TOEFL certificate (Test of English as a Foreign Language) which became requirements (Kareviati, 2004).<sup>9</sup> Adult this, English in Indonesia is getting needed in various fields such as diplomacy, bureaucracy, trade, and tourism, that is requires direct contact with foreign parties (Alisjahbana, 1990). In Indonesia, teaching English in educational institutions emphasized on English usage for academic (Bire, 1993). Described more further that the language teaching tradition English in Indonesia emphasized students to memorize vocabulary and translating. Not surprisingly language teaching Britain in our country is more on read and translate (Rudiyanto, 1988).<sup>10</sup> Emphasis on governance language and reading skill scan facilitate the implementation of the exam because of the aspects of the language asked is easier to judge (Harmer,2001).<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>7</sup> Alwasilah, A. Chaedar. (2005). "Ada Apa dengan Ilmu Bahasa?". *Pikiran Rakyat* (12 Maret 2005).

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>9</sup> David Crystal, *English as a global language*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997).

<sup>10</sup> Alwasilah, A. Chaedar. (2005). "Ada Apa dengan Ilmu Bahasa?". *Pikiran Rakyat* (12 Maret 2005).

<sup>11</sup> Nunan, David. (2003). *Practical English Language Teaching*. New York: McGraw-Hill. 2003.

## **B. The Urgency of English as ESP Courses in Islamic University Education**

Islamic University In this century, English become the global language of the world. In this world wherever someone is, as long as use English then communication will be understood by the opponent speaking. As an example, in Bali, all International visitors use English as the main language in communication with local communities. So is, when visiting other countries then language used for which is only used when it occurs communication between two people who are come from two or more countries. For example, Arabic, that is an international language, used when people from that country it's different to meet Arabs. Likewise Japanese, is spoken only when someone is on environment that is people, tradition or its business is dominated by people who speak Japanese. This is different with the English its use spreads all overworld even though it has nothing to do at all with countries that are in English language.

In other words, English is the global lingual a world that is a means of communication between different people country. As a global language, of course its use is not just as media communicate verbally, but also in many ways' life like language computer programming, manuals products, educational resources, economy and others. In fact, deep educational curriculum, English not only taught in that country which is very massive in almost all aspects of life, learning English is a necessity that cannot be denied. "All of the problem that confront the Muslim world today the educational problem is the most challenging. The future of the Muslim world will depend upon the way it responds to this challenge", meaning: Of the many problem which is challenges to the adult Islamic world this, then the problem of education is the most trouble challenging. The future of the Islamic world depending on the way of the Islamic world answer and solve challenges this. Khursid Ahmad's statement above shows that education is an essential requirement for every human being, society, as well nation, then education must always be developed systematically and visionary. Depart from the frame work this means that educational efforts made by a nation always have a significant relationship with the engineering of that nation in the future. English is used as a provision in the world to be able to compete and face the globalization era this Islamic society but also worldly. Because we don't live alone but sociable, we don't live on a country that is only the only one inworld, but neighbors and in the neighbors there must be a relationship, in a relationship there must be communication and in communication there must be language. What language will we using communicating with the State other? or studying science or books other countries that are not as language with us? Surely

the world already set one language the international unifier between countries to carry out communication, that is English.

In fact, learning English at credits college or whatever invites fundamental questions. What this learning is intended for student interests during college or undergraduate interests (graduates) in working world? This question is related with when the English will be taught. If for the sake of students during college, ability speaking English is supposed to be requirements for prospective students to take college. Because during college, have the opportunity to join the program student exchanges and activities international activities requires language skills English. That is, students who don't can speak English certainly will notable to follow programs and activities it optimally. However, on in fact, the S-1, S-2 and even S-3 uses a lot of literature speak Indonesian. The reason is not because the lecture material has satisfied with the literature speak Indonesian, but because most of the lecturers are not capable read English literature well. So, condition English proficiency for prospective students also tend to considered a mere formality. For the purposes of college, language English should have been taught before prospective students attend lectures, or at least in semesters the beginning of lecture.

Another case, for interests of graduates in the workplace, English can be taught on final semesters. However, if intended for these two interests, learning English properly implemented since the first semester until the end. At the end of the lesson a certificate containing the test score. The passing score is determined by College. Keep that in mind this English test certificate has a limited validity period, typically two years, like that set by institutions the scholarship program organizer. Psycholinguistics explains that foreign language skills on someone will decline when language are not or rarely used. Hence, English language skills students should be tested every two year. Basic language skill English includes reading (reading), listening (listening), writing (writing), and speaking. Fourth this basic ability is skills (skills) and are on psychomotor realm. So, teaching English should emphasize on reading, listening, writing and speaking, not on knowledge of English. Until now, language learning English from elementary to college his emphasized-on knowledge of English. The evaluation is focused on knowledge, English in the archipelago. Critics against him a long time ago surfaced, but again the solution in effective. Judging from its function inside curriculum, ESP in Islamic colleges just taught as one general basic course material (MKDU) only, so that both university leaders, lecturers and students consider that only as English one of the not so courses important and only taught as one

of the requirements in fulfillment national curriculum. Seen from benefit, teaching ESP at college is not very visible.

This characterized by a lack of mastery English course material which is refers to the elements Islamic. Student only capture lecture material only limited to mastery of grammar vocabulary English in general only. Even though seen from the essence of pressure, teaching English in college high Islam is directed towards students' abilities in reading, writing, and listening to various things related to Islamic factors.

### **C. Perceptions of English Subject in Islamic Education University**

English courses are likely interpreted and implemented different. Some think as a content course general English material that contains basic knowledge of English common with various elements and his skills. On the other hand, there are who argues that this course is a course for a special purpose which is tailored to the field of student study, even in deep the implementation tends not to be reflected its essence as the eye college for a specific purpose. In the implementation, even though it has been considered as an ESP course, this course does not reflect implementation of the ESP theory should. This course experiences various problems from many sides, either its design, implementation, and evaluation. The field of language teaching England with a specific purpose or more known as English for Specific Purpose (ESP) is a field English language teaching relatively new. ESP developments in college be it college general and religious colleges taught. In the college curriculum high, the ESP is just the eye English course (BI) only. In the implementation, English taught according to the allocation system applied semester credits (SKS) by each college. Public college ones think of English so important role allocates 4-6 credits while public colleges who considers English only as a general basic course only allocates around 2- 4 credits only while in religious colleges, English credits are weighted allocated ranges from 2 - 4 credits, some even only have 2 credits.

English for Specific Purpose (ESP) is the teaching of English for certain purposes. Hutchinson and Waters (1987: 19) define "ESP is an approach to language teaching in which all decisions as to content and method are based on the learner's reason for learning ".<sup>12</sup> From the above opinion can be concluded that ESP is an approach in teaching that puts forward the

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<sup>12</sup> Hutchinson T. & A. Waters (1987) *English for Specific Purposes: A learningCentred Approach*, Cambridge: Cambridge university Press.

learner's needs or reasons learn English. ESP is the teaching of English which is carried out in academic studies or teaching English for specific work purposes or for certain professional purposes. Teaching materials play an important role in an effort to achieve teaching goals. So big the role of teaching material so that Tomlinson (1998) stated that what field whatever is taught within the framework student-centered, teaching material is the most important.<sup>13</sup> In addition to teaching materials, learning objectives is the direction to be headed from a series of activities carried out in learning process. Basically the essence of learning objectives is achievement of a change in behavior or students' abilities after following learning activities and formulated in the form of a specific description, learning objectives are direction to go from the series activities performed in the process learning. Basically the essence of the learning goal is attainment changes in behavior or abilities students after participating in the activity

Next which is no less important in learning is an approach learning. Jack C. Richards quote pinion of Anthony (1986: 15) say a deep approach language learning, namely a series axiomatic assumptions about the nature and nature of language meanwhile method is an overarching plan regarding the presentation of teaching material language regularly and grounded on an approach chosen.<sup>14</sup>

In addition, Hamalik in Arsyad (2007: 15) argues that the use of deep learning media the learning process can teach arouse desire and interest good, motivational and stimulation of learning activities, and it even brought influences psychological towards students.<sup>15</sup> The use learning media at stage learning orientation will be very help process effectiveness learning and message delivery and the content of the lesson at that. Last one in the learning component is evaluation. According to Gagne (1979: 82) every teacher or designer learning definitely want to get certainty that learning activities taught him over a period of time the lesson was successful and achieved the learning objectives.

#### Language learning objectives

English in the context of ESP (English for Specific Purpose) in college Islam aims to make students capable use good English in writing or orally understand the reading in texts in

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<sup>13</sup> Tomlinson, B. (1998). *Materials Development in Language teaching*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

<sup>14</sup> Richards, Jack C & Theodore S. Rodgers, *Approaches and Methods in Language Teaching*, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2000

<sup>15</sup> Arsyad, Azhar. (2008). *Media Pembelajaran*, Jakarta: PT Raja Grafindo Persada.



English specifically majoring in each faculty. Destination learning is in accordance with learning English ones divided into English 1, language English 2, and there is also English 3. Specifically the learning objectives English 1 is in student order can understand Grammar (Grammar) basic English and basic reading skills (English language teaching in general), the purpose that it refers to ESP teaching is student expected to have knowledge about sentence structure in language English, understanding techniques readings of texts written in English, as well as being able to understand meaning of vocabulary in the context of the study Islam (teaching English for special purpose purposes). College student technology. (ESP). College student expected to have an edge competitive and comparative according to national and international quality ones competency-based, especially inbuild and develop language abilities and skills English both spoken and written ones includes: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Purpose of Speaking and Listening includes student abilities to understand and express information in oral communication, and includes English phonology, emphasis of words and sentences, rhythm and intonation, and information delivered through systems the. The purpose of reading is to develop students' abilities in understand, interpret, reflect, respond and enjoy written texts. While in the writing dimension, its purpose is to introduce written English for students, including the ability to compose and presents various types of text. Destination it also includes system development sound-symbols in English, vocabulary, and grammar. Fourth competency in order to understand texts religious, legal, economic, social, politics, or other appropriate disciplines with their respective majors. Develops absorbency English vocabulary as well develop understanding of the text reading. In learning activities, lecturer in conveying the process learning to use an approach methods, methods, and techniques. As is approaches, methods, and activity techniques learning will be colored /varies and these activities too can be done well. According to Subana and sunarti (1998: 19) approach (approach) is often associated with methods (methods) and techniques (technique). All the terms are three interrelated aspects. Approach used to refer toon the design of the syllabus (syllabus design) and the approach is philosophical / axiom, while method is a way of doing learning. Another case with technique which contains various meanings methods and tools used by lecturers in class. Thus, technique is effort, effort, that way teaching. When referring to understanding above, of course the lecturer understand how to use and apply learning methods according to the teaching material used.

Teaching materials used will be complete and understandable by students if the lecturer can apply learning methods precisely and effectively.

Based on the results of observations in activities learning English in the classroom seen that most of the lecturers already using various methods centered learning students (student center). This is visible of the use of learning methods role playing, active learning, discussion, presentation, and others. Besides using learning methods which is learner-centered (student center), language English learning in almost all universities of Islam to a large extent using learning methods teacher-centered (lecturer). Thing this is visible still the dominance of lecturers using lecture method in delivering lecture material. Aside from that, it looks like the lecturer is still using it

### **CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION**

From that phenomenon discussion of religious issues on currently using a lot of language England, it is imperative that students with religion educational background needs to master the language English as a tool to know contemporary religious issues as well as for publish the results of thoughts and his research. In a process learning, perspective from every individual play a role in the process achievement of learning goals which is conducted. Perspective will affect behavior, attitudes, response and motivation. In other words, a positive perspective to something will make someone have the motivation to manifest that something. For example, when someone has that perspective positive towards English, then they will strive for learn and master it with participate in learning activities at class well or even will looking for additional classes or activities to increase his abilities follow learning activities will arise. Impact that will arise then is that student will not participate in maximum in the classroom to follow English courses.

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