

**THE TEACHER CANDIDATES' PERCEPTION  
ON TEACHING ENGLISH TO YOUNG LEARNERS**



**THESIS**

**By:**

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**ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM  
FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION  
MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF BENGKULU  
2022**

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**Presented as a Partial Requirement for “Sarjana Degree”  
In English Language Education Study Program  
Muhammadiyah University of Bengkulu**

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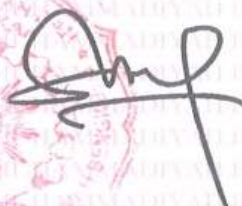
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Dengan ini menyatakan bahwa skripsi saya yang berjudul:

**“The Teacher Candidates’ Perception on Teaching English to Young Learners”.**

Adalah karya sendiri. Apabila dikemudian hari ternyata karya tertulis ini berindikasi sebagai karya plagiat, saya bersedia menerima sanksi yang berlaku di Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan Universitas Muhammadiyah Bengkulu.

Bengkulu, 12 April 2022

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## MOTTO AND DEDICATION

### MOTTO

- ❖ *"Karena sesungguhnya sesudah kesulitan itu ada kemudahan. Sesungguhnya sesudah kesulitan itu ada kemudahan." (QS. Al-Insyirah Ayat : 5-6).*

### DEDICATION

- ❖ Praise and gratitude for the grace of Allah SWT, who always gives strength, patience, spaciousness, help from every side of life, ease of all affairs, and remains istiqomah, in His way.
- ❖ My great parents, Mom and Dad who have amazingly guided me in and taught the goodness of strength and simplicity in life, prayed every time, and tried to fight for me to pursue a bachelor's degree and be a small part of the gift that I can give to both of you.
- ❖ Thank you very much for my lovely brother and my beloved sister who always advise me and always support me in completing this lecture.

Special thanks to:

- ❖ My greats god Allah SWT that has given me health and power to finish my thesis.
- ❖ My endless love, Mom and Dad who have amazingly guided me in and taught the goodness of strength and simplicity in life, prayed every time, and tried to fight for me to pursue a bachelor's degree and be a small part of the gift that I can give to both of you.
- ❖ My lovely brother and sister (Muhammad Akbar, Ovin Tworianti, and Kiki Alfitasari), thank you so much who given me support and advice.
- ❖ My advisor Kiagus Baluqiah, M.Pd thank you so much for your direction, guidance, time, every suggestion and correction so that I can finish my thesis.
- ❖ My examiners Sinarman Jaya, M.Pd and Agung Suhadi, M.A thank you so much for your every suggestion, correction and your support.
- ❖ My support system (Anisa Putri, S.Pd., Dinda Putri Anggraini, S.Pd.,

Agnes Permata Andesta, S.Pd., Mayang Fitri, S.OS., Chries Monica, S.Kom., Ravenda Rozal Veno, S.M., Dirga Aznan Harahap, S.P., Reci Septi Andari, S.Pd., Fitri Alfiani Mustofa, S.Pd.), thank you so much for your help, support, prayers, and always listening to me.

- ❖ For My Beloved Enggi Kurnia thank you for your help, your support and enthusiasm that you has been given
- ❖ For all of the English Lectures thank you so much for everything.
- ❖ All members of English Education Program 2017 thank you so much for help and support that you gave me.
- ❖ My Faculty English study program and my green almamater.



## CURRICULUM VITAE



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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Alhamdulillah. Praise be to Allah SWT for blessing the researcher so she could finally finish this thesis, entitled The Teacher Candidates' Perception on Teaching English to Young Learners that written to Fulfill One of The Requirements for "Bachelor" degree at English Language Education Study Program in Teaching and Training and Education Faculty of Muhammadiyah University of Bengkulu.

In completing this thesis, the author received a lot of help both materially and morally from various parties, for that the author would like to thanks to:

1. Washlurachim Safitri, M.Pd., as The Head of English Language Education Study Program of Muhammadiyah University of Bengkulu.
2. Kiagus Baluqiah, M.Pd., as the Advisor who has given valuable suggestion and motivation.
3. Sinarman Jaya, M.Pd and Agung Suhadi, M.A as examiners. Thanks for your time, suggestions, care, and motivation.
4. All of the lecturers of English Education Study Program of Muhammadiyah University of Bengkulu.
5. All of parties that cannot be mentioned one by one, which have helped the researcher in finishing this thesis.
6. My greatest family and my friends who always support me in everything.

Finally, the researcher expects that this thesis can be useful for English speaking Lecturers especially and English students who as participants in English Speaking for debate particularly Therefore, criticisms and suggestions from the readers are highly appreciated.

Bengkulu, 12 April 2022

**Afrizanur Aswad**  
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## **PREFACE**

### ***Bismillahirrahmanirrahim***

Praise and gratitude the authors say to Allah SWT, who has given health and His gifts to the author and the strength to complete the thesis: The Teacher Candidates' Perception on Teaching English to Young Learners. The completion of this paper cannot be separated from the assistance of various parties who are directly or indirectly related, especially and especially dedicated to both parents. To my mother and my father, who always give love, education, material and prayers that are always prayed to Allah to the author, as well as to the writer's brother and sister who became the supporter for the author in completing this thesis. Then my sincere gratitude for my advisor Kiagus Baluqiah, M.Pd for their ideas, recommendation and guidance to conduct this thesis from the beginning to the end. I realize that this thesis still has many mistakes. Because of that I need for suggestion and critics to make a better one in the future.

Bengkulu, 12 April 2022

**Afrizanur Aswad**  
**NPM. 1721110006**

## ABSTRACT

Aswad, Afrizanur. 2022. *“The Teacher Candidates’ Perception on Teaching English to Young Learners”*

**Advisor : Kiagus Baluqiah, M.Pd**

This study aims to determine the perception of prospective teachers about how important it is to teach English to children at an early age or golden age. Researchers used quantitative descriptive methods. The subjects of this study were students from semester 6 who were taking English for Young Learners courses in the English Language Study program at the University of Muhammadiyah Bengkulu who were referred to as teacher candidates. Data samples were taken from 42 active students. Researchers used questionnaires and interviews as instruments in this study. Using questionnaires to collect data from prospective teachers (Frankel & Wallen, 2009:395). The questions in the questionnaire were adapted from Supriyanti's theory (2012). This study resulted in a positive response from prospective teachers with a percentage of 95.24% neutral response and 2.78% negative response. The interview results of prospective teachers revealed the perception of prospective teachers that English for young learners is very important to learn when they are in their golden age easier to improve students' new vocabulary in learning English, helping them communicate well in the era of globalization Around the world using English in communication.

**Keywords : Perception, Prospective teacher, English Young Learner**

## **ABSTRAK**

Aswad, Afrizanur. 2022. **“Persepsi Calon Guru tentang Pengajaran Bahasa Inggris kepada Pelajar Muda”**  
**Pembimbing: Kiagus Baluqiah, M.Pd**

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui persepsi calon guru tentang seberapa penting nya mengajarkan bahasa Inggris terhadap anak-anak dalam usia dini atau usia emas. Peneliti menggunakan metode deskriptif kuantitatif. Subjek penelitian ini adalah Mahasiswa dari semester 6 yang sedang mengikuti mata kuliah English For Young Learners pada program studi bahasa Inggris di universitas Muhammadiyah Bengkulu yang disebut sebagai calon guru. Sampel data diambil dari mahasiswa aktif yang berjumlah 42 mahasiswa. Peneliti menggunakan questionnaire dan wawancara sebagai instrumen dalam penelitian ini. Menggunakan kuesioner untuk mengumpulkan data dari calon guru (Frankel & Wallen, 2009:395). Pertanyaan dalam kuesioner di adaptasi dari teori Supriyanti (2012). Penelitian ini menghasilkan respon positif dari calon guru dengan presentase 95,24% respon netral 2,78% dan respon negatif. Hasil interview dari calon guru mengungkapkan persepsi calon guru bahwa bahasa Inggris untuk pelajar muda sangat penting dipelajari saat mereka dalam usia emas lebih mudah meningkatkan kosa kata baru siswa dalam masa belajar bahasa Inggris, membantu mereka berkomunikasi dengan baik di era globalisasi seluruh dunia menggunakan bahasa Inggris dalam komunikasi.

**Kata kunci : Persepsi, Calon guru, Pembelajar Muda Bahasa Inggris**



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# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The background is briefly discussed in this chapter, followed by the research question, the research purpose, the relevance of the study, the limitations of the research, and the definition of important words.

### **1.1 Background**

All educational levels need mastery of English as an international language. This has prompted teachers at all educational levels to work on facilitating the most effective methods of teaching and learning English. As a result, English instruction has gained significant traction and is taught in practically every nation on the planet. English is regarded as a foreign language in Indonesia. Since English is a foreign language, the majority of parents enroll their kids in classes to learn more of it as well as start studying it at a young age. English is extensively utilized in all fields of knowledge and is one of the world languages used for communication in international relations. However, according to Brown (2001: 118), English has developed into a tool for worldwide communication in a variety of fields, including science research, technology, finance, tourism, trade, and transportation.

Young learners are students in elementary school who are between the ages of five and twelve. It is generally accepted that young learners are youngsters in their first year of primary school, aged five or six, until the age of twelve (Bakhsh, 2016, p. 121). Furthermore, a lot of people have learnt English since they were young and understand its importance. Young learners are often used to describe those in their early years. Additionally, they have taken basic to intermediate

English courses. Since 1994, English has formally been a local content in primary schools. The goal of teaching English to elementary school pupils is for them to possess the following skills: (1) To improve their ability to communicate verbally in a language that supports actions in a classroom setting. (2) To inspire pupils with the value and significance of English in the global society. Depdiknas (2006).

Understanding the traits of young kids is the first step a teacher must take while instructing them in English. Because teaching young people will be easier if the instructor is already familiar with and comprehends the traits of the students. According to Hang (2017), children cannot be exposed to serious learning all the time due to their natural language acquisition characteristics. Because they still prefer to play over studying, the young students are solely interested in acquiring English. One of the most crucial and advantageous things for young learners is to start learning English at a young age. This will provide them the foundational knowledge they need when they encounter English classes, which are required in junior high and high school.

To enhance the teaching and learning process, teacher candidates' opinions on teaching English to young students in elementary schools are crucial. Teacher candidates will be more motivated to educate and strive to be effective teachers for their kids if they understand how vital English is for young learners. This affects how well the younger generation is taught and learns English, which enhances the country's educational system overall.

A number of researchers have worked in fields related to this one. First, a research by Oktaviani (2017) revealed that participants concur that children who



acquire foreign languages at a young age will do better. According to the teachers, parents are now interested in helping and supporting their kids while they learn English. Because parents believe that their children will benefit from learning English in the future. The second is a research titled "Teachers' Perception On The Teaching And Learning English For Young Learners" by Rahmawati et al. (2020). They discovered that teachers had both good and negative opinions on teaching and learning English to young students. According to the teacher, young kids who are learning English are very engaged and easily bored. However, songs, tales, and games can help pupils become more engaged, self-assured, and driven to study English while also enhancing their language proficiency.

The final study is named "Teachers' Perception Of Teaching English For Young Learners And The Implementation In Public Primary School In Jembrana Sub-District" and was conducted by Listriyani et al. (2018). According to the questionnaire's summary of results, the strongest category of TEYL components was followed by the neutral group. According to the first TEYL component, teachers strongly believe that young students are very curious. Teachers have a neutral view of the influence on student accomplishment in many areas, but they strongly support the idea of teaching via activities and creating a fun learning atmosphere.

All of the aforementioned earlier studies examined instructors' perceptions of teaching English to young students, which is comparable to the current study. According to the survey, instructors had a good view of TEYL because they believed that teaching English to young students was crucial to the advancement of modern technology. But there was no study that looked at how preservice

teachers or teacher candidates, particularly those in the UMB English Study Program or teacher trainers, felt about teaching English to young students. Since the teachers' candidates have not yet gained much experience in teaching and studying English, it is necessary to determine whether or not their perceptions are similar to those of the instructors. Jannah (2019) identifies eight issues: young learners learn better; children and adults learn similarly; it is easier to motivate young learners; children learn and develop differently and at different rates; adults have a longer attention span; teachers of young learners require special training; FLL at school should begin early; children who acquire language before adolescence are more likely to have native-like pronunciation; and children only need to learn simple language and topics.

Additionally, the researcher's July 23rd observation of sixth semester English study program students revealed that some students were still unaware of the value of teaching English to young learners and the reason behind teaching EYL. This did not align with the expectations of the EYL course. The majority of students were unaware of the significance of teaching English to young learners. The researcher will thus carry out a study named THE TEACHER CANDIDATES' PERCEPTION ON TEACHING ENGLISH TO YOUNG LEARNERS in light of the aforementioned facts and justifications. This study will be carried out at Muhammadiyah University of Bengkulu's EYL Course, which is registered by sixth semester students.

## **1.2 Research Question**

Based on the background the above the research question in this research is: “How is the teacher candidates’ perception on teaching English for young learners at sixth semester students of Muhammadiyah University of Bengkulu?”

## **1.3 Research Objective**

Based on the background of the problem and to answer the problems that have been formulated above, the objective of this study is to know how the teacher candidates’ perception on teaching English for young learners at sixth semester students of Muhammadiyah University of Bengkulu.

## **1.3 Limitation of The Research**

Students in the 6<sup>th</sup> semester of the University of Muhammadiyah Bengkulu's English study program participated in the study, which focuses only on the perceptions of teacher candidates regarding teaching English to young learners.

## **1.4 Significances of The Research**

The benefits that are expected to be obtained from this research are:

(1). Theoritically

This study can serve as a resource for parents and teacher candidates about the significance of teaching English to young students.

(2). Practically

It is anticipated that this research will positively impact future studies that will be conducted in a related sector.

## **1.5 The Definition of key Terms**

1) Teacher Candidates

Students pursuing teacher education and training in order to become teachers in the future are known as teacher candidates.

## 2) Perception

"Perception is an action to assess information to provide an overview and general understanding of an environment," according to Bernhardt (2007). "Perception is a picture or a person's point of view."

## 3) Young learners

According to Slatterly and Willis (2001), young learners are primary school students between the ages of 7 and 12 who receive English lessons as local content.