



Analysis of factors of Low Student Learning Interest in Grade IV Mathematics Subjects at Elementary School

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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted by researchers at SD Negeri 35 Palembang. The purpose of this study was to examine the various factors that cause students' lack of interest in learning in grade IV in mathematics. The researcher utilized a qualitative research method using a case study approach. Data collection was done through triangulation and inductive analysis, and emphasis on meaning rather than generalization in qualitative research results. Case study refers to a series of research activities carried out in a structured, detailed, and thorough manner regarding a program, event, or activity. The purpose of this case study is to understand in depth about it, both from the perspective of individuals, groups, institutions, and organizations. Generally, the case chosen is an ongoing event in real life, not something that has happened in the past. The process of collecting information is carried out through direct observation and interaction through interviews. Based on observations, interviews, and notes taken by the researcher, it was concluded that there were about five students in one class who received low scores and lacked interest in learning mathematics. Based on information found by researchers during observations and interviews, it can be concluded that there are several reasons why grade IV students' interest in learning mathematics at SD Negeri 35 Palembang is low. First, students do not have enough rest time. Second, students lack motivation to learn. Third, students do not show high interest in math. Fourth, students have to deal with two activities at once, namely school and boarding school. Finally, there is the influence of the post-Covid-19 situation or online learning.

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INTRODUCTION

To create learners who have solid knowledge, education offers a teaching-learning process that occurs in an educational environment. Teaching and learning is a process of interaction between educators and learners. Unintentionally, both parties are learning in this process. In fact, there is always a learning process that occurs in this life,

either intentionally or unintentionally, and whether we realize it or not. From this stage, we get the results known as teaching or what is commonly referred to as learning objectives or learning outcomes. In order to achieve optimal and satisfactory results, the teaching and learning approach needs to be carried out with full awareness and well-planned efforts. In a learning situation, the teacher acts as an instructor while the student acts as a learning individual. To ensure the process goes well, both teachers and students must have the necessary skills, knowledge, attitudes, adherence to values, and personal characteristics. This is so that the learning process can run effectively and efficiently in accordance with expectations (Herawati, 2018).

Learning is a transformation process where behavior changes due to interaction with the environment to meet life's needs. The definition of learning is a process where a person makes changes in his overall behavior after experiencing interactions with the environment (Nurfadhillah et al., 2021). Learning is an action taken by someone individually to achieve new overall behavioral changes. This change is produced through the interaction of the individual with his environment and his personal experience. Each student has individual differences that make them have different learning behaviors, which ultimately affect their learning achievement (Salsabila & Puspitasari, 2020).

Learning involves interaction between learners and educators in a learning environment. This process includes the use of learning materials, delivery methods, learning strategies, and learning resources (Arni et al., 2022). Then, the achievement in the learning and teaching process can be observed from the level of success in achieving educational targets. If the learning objectives are achieved, it can be concluded that the teacher has been successful in the teaching process (Windi Anisa et al., 2020). Learning and learning are two aspects that are interrelated and cannot be separated in educational activities. Learning and learning process can be considered as a form of education that involves interaction between teachers and students. The learning process has specific objectives that have been set beforehand. Teachers deliberately plan their teaching activities..

The mathematics learning process involves interactions between various learning components, with the aim of developing students' thinking skills in solving various mathematical problems. The mathematics learning process has the potential to help students build and develop their understanding of mathematical concepts through their skills and abilities. The purpose of learning is to inspire and encourage students to actively participate in the learning process. Mathematics is used as a means of thinking, communicating, and a tool for solving problems. Critical thinking, logic, innovation, problem solving, and other mathematical skills can be enhanced through the use of mathematics. The process of learning mathematics provides opportunities for students to be actively involved, ask questions, share opinions, with the aim of developing their

mathematical skills. Different learning models, strategies and methods are used according to the content of the lesson and the uniqueness of the learners (Gusteti & Neviyarni, 2022).

From the observations made by researchers in class V of SD Negeri 35 Palembang, it was found that there were students who paid less attention to the teacher when learning mathematics about roots and powers took place. There are students who seem less enthusiastic about the learning process, they prefer to tell stories and play with friends. According to the results of interviews, the students' math learning outcomes were low. Some students have no interest in mathematics, the acquisition is caused by the lack of student interest in mathematics. The students ignored the results of their grades. There are already several types of learning media available. However, when the researchers made observations, the teacher had not used the media in the teaching and learning process. According to the researchers, students are less interested in learning mathematics because they do not utilize learning media, learning models, and learning strategies properly.

Because of the above problems, there is a solution, namely finding out the factors that cause low student interest in learning mathematics. Interest is an expression of a person's liking or interest in an object without any pressure from other parties (Warsito, 2019). The development of learners' interest in the learning process is a very important aspect. If learners do not have an interest in the material being taught, then they will find it difficult to really understand and master the material. For example, there is a previous study that examined the relationship between learning interest and math learning achievement. The results showed that interest in learning has a significant influence on learning achievement. In addition, interest in learning also affects the level of activeness of students in learning. All of this is highly dependent on the way educators deliver material to students (Sirait, 2016). According to Hurlock (Friantini & Rahmat, 2019), if someone has an interest in martial arts talent, then they will aspire to become a martial arts expert. Likewise, if students have an interest in math, they will aspire to become experts in arithmetic. These interests affect the form and intensity of one's aspirations. An interest in martial arts or math can inspire students to engage in related activities. Achievements always depend on different individual interests and the extent to which they are pursued. Students will tend to repeat activities related to their interests because the four interests provide a sense of satisfaction for them (Anggraini et al., 2020).

Based on the problems described above, the researcher is interested in conducting a study entitled: "Analysis of factors of low student interest in learning in grade IV mathematics subjects in elementary schools".

RESEARCH METHODE

A study was conducted by researchers at SD Negeri 35 Palembang. This study had the objective of examining the various factors that cause students' lack of interest in learning in grade IV in mathematics. The researcher utilized a qualitative research method using a case study approach. In this study, qualitative methods were used to obtain comprehensive, in-depth, and significant information so that the research objectives could be met. Qualitative research method is a research method used to investigate the natural state of the object, where the researcher acts as the main instrument. Data collection is done through triangulation and inductive analysis, and emphasis on meaning rather than generalization in qualitative research results.

Case study refers to a series of research activities carried out in a structured, detailed, and thorough manner regarding a program, event, or activity. The purpose of this case study is to understand in depth about it, both from the perspective of individuals, groups, institutions, and organizations. Generally, the case chosen is an event that is happening in real life, not something that has happened in the past.

The information collection process is carried out through direct observation and interaction through interviews. Observation is an information collection method in which the researcher directly observes the object of research to obtain detailed knowledge about ongoing activities (Nurjannah, 2022). Interview is a method of collecting information through direct meetings between researchers and interviewees, where questions are asked and answers are given face-to-face. The observation and data collection process was conducted to directly observe how students learn mathematics in the classroom, gain a deeper understanding of students' interest in mathematics, and analyze it. Thus, researchers can gain in-depth knowledge of the elements that cause students' lack of interest in learning mathematics. Qualitative research data analysis techniques are carried out while data collection is ongoing and after a certain period after data collection (Sugiyono, 2021).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

According to Purwanto, there are two factors that influence interest in learning, namely factors that come from within students (internal) and factors that come from the environment around students (external). Internal factors are factors that come from within the student himself, such as curiosity, talent, ability, and motivation. Meanwhile, external factors involve influences from outside, such as encouragement from family, creative teaching skills from teachers, and supporting facilities in the learning process.

Based on observations, interviews, and notes made by the researcher, it was concluded that there were about five students in one class who received low scores and lacked interest in learning mathematics. This phenomenon can be seen when students are not focused in the learning process, and because this is sustainable, students

eventually fall behind in math lessons. During the learning process, if there is a problem, the student is reluctant to take the initiative in asking questions. There are several reasons that cause low student interest in learning mathematics in grade IV SD.

a. Insufficient rest time for students

During the learning process at school, the students showed a lack of enthusiasm, looked lethargic, and often put their heads down on their desks. This indicates that students do not get enough time to rest at home. This situation occurs for several reasons, such as students spending their rest time playing games or using cellphones for hours a day, playing outside with friends until late at night, providing assistance in homework to parents, and other factors. Thus, students have no more time to repeat learning materials. In addition, they also complete their assignments late into the night. In this situation, it is important for parents to give instructions to children so that they do not abuse the break time and neglect it. The break time should be utilized as much as possible for learning activities.

b. Lack of student motivation to learn

Students' lack of enthusiasm in learning math. According to Hakim's statement, motivation is a driver that encourages individuals to take certain actions in order to achieve the set goals. Motivation can arise from two sources, namely intrinsic motivation that comes from within and extrinsic motivation that comes from outside factors. Motivation that exists within the student is a foothold that energizes the student who comes from within himself, for example, the enthusiasm to achieve the desired goal, the desire to achieve the highest achievement in class, and so on. However, motivation that comes from external influences is obtained through support and encouragement from parents, family, or teachers. This form of motivation can be in the form of praise, advice, help, and guidance from parents and a positive social environment. Julianti M., et al argue that the role of teachers is vital in inspiring students in the learning process. However, the role of parents in directing and supporting children at home also has great significance in the development of children's interest in learning. So, motivation also plays a significant role in directing the development of students' interests.

c. Students are not interested in math

Students are not interested in learning math. This happens for various reasons, such as math is too many formulas, math learning is too rigid, boring, and some of them. These thoughts exist because students are unable to understand implicitly or in writing what the use of mathematics itself is. Well, this is where the importance of the role of creative teachers in learning. With the use of creative learning methods and learning media, students can more easily understand learning materials. So that students' interest in learning can increase.

d. The existence of 2 routine activities at once

According to observations and interviews with teachers, most male students have activities to do outside of school, namely attending pesantren. The pesantren here does not refer to modern pesantren as we know them. Rather, it is an Islamic boarding school that focuses on religious education and adheres to traditional customs. Therefore, their bodies and minds are scattered between following lessons at school and also at the pesantren. This causes students who are not effective in managing their time to be less motivated, appear lackluster, messy, and unfocused. This can be easily observed through the students' style of dress, their attitude during the teaching and learning process, and when the learning has ended. This also happens because students lack preparation for the situation, as they feel forced to live in a pesantren far from their parents and have to learn independently. As a result, students' interest in learning decreases as a result. This is consistent with the confessions of some students who feel forced to live in pesantren while still having to go to school in a place far from their parents. They have to manage their time to eat, recite the Quran, and study by themselves, and are often late for school because they are on picket duty at the musholah.

e. The influence of the post-covid-19 effect or online learning

After the covid-19 outbreak subsided, the implementation of the learning process at school has returned to normal. After previously learning was carried out online or online, now direct learning in the classroom has been carried out. Nevertheless, the influence of online learning methods is still visible to students, such as they often play while learning, still do not understand the basic concepts of mathematics, lack of courtesy and respect for teachers and friends. The impact can also affect students' interest in learning because learning will be fun if students can develop their interest in certain subjects and are willing to engage in the learning process which also involves respect for the teacher.

In increasing students' interest in learning in mathematics, the role of parents and teachers plays an important role. For that reason, parents as the closest individuals to students are expected to pay more attention to their children's development at home, provide encouragement, and help them overcome difficulties in learning that may not be understood at school. Then, teachers need to show a higher level of creativity in the learning process by using interesting approaches, strategies and learning techniques so that students do not feel bored and the learning process can run smoothly. The same applies to the environment around them because if the social environment is a positive one, it will produce students who are also good. Therefore, the importance of positive and good social interactions for students is very significant in developing their interest in learning.

CONCLUSION

Based on information found by researchers during observations and interviews, it can be concluded that there are several reasons why grade IV students' interest in learning mathematics at SD Negeri 35 Palembang is low. First, students do not have enough rest time. Second, students lack motivation to learn. Third, students do not show high interest in math. Fourth, students have to deal with two activities at once, namely school and boarding school. Finally, there is the influence of the post-Covid-19 situation or online learning.

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