

CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter, the researcher presents and discusses about the data guided by research questions. These are questions broken down into three questions:

1. How does the autonomous learning method develop students' English ability at Kumon Institution of Education?
2. What are the factors that influence students' autonomous learning at Kumon Institution of Education?

The data was collected from 3 students who are studying by independent learning and 1 teaching assistant. The data displayed and presented in narration, in which the researcher would narrate the data with themes. The researcher had read the data several times to understand the themes that flow in the whole data. The data which are not relevant are reduced and not analysed.

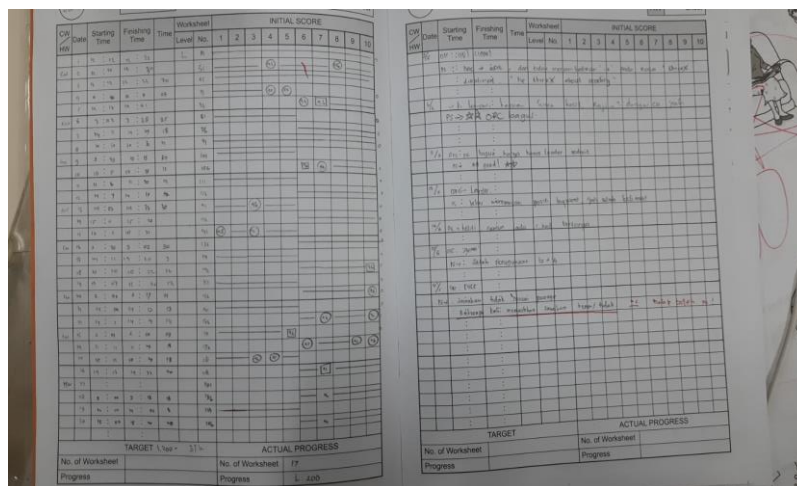
4.1. Findings of the Research

After making the transcriptions from the interview, the researcher narrated the finding into several themes. In the following, the researcher describes how the subjects of this research shared their experiences with some themes as well as those found in interviews. The researcher divided the findings into 2 main questions based on the researcher questions, they are:

4.1.1. How does the autonomous learning method develop students' English ability at Kumon Institution of Education?

In this term, the researcher tried to explore the way or strategies how the students encourage their English ability in their independent learning. Some ways or method that students use will spread and mention in this form.

In their self-study, it is important to students to practise every day in order to defend their ability or dexterity in individual learning. Firstly, the students always do their homework everyday with *Practice Every Day*, technique about self-study system that they have to do in daily study such as listen to the audio every day, reading the cd book, and doing the worksheet. Based on the students' scoring book (in the appendix) they study every day and always do the everyday homework.



The picture reports that the students always study in everyday even though in weekend or holiday. In the picture, there is time about students' duration in learning. They study approximately 15 minutes to an hour. The duration states that the students have the stable study time. The duration is the length of time that they spent

while studying, which students will write from the start of writing until they finish working on the worksheet.

The line in picture shows that the students got score 100, and if the score below the standard, the score displayed in numbers. The image also showed some comments of teachers in class, for example the students understanding of the material or the error answers and other mistakes such as the pronunciation, lack of meaning or others.

The rules that students do day to day is the rules in class. It was stated in transcript below:

“Firstly, we come to the class, take the book, then we have worksheet and we fix our homework that had been corrected and we made at home, then give to the assistant there, then listening to the CD player, doing the worksheet by ourself, if it is done give it to the miss or sir to be collected by them, if we have the worksheet that we must fix we fix it, and get the homework for tomorrow and go home” (P.1).

From the statement above, the researcher can take the conclusion combined with the teacher statement that the students who study there have to follow the rules in class, such as they took their book from the bag and prepare the books that she would use at that day, and if they have the false answer in their homework (they named it as PB) students must pay attention with false answer that they answered at home, after that they have to listen to the audio which called as cd player in order to increase students listening and pronunciation because they should imitate and pronounce the audio correctly.

After listen to the cd, they have to do their worksheet independently by seeing the example and the directions or explanation, it has benefit for students to keep reading carefully and be focused. In doing the worksheet, students had around 30 questions in short and long answers. The next is, they read the worksheet that they had written, their reading must be checked in order to ensure students' pronunciation, intonation and meaning in speaking which they listened before from audio. After that, students got scores, if their score below 100, they have to fix the false answer and give it back to the teacher, if the answer still incorrect then the teacher directly will give the explanation about that material.

In addition, the tutor teaching there also mentioned the detail stages to give it clears. She stated:

“Like what I have said and explained to you before, they first come - they show us the worksheets (homework), we actually, the students of Kumon have everyday homework, so when they do not come to Kumon they will have to do, they have to do their homework at home and when they first come to Kumon they have to us their homework and they have to read them and show us how reading, how is their reading ability they can for the homework of the worksheet that they do at home and then we consider it can be passed to the next number or not after we consider it is good or not we give the worksheet on that day to the students to do in the class, we evaluate them directly at the class looking for the result of the worksheet and how do the students study at the class, and then after they do the worksheet on that day in the class they have to do the corrections, we can say that they do them all together by themselves start from doing the worksheet, listening to the CD, they have listen to the CD first and then write to the worksheet on that day, and come to the assistant who will correct their worksheet and then give a feedback, after they give a feedback on that day if the score is good the student can pass that number and the assistant will give the next homework for the next 2 or 3 days at home, they will do they homework repeatedly as same as what they have done before.”
(Teacher)

She uttered that every day the students have to study even though they do not attend to the class. Then she said that at first students have to show their homework,

then they read the available passage, the assistant must know about students reading ability to correct them the good one, after that the students do the worksheet on that day in the class, the assistants also ensure that students do it them all by themselves together start from doing worksheet and listen to cd player. After all, the tutor will correct the worksheet and give the feedback if their score below the standard. Then the tutor will give the homework to let them home.

Thus, this way is used by the students in learning to improve their ability, because when they keep studying every day, they can keep their dexterity because they always exercise. The stage also can bring the students to know what will they do in learning to keep practice in the future.

The next is about *Starting at early age*. Students who are studying in Kumon need around minimum a year to get used to be self-learning and understand the systems. The participants here study up to one year, 5 or 6 years to complete their study. One of the students stated:

“I start from level A. and now I am in level O” (P.1)

The student 1 stated that she is studying at Kumon more than a year. The student one already studied there since she was in elementary school and started by basic level around 4 to 5 years. She studied from word by word or simple expressions and now they are in reading comprehension level.

If we see the table achievement, A level is as the basic level at Kumon, she started to study from Verb s/es or V1 and the subjects-objects and expressions in English but now she is at O level which studies essay and long story and it is the

hardest material in that course. O level is the highest content which students enable to read 400-800 words in one material. Starting at A level and now at the end of the study as last level there and which means she already passed 14 level.

The other themes about *Analyse what is going on*. In autonomous learning, the important for students is to know how to identify what is going on in their own learning, they brave enough to try something that they think it is one of something that they should do. The statement about this was stated by the participants:

“Usually, I try to look for the answer by myself based on the sentences, but if I haven't found the answer yet, I will ask the teacher” (P.2)

From the information above, when the participant studied, she tried her best such as her efforts. She be bound to try her best first to find the answers in the worksheet or homework, or she will focus to see the keyword in essay and she will ask the instructor of teaching if she had problem or did not know the way to solve the questions. She analysed the questions by focus on key words in the sentences or paragraphs and the available examples or similar patterns so she could answer the questions properly.

Based on the preliminary observation that the researcher did, the questions are combination with some type questions, there are connecting the answers, fill in the blank, and answer questions with full answers based on the topics.

Additionally, the student one added her way to solve the problem by doing the worksheet carefully and in this strategy, she also tried to analyse the problems first and saw the cd book. It was expressed by student one:

“Actually, until I find the answer. By pay attention to the questions or look at the CD book or play the audio again in order to get deep understanding”. (P.1)

Her statement above tells that she would try her best to break the problem by pay full attention and focus. She also added her way to see and answer the questions carefully in doing the worksheet by listen to the audio or see the CD book, from the CD book, she knew about the pattern and how to answer it. In the cd book, there are long stories with pictures and few meanings on it. She could analyse the format of questions by elaborate the same sampling such as the tenses in answers.

Therefore, in this term, students be able to analyse what is going on in the problems. They try their best first to answer the questions, so that they can develop their ability in English. In autonomous learning, students shall have this characteristic to be implemented because this way could bring students more active in learning. This way is necessary for pupils in order to be success in autonomous learning, they can analyse what is going on, what problems, identify the error questions and fix it by their own way.

In the future they can implement it into the other problem not only for English but also other subjects. They have the problem solving by themselves which is the easy first step that they can hold and do as the stepping stone to study independently.

The other ways how the students develop their ability in individual learning is the students *Capable formulating their own learning objectives*. In this theme, the students have their own tools to help them in study such as media that they used to get their objectives in learning. Here they all used the audio or application by

Kumon namely My Kumon to improve their listening and pronunciation and they also used the other application such as YouTube. Participant three said:

“I have. I use my Kumon and also the YouTube” (P.3)

Here the student one used YouTube to look for the information to help her in learning, from that application she could see many videos to learn. In the YouTube, there are tutorials that influencers or teachers posted in any topics, specifications, methods, and so on which students can imitate or study. Then, she added that she listened to the My Kumon application in her phone to increase her ability in listening especially for pronunciation, meaning, intonation and speaking. In that application, there are many audios based on the material so that students can access their audios on it.

Moreover, the second participant has her additional media which help her in practise English such as to practise her speaking those are handphone and television. It stated by student two:

“Yeah, I usually use handphone to practice speaking and also use television” (P.2).

She argues that the media really help her to develop her ability or increase her English better. She used the application named My Kumon when she doing worksheet and she had other medias such as handphone and television, from the phone and TV she could practise her speaking which she stated that speaking is the hardest one for her in learning English.

In the audio listening, My Kumon can be used in the mobile phone so that easy to access and the features also easy to use by the children. Students choose their level and listen to the story and the material per topic.

Continually, the last method that students do in autonomous learning is *Having support from the people around them*. Here, as individual learner, they need environment as the encourager to motivate and to support them in study to be more enthusiastic in learning. Support is really necessary for students especially who study in independent so that they feel that they are not really alone. All the subjects of this research get their support not only from parents, family, but also from teacher. It was stated by student three:

“They like to remind me to study hard then if there is a trouble of difficult questions, they support me” (P.3).

The experience from the student three tells that she got motivation from parents and her parents like to tell her to study hard as the support system in her study they have to control their children to reach their children’s goal in the future.

It is also added by participant two who got support from her parents in leaning by giving directions to their daughters, such as what should she do or if she stuck her parents will give the clue or instruction. It is mentioned by student two:

“They help me by giving support or giving me the direction in learning” (P.2)

The statement above explored about how her parents’ way to help her in her study. They let their children interest to study English but always give the support

or attention or direction in their children learning. By giving the directions, the parents can try to search some information from medias or help the children with their knowledges.

Furthermore, student 3 had the attention not only from parents but also her sister to help her to solve her problem. It is stated in:

“Maybe they give support in my learning. Then I ask my sister to help me” (P.3)

She got pay attention by her family in her own learning to make her get more spirit in learning. Also, she has sister to help her in learning even though it is seldom but she has supportive family. Her sister can help her in learning because she had studied the same topics earlier.

The other support comes from the tutor who teaches them in Kumon. In their learning, they got support as motivation and consultation in their learning. It is stated by the tutor in teaching at that place:

“of course, we like, mostly not mostly the students like, they like to talk about their difficulties or hard and doing the worksheet at home and sometimes we also ask their difficulties on during their activities during the Kumon worksheet at home and also in the class and what they thing about the class activities and the students like sometimes or they are students open like the crowded situation in the class miss, or I feel upset, or I feel down when I do worksheets in the class because it is crowded or we also ask for the suggestions about the class activity the class situation and sometimes also the students feel the level that they are in hard for them because they haven't learned about this yes at school so they got it a new was for them, it is a new for them so they like to complain about that and they are students like that, and they are so the students whose have not studied about that yet, about the level yet lesson at school but they enjoyed it, and they got they all say they like to study English. One the intention students like that” (teacher)

In her perception, what the students like to tell in class mostly about what's students feel in class such as they feel upset or angry or the crowded of the class, or when students got difficulties when doing worksheet faced problem at home or school. The students also getting stuck in their learning because they never study about it before at school because they are beyond their level for example when students in Junior high school in their school must study about grammar or tenses but at Kumon they study about essay and long story but the students keep enjoy study because they love English, even if they got stuck and hard questions but like English, they will enjoy to study and happy.

In this finding, the researcher can conclude that there are some ways that students do to develop their ability in autonomous learning, there are practice every day, they start to study in the early age, they also can analyse what is going on in the learning, they can formulate their own learning objectives, having support from the people around them. The findings data is not capable enough to say that the autonomous learning that students do in Kumon Institute of Education is not autonomous learning. The explanation will be discussed later on the discussion.

4.1.2. What are the factors that influence students' autonomous learning at Kumon Institution of Education?

In this factor useful to know the reason that affect students in autonomous learning. The factors will be explained by 2 factors, because they love English as the subject of study and because of their dream in the future.

English as the foreign language in Indonesia, but the students here study English as early as possible so that is why they already got closer with English subject. Here the first factor affecting students in autonomous learning is because **They love English.**

Based on the data was collected by through interview with the participants, they said that they love to study English as their favourite subject at school or as general. It is good for them to keep study for something that made them interest in study. The student one mentioned:

“I like it. Because, actually it is really fun, even though the grammar is hard. I do not have group, but actually I have friends and we like to talk in English” (P.1)

The expression which stated by student one actually is good for students also as good reason to study based on what they wanted. They like to study English even though English is hard, they will do it because they like it and they enjoy doing it. She also added the reason why she likes it and the difficulty thing in English. She thinks that English is interesting for her, and she likes to study English at school or at Kumon and even to practise with her friends to talk about something funny or in discussion.

In study English they feel English really help them to increase their ability in English even their score in school is increased. The researcher asked the participant one about is Kumon helps you to increase your English better and they answer yes which stated by student one, she said:

“It really helps me lots” (P.1).

Student one uttered that by learning English in independent, she could improve her scores at school especially in English subject because she already studied about senior high school level which is can help her easy to understand about the material at junior high school.

The student three also added that her English score at school little bit increase. She mentioned:

“Slightly increased my grades. I actually I have 4 awards” (P.3)

Form her statement, her grades not really increase much, but she got many the awards and almost every year she has it because she can pass beyond her level. If we see the table in chapter 2 about the achievement in Kumon, she is junior high school student with material about tenses and grammar but she doing the senior high school or college level.

The last factor that influenced students in autonomous learning is because of their *motivations* for the future. In study English, they have big dream in the future that they think to get their dream, they have to study English start now on. It is mentioned by student one:

“Because English is important so we can study, if we want to study college in abroad it can be easy” (P.1)

She uttered the important thing to study based on her opinion and the reason why she studied English hard because she wants to continue to study abroad and she thinks that it necessary to have skill in English to make it easy for communication and understand the material. She also stated that she wants to

continue and having high education by studying in overseas but she must study English first because English is and international English and the test available in English too. In international university, or if people want to study or manage the documents or requirements, the language is English or translate into English because English is the international language that people use to communicate or others.

Similarly, the participant three told the same reason why she studies English.

It is stated in:

“Because if I want to go college in the future, I definitely need English” (P.3)

She uttered that she wants to study abroad as the college student in the future, in her opinion, English is must and she has to pass and study English if she wants to go to abroad. In the university the subjects or international university has the international language and it is English, so that is why she thought English is the basic skill that she has to master on it.

Here in after, the participant two has other **dream about her job or dream** career in the future so that is why she studies English even as independent. She stated:

“My motivation in learning English is I want to be able to speak English properly and correctly, besides that I also want to support my career in modelling and acting, and I really want to achieve my dream of becoming a dentist” (P.2)

The student three told that the reason why she studies English, because she wants to speak as good as possible to help her develop her potential in modelling job now. Based on preliminary observation, she is a model and got many awards as model and someday she wants to get more achievements in modelling such as become ambassador or Putri Indonesia and so that is why she studies English hard because she thinks that she must be master in English as a tool to communicate with other audiences, reviewers or as international. She also wants to be a dentist in the future and she argues to study English because in medical study there is lot of English words that she must know or use.

The researcher also will discuss about the findings in the discussion section and relate or contradictory to the theories about the topics which are the autonomous learning and the factors affecting them in autonomous learning.

4.2. Discussion of the Research

After having presented the finding of the research, the researcher now to discuss the research discussion. The findings previously described, here the researcher continues the discussion as material to be discussed based on the research questions.

4.2.1. How does the autonomous learning method develop students' English ability at Kumon Institution of Education?

Learning requires a lot of effort, but choosing a learning style in order to be able to have and develop knowledge properly is a contribution of learning content.

Autonomous what the researcher observed here is about that course builds a consistent basis of independent that student must do so that it can become a habit of autonomous or really useful when they get difficulties in the future (Kumon Institute of Education, 2023). Researcher also found in other country such as Kumon in Australia said that they describe same definition about self-learning and independent learning.

Kumon promotes students to study independently through learning programs that they arrange themselves, it is stated in the way they carry out learning patterns for students to be independent from start when students' entering the class to finish and going home and all of this aims to make students become independent doing everything in a disciplined and regular schedule. Students do the procedures regarding how to study there and do the stages without realizing it (the habit forms) until finally at that moment the students are doing the autonomous itself and it seems that the promoting appropriate forms of learner autonomy is necessary if the majority of students do not get bored in the struggle to study English (Lamb, 2004). The theory is supported by students' statement during interviews who said that they are happy studying English at Kumon because of the different system that they do not find in other, they have to do their homework, read their homework, listen to audio every day so they can continue to maintain the consistency of their learning so they don't lose their ability.

According to the theories from Dickinson (1993) that the researcher put in chapter related of literature about the concepts in autonomous language learning, researcher found some of what was listed regarding autonomy applied by students

at Kumon and researcher found other things as well. In the class of their course, the students obey in every stage, which they have to follow such as in the students' worksheet, the students are required to identify answers based on existing examples or instructions (so that when they are used to do that, it becomes habit for students to continue practicing like that and becomes ability).

The other concepts are about the formulating their own learning objectives and selecting and implementing appropriate learning. The students will study or speak English with their teachers and friends, they will focus to read and watch TV to get other information. The pupils did it because they had a partner to study with, the students also keep practising to their friends, as well as the learning media that they used as a reference to study and increase the skill in English by some devices to get their own objectives in learning, such as watching tv, use smartphones and YouTube to practise English. This discussion relate to the finding from previous study Prawestri (2012) it said that the media that students do such as from the audio that the students used is good to help students in their study.

The last concept is about monitoring the effectiveness their strategy. Students found the hard point or grammar which they do not understand and try to find another way and based on the interview, the subjects try to focus, looking for the answer by themselves, even though they spend much time and if they are stuck and feel ambiguity, they ask the assistants.

Interestingly, according to Benson (2001) he says that those who engage in independent learning are shaped and driven by the motivation to learn (just as the

subjects involved are supported and motivated from various directions to realize their dreams). The motivation that students have are about their future and the good effect of their career. For example, the second and third student want to study abroad, got the good score of English, and the second student wants to be a dentist and wants to support his career as a model in the realm of entertainment. Many ways that parents do for their children, such as the support, motivation and helping the kids' problems on learning. Lastly, the core and main point of autonomous are about students have to take control of their own learning, at the end, all the essence and goals of students learning autonomously are to be active, independent and responsible in all learning decisions.

In autonomous learning, students should have several criteria to be called autonomous learning. In this discussion, researcher focuses on how does the autonomous can develop students' English ability. The data stated that what students do cannot be said to be autonomous. But, what Kumon does in order to help students to be autonomous by Promoting Autonomous Learning with their system in class.

In Promoting Autonomous Learning in Asia, the students already have the fundamental to do the self-study. If we consider where the autonomous style comes, it is really different with the West learner style in learning. They are used to doing it from childhood because of the school system and the environment.

4.2.2. What are the factors that influence students' autonomous learning at Kumon Institution of Education?

There are factors that affect students in learn independently. Here is the data what the researcher got from the interview with the students. In chapter about literature review, the research quotes the sentences from Littlewood (1999) and Irfan (2020).

Students have their own learning factors, from several statements the most significant is about students' self-concept when learning which becomes a habit for students, namely they are used to learning until the concept is already attached to them. According to the teaching assistant there, Kumon students are given homework every day with the aim that if they practice every day, they will continue to hone their abilities so that the dexterity that has been formed does not decrease.

The other factors which are from external, all research subjects have the same motivation and encouragement, namely their parents, family and teachers who always give them. Encouragement from parents, for example, they said that they were given support to study diligently and given direction for their learning, in addition to subject 1, namely he received additional instructions from his older sister if he had difficulty learning.

Additional external factor about motivation dan encouragement of students learning comes from their teacher, the teaching assistant stated that the instructors there provided feedback on what students had learned, including if students found difficulties in learning, whether it was the assignments they were working on,

student grades, ability to adjust progress, as well as student conditions such as learning attitudes, tired or upset and the state of the class is noisy so you cannot focus on studying.

Referring to the data, Kumon encourages students to help them learn autonomously, with the hope that when students get used to following the rules are given by Kumon, get used to the responsibilities they have by doing homework every day, listening audio, and focus while studying, the students will get used to doing things like that to be applied in other learning or when students do not study in that place (completer), they will continue to do the independent learning patterns that they have experienced. This is supported by the recognition of students who have completed studying at Kumon and are still continuing their studies at school or higher education that this learning method has helped them.