

The role of mother tongue in enhancing maritime environment education awareness in Indonesia

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Abstract. In this research, the term "maritime" describes issues related to the relationships and activities between humans and the sea. A country with a major maritime region, like Indonesia, can also be referred to as maritime. This serves as an idea of a starting point for a nation seeking for ways to improve its marine education. However, students find it difficult to understand the material due to the use of foreign language that they don't understand. In order to increase student knowledge and interest, the researcher offers the use of mother tongue. For this study, researcher conduct qualitative research. 25 students from University Maritim Raja Ali Haji (UMRAH) participate in responding the questionnaire. The data indicates that people strongly agree using their mother language is a good way to raise awareness in the maritime environment. Because, it can facilitate their understanding of the subject during the learning process. Besides, students' motivation in studying maritime education is also greatly influenced by their mother tongue. When teachers utilize their mother tongue fluently and avoid complicating things, students have an easier time processing the material and their enthusiasm in studying about maritime will also rise.

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1 introduction

Indonesia offers a wide range of maritime education. Therefore, education plays an important part in maintaining the quality of marine their knowledge. This could be the result of a number of factors, including technological advancements, economic expansion, and innovative marine business plans aimed at attract young individuals [1]. Even though, students may gain strongly from maritime education. The educational sector is still not making good use of maritime education. This is caused by students' perceptions that the educational materials use a greater amount of foreign language, their lack of interest in paying attention to what is happening in their local coastal environment, and their lack of ability to fully understand maritime lessons. Using mother tongue is one way that the researcher discovered to seem suitable for getting over these challenges.

Mother tongue is the first language we are given when we are born, and it is a language that is used for communication in every nation. An individual's cultural and personal identities are shaped by their mother tongue. This is shaped by how they view themselves, their surroundings, and their history. As a result, their mother tongue serves as the link between them and their family, culture, and identity. Moreover, it provides a solid foundation for learning more languages. Young children are capable of learning multiple languages. Therefore, having a strong foundation in their mother tongue will enable them to pick up new languages [2]. The use of technology in the twenty-first century can aid students in understanding a great deal of material that is available online and speed up their learning process. This is because, unintentionally, there are already educational resources available online that are written in the students' mother tongue, making them already easier to understand.

The term "maritime" describes issues related to the relationships and activities between humans and the sea. For Instance, marine business and trade, shipping, cruise ships, coastal resorts, etc. A country with a major maritime region, like Indonesia, can also be referred to as maritime. This serves as an idea of a starting point for a nation seeking for ways to improve its marine knowledge. In modern era, Technology is developing quickly and is already very advanced. To use current technology, an individual, nevertheless, possess high levels of expertise and understanding. As a result, education is crucial to enhancing a person's qualities. Education institutions' goal is to prepare students not just for their needs of the present but also for the challenges of the future [3]. In order to improve students teaching and learning strategies, students must embrace new programs and recognize the advantages of IT technology. They also need to fully understand the impact of digitalization on industry. But students find it difficult to understand the material due to the use of foreign language that they don't understand. In order to increase student knowledge and interest, the researcher offers the use of mother tongue.

As an integral part of intellectual ability, mother tongue development is crucial. Children gain benefit from communicating their mother tongue, which is the language they learn from birth and which improves in their moral, mental, and emotional development. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) stated in 2002 that children's native language plays a vital part in their intellectual development and that educating them in that language will boost their IQ [4]. Therefore, mother tongue has a central role in education that demands cognitive development. The use of the mother tongue correctly and effectively can support this vital role. The first researcher, investigated research on mother tongue and explained that the goal of teaching in the mother tongue, is to improve students understanding of every subject taught in the classroom [5]. Another researcher, also reviewed that, some declare mother tongue teaching is unnecessary in foreign language programs, while others believe that mother tongue teaching contributes

positively to the ongoing process of learning [6]. The next researcher focused more on exploring the viewpoint of the learners. At the lowest English proficiency level, students belong to the beginner and intermediate groups claimed that their mother tongue aided them in understanding instructions, giving context for new vocabulary, and recognizing similarities and differences between English pronunciation and idioms. But advanced students want to avoid speaking in their mother tongue in order to maximize their skill improvement [7]. For this reason, the last researcher focused on the students' opinion about teachers use mother tongue in classroom. The study presents a positive view of the students regarding the use of the teachers' mother tongue English as in a foreign language class. Afterwards, students hope that teachers will be able to give lessons using mix language. Because it can aid pupils in learning a new vocabulary, they are unfamiliar with and clarify grammar-related information [8]. Even though, only a tiny percentage of the studies that have been examined by earlier studies. The researcher expects that by having students use their mother tongue, they will become more knowledgeable and conscious of the maritime environment.

2 METHOD

The research was made using a descriptive qualitative research method. Because students have different opinion, researchers utilize qualitative research method as a collective tool. The process of conducting qualitative research consist of gathering, evaluating, and interpreting data that isn't numerical. Each person's environment, interactions with others, habits, attitudes, and experiences are all tied to the data. Researchers selected this strategy to enhance their understanding of "The role of mother tongue in enhancing maritime environment education awareness in Indonesia" so that their findings might address the issues they looked at and improve the understanding of the studies conducted by other researchers [9]-[10]. Twenty-five English language education majors from the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education at Universitas Raja Ali Haji (UMRAH) were chosen as the target respondents. The researcher asked the respondent to answer a questionnaire. Twenty questions were included in the questionnaire, which was made in Google Form and sent to the respondent online. Due to the lack of offline data collection options, the researcher used this instrument.

3 Result and Discussion

Based on the result were obtained. The respondents were willing to complete our questionnaire. The researcher could obtain a wide range of responses. Five questions were chosen by the researcher to serve as the foundation for the analysis in this research:

Diagram 1. The use of mother tongue can improve students' understanding Maritime Environment.

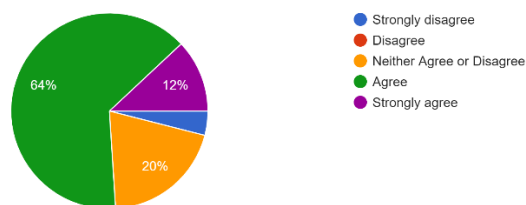


Diagram 2. Mother tongue has an influence on students' interest in learning about maritime Environment.

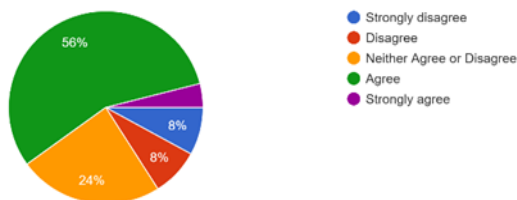


Diagram 3. Learning maritime is essential to raise students' awareness of the coastal environment.

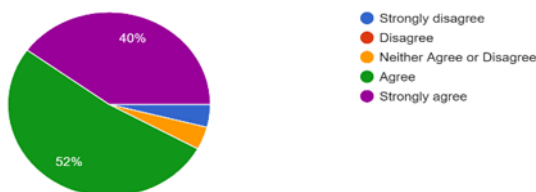


Diagram 4. Mother tongue has a role in improving the teaching materials provided by lecturers.

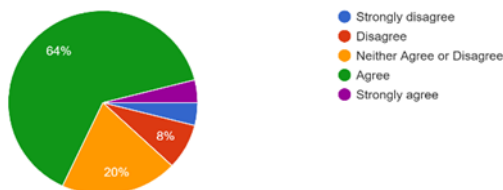
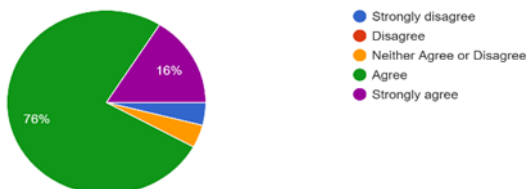


Diagram 5. Students find it easier to learn when using their mother tongue



Our data indicates that people agree using their mother language because it can facilitate their understanding of the subject during the learning process. It is essential to apply mother tongue as the language of education for maritime understanding. It will be challenging for students to try and understand material when using a different language, given that maritime education is extremely complicated and requires thorough research. The ability to speak is crucial for maintaining the environment of maritime education and keeping the process of learning about the maritime in the same context.

Students' motivation in studying maritime education is also greatly influenced by their mother tongue. Since maritime education is a tough subject to study, having a teacher speak in a language other than the students' native tongue, can limit their ability to understand the material.

The purpose of having mother tongue in the classroom is to increase the students' interest in learning marine education by making the lesson easier to understand both in terms of the learning context and the meaning of the word "maritime".

When teachers utilize their mother tongue fluently and avoid complicating things, students have an easier time processing the material and their enthusiasm in studying about maritime will also rise. Students' motivation will rise in line with their increased interest when they see their teacher as an effective motivator. There'll be more students overall. The growth of students' interest in learning is directly tied to the role of teachers as motivators in raising motivation [11]. Besides, Students must understand the importance of protecting the coastal environment, especially for people who live near the ocean. Furthermore, the coastline regions of Indonesia are extremely vast. For those who live near the coast, maintaining the marine environment is crucial, which is why maritime learning education is vital. Providing information about the value of preserving the coastal environment is not the only aspect of community education. However, for the community to comprehend the significance of their living environment, they must possess a fundamental understanding of maritime. However, the community has to be familiar with the basics of maritime education to better comprehend how important it is to protect their living environment.

In order to raise public awareness of the coastal environment, maritime education must also be understood by coastal communities. To achieve this, learning can be supported by using the mother tongue when delivering maritime education. Students usually understand texts and materials quicker when lecturers speak to them in their mother tongue. Students are better able to communicate their ideas and thoughts in their mother tongue. It is necessary to take part in community service projects, such as educating the public about the preservation of coastal areas to raise awareness of the need to protect the environment in general and coastal areas in particular [12]. The way the student can help the coastal communities by following the campus program such as KKN which Students voluntary work to educating coastal residents about preservation and developing public awareness to save the marine environment. Since, students are more comfortable at expressing concerns, questions, and arguments, which helps encourage more productive class discussions.

Mother tongue facilitates clearer communication. When asking questions or solving difficulties, students are usually more explicit, which enables lecturers to respond with more relevant details. The use of mother language, particularly in the early grades, improves students' achievement of learning goals or outcomes. Mother tongue is seen to play a critical role in promoting equality in education and learning, and it can serve as a bridge to facilitate direct instruction between teachers and students [13]. Besides, Students feel more at ease and self-assured in a setting where they are understood and their motivation increase when their mother tongue is used. When teaching is given in their mother tongue, students typically understand the subject better. Therefore, student will have a higher chance for understanding and recalling the information.

Students' mother tongues also convey their identities and cultures. They are likely to feel more a part of the learning material when their language and culture are respected. Students who speak in their mother tongue have an easier time understanding what they are studying. Mother tongues play a big part in helping students develop both academically and non-academically, which is particularly important in the subject of maritime education. Mother tongue makes communication activities easier, making it simple to communicate concepts related to maritime to students who are unfamiliar with them.

In summary, the majority of the respondents that we surveyed believed that learning mother tongue is a good way to raise awareness in the maritime environment. The respondents said that using mother tongue is excellent since it is very understandable and simple. Learning mother tongue is crucial since, in this day and age, it is often used to explain concepts that people do not understand because it is written in a foreign language. This can lead to misunderstandings about the knowledge that has been absorbed. As a result, respondents agreed that using mother language is the initial step towards increasing public awareness of the importance of the maritime environment.

4 Conclusion

In conclusion, maritime education can be very beneficial to students. Thus, using mother tongue as a primary language of instruction is crucial for fostering knowledge of marine education. The development of mother tongue is essential as it is a component of intellectual capacity. Learning mother tongue is a good approach to improve awareness in the maritime environment. Not only it is easier to understand, but also it is simpler to comprehend the material they are studying. Nowadays, learning a mother tongue is essential because it is frequently used to clarify ideas that others find difficult to understand due to written in a foreign language.

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