The Affects of Academic Controversy Method on Students' Speaking Skills

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed at investigating the effect of Structured Academic Controversy (SAC) on students speaking skill. Academic Controversy is a cooperative learning activity that leads students to argue different sides of an issue. Academic controversy is learning to take a position and defend it with reason is an essential skill in democratic society. The method involves a cooperative form of debate in which groups of four, divided into two groups, take turns representing two opposing views on an issue before attempting to reach a consensus on the issue. Students work in pairs to become familiar with one side of an issue, and then debate with another pair who has become familiar with the opposing side. Pairs then switch "sides," become familiar with the opposing argument, and debate again. Finally, the two pairs come together to discuss the strengths and weakness of each side of the argument, come to a consensus about their collective opinion about the argument, and present that idea to the other quads. Finally, one other cooperative learning principle that can inform the use of Academic Controversy is 'cooperation as a value'. Academic controversy method canimprove students' speaking skill, by academic controversy, the students will be taught step by step to argue . The teacher can apply Academic controversy method to overcome the students' speaking skill.

1. Introduction

In international relationship, English is also one of language which has an important part for most people around the world. English is very important to learn because it is very needed as the medium of communication. Students need to know four skill and the students also should master of speaking because it is one of the most important elements in the four of language. Speaking is the most complex of linguistic skills, since it involves thinking of what is to be said while saying what has been taught. Speaking is also one of the productive activities in daily life and the most important language skill because it is the main skill needed to carry out a conversation. . The students should be able to speak by natural way, the students can give those drills in basic pattern of language. The students should be able to ask short questions and use of short dialogues in the classroom. By mastering speaking English, The Students can prepare themselves to gain more challenge for applying better job, enrolling competitive university or participating in international communities.

In addition for real situation, the expectation of Speaking with the real situation is not suitable, because there are so many problems that are obviously met by a learner in speaking English such as in the term of vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation and etc. Most of students have problem in studying English is that students' interest the material, they often face the difficulties in communicating with others. Speaking activities do not work in class because many factors prevent students from speaking English with their friends. They are afraid of making mistakes, the students afraid of being laughed by his or her friends and the students are lack of confidence. The students also think that learning English is not easy, the students lack of vocabularies to talk what they are going to say, the students are not able to speak because they just learned about tenses from their lecturer previously, some of students are not confident in speaking English, this perhaps are caused by lack of motivation related to the engagement during speaking session and it doesn't give anything to their improvement.

Based on those problems of speaking skill which has explained above, the writer is going to use the methods of teaching to enhance the students' speaking skill. By using Academic Controversy expected the students are able to communicate in English. These methods can find the activities that can make students more confidence of speaking English. Based on the background above, the writer would like to do a research about **"The Affects of Academic Controversy Method on students' speaking skills of the first semester students of Universal Flight Indonesia.** The writer proposes the title to overcome the problem of students' speaking skill on the first semester student airline staff in universal flight Medan

By speaking, the students will be active in learning process because the students interact with their friends or teacher directly. Speaking is crucial part in teaching and learning English as foreign language. The teacher requires to help the students to pronounce new language accurately in teaching speaking. Teaching speaking is needed to help the students in achieving communicative skill. There are so many methods for teaching and learnin speaking skills. Crawford, et all (2005:54-97) explained that there are some methods of teaching

language as a cooperative learning, such as, jigsaw, debates, Discussion web, silent way, community agreements, walk arount talk around method, Academic Controversy and so on..

Academic Controversy

Academic Controversy is a cooperative learning activity that leads students to argue different sides of an issue. Academic controversy is learning to take a position and defend it with reason is an essential skill in democratic society. In academic controversy is a learning to entertain arguments that are contrary to one's own belief is an important step toward sound consideration of an issue and informed decision making. Academic Controversy gives students the support of a group while they practice skills of critical thinking (Crawford, et al 2005:62).

Academic Controversy also known as Cooperative Controversy and Structured Academic Controversy, that has potential for use in intercultural education and has support in both research and theory. Briefly, The method involves a cooperative form of debate in which groups of four, divided into twosomes, take turns representing two opposing views on an issue before attempting to reach a consensus on the issue. Finally, one other cooperative learning principle that can inform the use of Academic Controversy is 'cooperation as a value'. The concept involves students seeing cooperation, rather than competition or individualism, as the first option in their dealings with others. Thus, cooperation as a value attempts to spread the feeling of positive interdependence beyond the small group to the entire class, beyond the class to the school/educational institution and so on until positive interdependence embraces other countries and species. One means of infusing cooperation as a value in Academic Controversy might be to move beyond talking about the issue being debated. In addition, students also discuss how they – alone, with peers and with others.

The advantages of Academic Controversy Method

There are some advantages of the Academic Controversy in small group, they are six of those reasons for employing controversies to promote learning are explained below:

1. the students are more thinking to speak,
2. the students enhanced intrinsic motivation,
3. some of students more cooperation for studying
4. the students increased tolerance for ambiguity,
5. the students more incorporation of new perspectives and deeper cognitive processing.

6. encourage active learning rather than passive listening
7. gives opportunity to students to talk and express their idea or argumentation in group.
8. Learning can be done space dimension. In the process of learning cell, learning is done in pairs or in groups it can be done anywhere.
9. Learning can be done in time dimension. There is time limit for this type of learning. Students who are paired can discuss and draw their conclusions and share it with others in their time. But it has to be monitored.
10. Academic Controversy can be adapted in informal learning environment also

Methodology of research :

This an experimental research the research do the test and tretment and get the score after the post test done to the srudent

Data Analysis
The Steps of Academic Controversy Method
Academic controversy is a cooperative learning activity that leads students to argue different sides of an isue. Learning to take a position and defend it with reason is an essential skill in a democratic society. Learning by academic controvery to entertain arguments and gives students the support of a group while they practice these skills or critical thinking (Crawford, et al 2005:64). there are some steps of Academic Controversy Method in teaching, they are :

Table 2.1 The Steps of Academic Controversy Method

Teacher	Students
1.the teacher assigns the students to groups of four	1. the students starts to find their group
2.the teacher gives them a question to discuss	2.the students asks the question from the teacher
3.the teacher has the students discuss the question in groups of four	3.the students reach a common understanding of what the questions means and why it matters.
4.then the students count off in the group 1,2,3,4.	4. the students count by theirselves
5.the teacher tells to them number 1 and 2 should prepare to argue for the point of view that yes, we should. And number 4 and 5 should argue no , we shouldn't	5.students try to prepare their answer
6.the teacher tells both pairs within each group to go off by themselves and spend five minutes listing reasons to support their position	6. thestudents starts to list rthe reasons for supporting their position.
7.after 5 minutes, the teacher calls time, the teacher tells each student with a number 1 or 2 go find a different student with a numner 1 or 2. Those with number 3 or 4 should find a different partner with number 3 or 4. In 3 minutes, they should hear their partner's reasons .	8. students start to find their partner related to the number 1 or 2 and 3 or 4 and listens thei partener's reason
8.the teacher calls time again, the teacher has the students return to their original partners and pool their ideas.	8.Each pair of student should now think of the best reason to support their position and prepare to debate the other pair within their group of four. In order to debate. Students should come u[with a sentence stating their position and two or three good reasons for their position.

9.after five minutes more the teacher tells the pairs to join the other pairs in their grou and join the debate. In order to debate,, one side states in position with reason for it. The teacher lets them to debate go on for 7 minutes or 7 minutes.	9.the students debates each other's reason and conclusions.
10.the teacher now call on a member of each group to give a statement of the group's conclusions from their debate	10.the students speak in the class to give their statement of the group's conclusion.

4. Conclusion

Structured Controversy and Structured Academic Controversy, that has potential for use in education and other areas, and has support in both research and theory. Academic Controversy is viewed through the lens of selected cooperative learning principles. Academic Controversy will improve the students' speaking skill. After the teacher applies academic controversy method, the students will be more thinking, enhanced intrinsic motivation, more cooperation, increased tolerance for ambiguity, more incorporation of new perspectives and deeper cognitive processing.

Thus, the writer was anxious to use Academic Controversy, as it maintains the educational benefits of controversy, while blending in the benefits of cooperation, in order to facilitate an environment that encourages everyone to take part, to learn, to support the learning of others and to address important issues. The supportive environment promoted by cooperative learning such as Academic Controversy makes it more likely that these issues can be addressed not just as academic topics to debate in class but also as real world matters that require real world action.

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