MEDICAL RECORDS VOCABULARIES: LEARNING STRATEGIES UNDERSTANDING

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ABSTRACT

Vocabulary is one of the supporting factors in the success of language learning. Developing the ability to communicate in English either in spoken or written form includes listening, speaking, reading, and writing. One of the most important aspects of language learning is vocabulary. Understanding vocabulary is considered important in the process of language learning or the development of a person's ability in a controlled language. Not all vocabularies have the same meaning. All understanding will depend on the context.

Keywords*: learning, understanding, vocabulary, strategy, context.*

ABSTRAK

Kosakata merupakan salah satu faktor pendukung keberhasilan pembelajaran bahasa. Mengembangkan kemampuan berkomunikasi dalam bahasa Inggris baik lisan maupun tertulis meliputi mendengarkan, berbicara, membaca, dan menulis. Salah satu aspek terpenting dalam pembelajaran bahasa adalah kosakata. Pemahaman kosakata dianggap penting dalam proses pembelajaran bahasa atau pengembangan kemampuan seseorang dalam bahasa yang terkontrol. Tidak semua kosakata memiliki arti yang sama. Semua pemahaman akan tergantung pada konteksnya.

Kata Kunci: pembelajaran, pemahaman, kosakata, strategi, konteks.

A. INTRODUCTION

The most important and crucial in every language is the vocabulary. In communication, especially in verbal communication, the word is the unsure which should be use for speakers. We can combine the word into phrase, clause, sentence, and paragraph grammatically. The sentence will create an idea. So, vocabulary is an unsure that is important in communication.

Vocabulary learning strategy is the language learning strategy than can be defined as "Specific action taken by the learners to make learning easier, faster, more enjoyable, more self-directed, more effective, and more transferable to new situations." (Oxford, 1990:8).

According to Fank and Lewis (1974:4), the vocabularies are the parameter to measure the person's intelligence. Language is a system that has a pattern. Understanding the vocabularies are the good concept for learners for the first. All learners have many obstacles for understanding word by word in English text or conversation. It is because those learners have vocabularies yet to support their English. In the other hand, the English learners sometimes forget about the context for understanding English text and conversation.

The shortcut for this problem, the learners can take and open the

dictionary for knowing the meaning of each word, but it will take their time. For avoiding this situation, the learners have to know about the learning strategies especially in vocabulary problem.

B. THE IMPORTANCE OF VOCABULARY

There are so many words in our environment with different context. McManis (1998:197) "What is context: is it simply the reality which fills in meaningful details by a theory such as the invariant core theory? No, it is not. Context can be divided into four subparts of which reality is but the first." The exposure in using all words give the understanding the new vocabulary meaning. According to Cameron (2001:47) learning the new words is not the simple way. Learning vocabulary is not only about the words but also the meaning of phrase in different context. Any learners of a foreign language know very well that words are essential and lack of them leads to difficulties in communication situation. It is generally accepted that vocabulary is the heart in learning a foreign language, but the acquisition of the large numbers of vocabulary items may be one of the most difficult aspects of learning a foreign language for most foreign learners.

The learners have to focus in context. Context used have placed considerable emphasis on the value of reading and the importance of context in the learning of world meaning. The learners actually do the most of their learning of new vocabulary independently, it makes sense to encourage them to adopt personal plans to make large their vocabularies overtime.

Using vocabulary strategies has revealed differences among learners in terms of their strategy use. The successful vocabulary learners were found to be active strategy users who were found to be active strategy users who were conscious of their learning and took steps to regulate it, whereas poor learners displayed little awareness of how to learn new words or how to connect new words to the knowledge.

The importance of vocabulary as a very essential unsure of any language as well as the core point of language and communication learning. Richards et all (1992:406) defines that vocabulary as a set of lexemes which includes single words, compound words, and idioms. Vocabulary concerns not only in simple words in all their aspect but also complex and compound words as well as the meaningful units of language. Vocabulary often seems to be the least systematized and the least well-catered for of all the aspects of learning a foreign language for example the listening, speaking, reading, writing, grammar, or pronunciation.

The grammatical or other type of linguistics knowledge can be employed in communication or discourse without the meditation of vocabulary because vocabulary is shown to focus much more than knowledge or single words.

Hedge (2000:110) affirms that there is a lack of attention to vocabulary. Since vocabulary learning is a part of language, it is worth mentioning in the present

investigation that strategies should be indispensable parts of vocabulary learning. In learning vocabulary items, it is useful in order that they can learn how to discover them by practicing and expanding their vocabulary. The meaning of vocabulary depends on the context absolutely, for example:

(1). _Cancer_ is her zodiac.
(2). There are many different options when it comes to treating _cancer._

According to these sentences, there are different meaning in 'cancer'. In the first sentence 'cancer' is a name of zodiac in astrology for someone who born in June to July. In the second sentence, the 'cancer' is a medical term that is disease caused by the uncontrollable growth of cells.
(3). Megan Fox is a _cast_ of Transformer movie.
(4). My leg was is a _cast_ for graduation.

With the same word 'cast' for these sentences, it still has a different meaning. The 'cast' in the first sentence is the actress who act in a movie. In the second sentence the 'cast' is one of the medical terms that is a hard bandage that is wrapped around a broken bone to keep it in place.
(5). _Sting_ will perform in the biggest concert tonight.
(6). It may _sting_ when I insert the needle.

'Sting' in the first sentence is the name of singer and in the second sentence 'sting' is sharp and temporary pain for medical vocabulary.

These examples of the sentences and conversations prove that vocabulary learning is not a simple matter, and in recent years, there is a renewed interest in the role of vocabulary in English as a second language. Be careful with the words especially for learners who are in medical field. Generally accepted that vocabulary is the heart of language learning. Rubin and Thompson (1994:79) point out, "One cannot speak, understand, read or write a foreign language without knowing a lot of words. Therefore, vocabulary learning is at the heart of mastering a foreign language." Moreover, Taylor (1992:30) states that "Vocabulary permeates everything language learners or language teachers do in an English class, whichever skill or language point is being practiced."

Understanding any foreign language is impossible without knowing words whether in the spoken or the written forms, Hall (2000:43). The language learners with large and rich vocabulary are believed to improve their listening, reading, speaking, writing, and thinking abilities. That says, vocabulary is a key indicator of language learners.

THE VOCABULARY STRATEGIES

Here are some strategies for learning vocabulary:

1. Contextualisation
   This means putting new vocabulary words in to sentences to hep you remember them and to test if you are using them correctly. You can use these sentences when talking to an English

speaker to see if they understand.

2. *Elaboration*
   This means relating new information to information you already know. For example, if you know the meaning of information, it is easy to remember that the verb is to inform, and that informative is an adjective, and that an informant is someone who gives information.

3. *Inferencing*
   This means using available information to predict or guess the meaning of; for example: new vocabulary items, if you know that you are reading about football and you know that a field is often a large area covered in grasss, than you can guess that a footbal field is a large, grassy area for playing football.

4. *Translation*
   You can read a story in a newspaper in your own language first, then read the same story in an English newspaper. Most of the story will probably be the same, so the story in your own language will help you to preoare for reading in English. For example, it will give you vocabulary and when you read the English story and there is some vocabulaties that you do not know, then you can use your knowledge og the story to guess what the new vocabulary meaning.

5. *Personalisation*
   You can write down the vocabulary item, for example word or phrase are important for you, where you first saw it, and when you used it, for example you may have heard that item in a movie you liked and used the item when you talked about the movie with your friends.

6. *Keeping your own dictionary*
   Writing entries for the dictionary will help you to learn words and using your own dictionary can be faster than a normal dictionary.

7. *Grouping*
   You can group words into different areas, such as words in the different courses you study. For example for medical students can group the vocabulary into:
   - *Computing term vocabulary*
   - *Software/Hardware system vocabulary*
   - *Program vocabulary*
   - *Computing equipment vocabulary*

8. *Practise, practice, practice*
   Learning a word will not help you very much if you promptly forget it. Research shows that it takes from ten to twenty repititions to really make a word part of your vocabulary. It helps to write the word both the definition and a sentence you make up using the wird perhaps on an index that can later be reviewed. As soon as you can learn a new word, start using it. Review your index

periodecally to see if you have forgotten any your new words.

These are the learning strategies that can adopt for learning vocabulary. A limited vocabulary keeps the ideas and feeling from expressing the learners thought and feelings. On the other hand, a large number and rich vocabulary give the learners the right words to use at the right time. Both vocabulary and grammar are essential but when we compared vocabulary and grammar, vocabulary is much more important and should receive more attention than grammar.

Regarding vocabulary in communication, it is apparent that vocabulary is basic in learning to communicate effectively while listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The importance of vocabulary as being a basic for daily communication. If language learners do not recognize and understand the meanings of the key words used by those who address them, they will be unable to participate in the conversation, even if they know the morphology and syntax.

C. MEDICAL RECORDS VOCABULARY

Here are some examples of medical records vocabulary for English learners:

1. **Abrasion**: A cut or scrape that typically isn't serious.
2. **Abscess**: A tender, fluid-filled pocket that forms in tissue, usually due to infection.
3. **Acute**: Signifies a condition that begins abruptly and is sometimes severe, but the duration is short.
4. **Benign**: Not cancerous.
5. **Biopsy**: A small sample of tissue that's taken for testing.
6. **Chronic**: Signifies a recurring, persistent condition like <u>heart disease</u>.
7. **Contusion**: A bruise.
8. **Edema**: Swelling caused by fluid accumulation.
9. **Epidermis**: The outer layer of the skin.
10. **Fracture**: Broken bone or cartilage.
11. **Hypertension**: High blood pressure.
12. **Inpatient**: A patient who requires hospitalization.
13. **Intravenous**: Indicates medication or fluid that's delivered by vein.
14. **Malignant**: Indicates the presence of cancerous cells.
15. **Outpatient**: A patient who receives care without being admitted to a hospital.

MEDICAL PREFIXES AND SUFFIXES
Medical terminology follows the same structural rules all language does, including use of prefixes and suffixes. You likely know some of these from words outside the realm of medicine.

16. **A-, an-**: Lack of or without.
17. **Dys-**: Abnormal, difficult, or painful.
18. **-ectomy**: Surgical removal of something.

*19. **-itis**: Signifies inflammation.*
*20. **-lysis**: Decomposition, destruction, or breaking down.*
*21. **-ology**: The study of a particular concentration.*
*22. **-pathy**: Disease or disease process.*
*23. **Poly-**: Many.*
*24. **-plasty**: Surgical repair.*
*25. **Pseudo-**: False or deceptive, usually in regards to appearance.*
*26. **Retro-**: Behind or backward.*

M E D I C A L   R O O T   W O R D S
Some medical root words are intuitive simply based on your experiences. If you're an athletic person, for example, you probably know cardiovascular exercise is any activity that gets your heart rate pumping.

*27. **Cardi/o**: Related to the heart.*
*28. **Derm/a/o, dermat/o**: Pertaining to the skin.*
*29. **Encephal/o**: Related to the brain.*
*30. **My/o**: Related to muscle.*
*31. **Gastr/o**: Related to the stomach.*
*32. **Hemat/o**: Pertaining to blood.*
*33. **Oste/o**: Related to bone.*
*34. **Pulmon/o**: Refers to the lungs.*
*35. **Stasis**: Slowing or stopping the flow of a bodily fluid.*
M E D I C A L   A B B R E V I A T I O N S   A N D   A C R O N Y M S
There are many more medical acronyms and abbreviations than what's listed below. But unless you're planning to become a doctor or another type of provider, this condensed lineup should get you up to speed.

*36. **BMI**: Body mass index, a measure of body fat based on height and weight.*
*37. **BP**: Blood pressure.*
*38. **CPR**: Cardiopulmonary resuscitation, a life-saving technique that's also called mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.*
*39. **DNR**: Do not resuscitate, a medical order indicating providers should not perform CPR.*
*40. **ED/ER**: Emergency department or emergency room.*
*41. **EKG**: Electrocardiogram, a way of monitoring the heart and testing for problems.*
*42. **HR**: Heart rate, expressed as beats per minute.*
*43. **HDL-C**: High-density lipoprotein cholesterol, often called "good" cholesterol.*
*44. **LDL-C**: Low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, often called "bad" cholesterol.*
*45. **NICU**: Neonatal intensive care unit, a specialized unit that cares for premature infants.*
*46. **OR**: Operating room where surgeries are performed.*
*47. **Psych**: Refers to psychiatry or the psychiatric ward.*
*48. **PT**: Physical therapy, a type of treatment to help patients move and feel*

better.
49. Rx*: Prescription, usually for medication but can also signify another treatment.*
50. Stat*: Immediately.*

Source: *https://www.sgu.edu/blog/medical/medical-terms-abbreviations-and-acronyms/*

D. CONCLUSION

To summarize, vocabulary can be learned effectively both in context and isolation. The vocabulary learning is necessary for learning the core vocabulary basic and important vocabulary that is used and serves in most situation. Appropriate language learning strategies result in improved proficiency and greater self-confidence.

Language learners with a limited vocabulary are likely to be handicapped in the learning progress. That is a key indicator of both one's ability to learn language. Of all the language skills, it is widely acknowledged that vocabulary is a very important part in English learning that no one can communicate in any meaningful way without vocabulary.

The biggest component of any language course is vocabulary. A large and rich vocabulary give language learners the right words to use at the right time and also able to express their real thoughts, idea, and feeling. Expanding the vocabulary is one of the main goals of vocabulary learning strategy. The large vocabulary in medical especially will achieve success both inside and outside language ability.

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