# Project Based Learning (PBL) in English Drama Course: The Process and Its Impact on Students' Speaking Skill

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## ABSTRACT

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Project Based Learning (PBL) is a type of instruction whereby students spend a significant amount of time investigating and responding to a complex issue, problem, or challenge in order to learn knowledge and skills in the form of project. The objectives of this research were revealed the running process of PBL in English Drama course and investigated its impact on students' speaking skill. This research was mixed-methods research, a case study at English Education Department of Universitas Borneo Tarakan. One lecturer and one class of students who attended the English Drama course served as the research subjects. This research collected quantitative and qualitative data such as documents, observation, and test. This data was analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively through coding and statistical analysis paired t-test. The results showed that the running process including Investigation, Planning, Implementation, and Reflection. The paired t-test result showed that Sig. 0.000 < 0.05, PBL implementation significantly enhances students' speaking abilities in English drama performance.

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## I. Introduction

A model called "project-based learning" centers learning around projects [1]. Projects, according to him, are difficult assignments based on difficult questions or problems that require students to engage in design, problem-solving, decision-making, or investigative activities. They also give students the chance to work largely independently for extended periods of time and result in a realistic product or presentation. Thuan (2018) [2] highlights four key elements that should be present in proper PBL and which capture the fundamental ideas of PBL in light of the multiple definitions.

This definition accurately captures all of the key PBL characteristics, and it is used as the primary yardstick to determine if a given PBL has achieved its fundamental goals. Furthermore, Than & Chapman (2016) [3] note that PBL is primarily based on active students' approaches to their own learning and, like Coufalová, emphasize the need to distinguish PBL from the thematic lecture (TT) concept, which has some characteristics similar to PBL and is occasionally mislabeled as such but has a similar working style. While in the former the students' accountability, relationship to the activities, and actual participation are what matter, in the latter idea the activity originates from the instructor and is by them detailed, documented, regulated, and assessed. The primary distinction is that PBL takes students directly to the finished result whereas TT develops the concept into more general features. PBL and theme lectures can, however, be blended, and they frequently build upon one another. This opinion is shared by Yuliani and Lengkanawati (2017) [4], who also note that the integration of PBL, traditional education, and thematic teaching promotes the development of students' complex skills, knowledge, and personalities.

Despite the clear definition of PBL, there is universal agreement on its fundamental characteristics and the idea that PBL should only be viewed as a complement to and not a replacement for traditional teaching techniques [5]. The fundamental qualities of legitimate PBL content must be derived from the aforementioned definition and adhere to the following four guiding principles: (a) PBL originates from student needs and interests; it enables them to meet their need to acquire new experiences and take ownership of their work; (b) PBL is grounded in concrete and real-world situations so that it is not restricted to the school environment but can also involve parents and other members of the community where students live; c) PBL is interdisciplinary; d) PBL emphasizes student effort above all else; e) the final product of PBL produces a concrete product, and the process and results must be documented; f) PBL is typically carried out in groups; and g) PBL connects schools with their environment because it encourages the integration of schools into the larger community and real life [6].

Furthermore, according to Haines (1989) [7], PBL can be applied with kids of practically any proficiency level, age, and ability. Heines emphasizes that student-centered PBL is not a syllabicentered learning approach and that, once project work has begun, students should be in charge of all significant choices, including the ultimate product's nature, work techniques, and topic selection. Heines also makes the case that PBL fosters a cooperative rather than a competitive environment, which raises the chances of student achievement. In contrast to Patton (2012) [8], who lists three distinct fundamental features as the key to project success: implementation of public exhibitions, multiple drafts of the work, and peer critique, he views having a clearly defined and agreed-upon end product as being an essential feature of any project-based learning.

PBL can be categorized and categorized in a number of ways. It depends on a variety of elements, such as the students' age, academic level, and interests; time and space restrictions; or the teacher's qualifications and PBL experience. Only four categories of project work were distinguished by William Kilpatrick, the inventor of the project methodology, based on their goals. There are three types of projects: problem-based projects, which include solving intellectual challenges, construction and assessment projects, and drill-based projects, which focus on developing particular skills [2]. Who is the true proponent of the project is, in the opinion of Than and Chapman (2016) [3], the most crucial point of view in PBL. The issue is that the ideal starting point for any project is typically thought of as an impromptu project, also known as a project offered by the student himself. These projects have excellent motivational potential since they let students identify issues that are pertinent to their actual interests and guarantee their full participation, at least at the beginning of project work. However, there does not appear to be much place for the creation of such initiatives in the classroom, and Thuan (2018) [2] thinks that this may be because the right conditions—a climate of mutual trust, tolerance, and cooperation—have not been established there. However, there is a counterargument that asserts that despite the fact that modern students have some personal issues, they are accustomed to seeking solutions outside of the classroom.

Given the fundamental premise of PBL, the spontaneous project is actually the sole project that should be implemented; yet, in practice, teacher education mostly uses two separate beginning methods. They first choose a topic, outline it, gather all the necessary materials, and then present it to the students as a project. Alternately, if a topic or issue is brought up by the teacher, the pupils will accept it and, with the teacher's assistance, describe it. The former is regarded as a TT principle, whereas the latter still satisfies the fundamental tenets of PBL and its goals, according to Stoller (2006) [6], who makes a clear distinction between the two methods. Teachers must now select whether the project is their own or the students', and this is when PBL and TT begin to diverge in terms of goals, results, student motivation, teacher duties, and student demands as well as evaluation techniques. Since the first phase of PBL is typically one of the most important in the overall PBL technique, it will be covered in greater detail later along with other elements of the aforementioned typology.

The English Drama course is a compulsory subject that must be taken by sixth semester students of the Department of English Education, University of Borneo Tarakan. This course examines the use of English drama in relation to both literary works and stage productions. Included are (1) the idea, development, and history of drama; (2) the choice or design of costumes for dramatic performances; (3) the writing of drama scripts; (4) the concepts of literary elements in both scripts (literature) and theater (performances); (5) vocalization, casting, and make-up for stage performances, the identification and analysis of stage types; and (6) being in charge of staging plays by fusing all elements of drama from two dimensions.

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Dealing with the demands of translating theatrical texts from the page to the stage is a challenge for English drama teachers. The revised specification's emphasis on dramatic texts appears to harmonize the teaching of English Drama with that of its sibling subject, English. The opportunity to grasp narrative patterns and genres is just one of the many benefits of combining these two fields of study. A "play" can refer to both a playwright's written work and the staging of that work. The phrase "to play" also refers to the potential for anarchy and misrule in the minds of the spectators. The many theatrical genres are also a reflection of the sociopolitical and cultural trends of the day.

Worksheets that help students comprehend the vocabulary, form, stage direction, characters, and dialogue of dramatic texts should be used to frame exploration selections for performances. A thorough awareness of the staging's elements, including the utilization of space, production techniques, performance abilities, and interactions between actors and audience members, should also guide the employment of exploratory procedures. Characters, a narrative (or plot) plot, and a distinct theme are typically present in interesting stories. The skill of transitioning from the courtyard to the stage also involves combining numerous theatrical components to build tension and atmosphere.

#### II. Method

A deliberate blending of approaches is required in the data collecting, data analysis, and interpretation phases of mixed methods research. The key term here is "mixed," as data integration or linking at the proper point in the research process is a crucial component of the mixed methods approach. By seeing events from various angles and through various research lenses, purposeful data integration enables researchers to seek a more comprehensive understanding of their research terrain.

## Research Design

The design of this study is a case study [9] [10], and it was conducted at the English education department of the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education at the Institution of Borneo Tarakan, the only state university in the Malaysian border province of North Kalimantan.

The purpose of this study is to gather information to aid professors and students in the teaching and learning of English. By offering a more comprehensive look at how students and lecturers are responding to the usage of project-based learning, this study aims to illustrate its use. This study tries to clarify the project-based learning methodology used in English language learning, particularly in English drama courses. This study also aims to demonstrate how project-based learning can assist students develop their dramatic skills. This study's major goal is to collect various viewpoints on the use of project-based learning to the teaching and learning of English at the University of Borneo Tarakan's English Department.

# **Research Subject**

The participants in this study were the lecturer and the students from the English teaching program at the University of Borneo Tarakan's Faculty of Teacher Training and Education. By adopting purposive sampling and taking into account the objectivity of the research subjects' opinions and responses about the application of project-based learning in the study of English, one lecturer and one class of students who attended the English Drama course served as the study's subjects.

# Instruments

#### Tost

The test is used to determine if project-based learning is beneficial in raising the quality of English drama performance. Pre-test and post-test phases of the test were each administered separately. During the Mid-Semester Assessment (PTS), the test is given in the form of an understanding of the material related to English drama, and during the Final Semester Assessment, the exam is given in the form of performing in line with the script that has been created (PAS).

#### **Observation Sheet**

An instrument for gathering information through field observations is this observation sheet. This observation sheet is broken into two sections: activities for the students and activities for the teacher.

#### **Questionnaire Sheet**

The questionnaire is a document with a collection of questions that the respondent must complete in order to learn more about the actions, traits, attitudes, and beliefs of a group or organization.

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# **Data Analysis**

# Analysis of Quantitative Data

The results from the sample population were generalized through the use of quantitative data analysis. In this study, paired t-test statistics were used for the quantitative analysis, which aims to explain phenomena by gathering numerical data that is then evaluated using mathematically based methodologies. This is a way of gauging the success of project-based learning in English drama classes from a statistical standpoint using the test results.

# Analysis of Qualitative Data

Qualitative methods are used to describe human behavior as opposed to quantitative methods, which concentrate on measurement. With the shape and structure of antecedent-consequence forms, where the information gleaned from the outcomes of open-ended questions and observations is articulated in words in an oral mode with the purpose of comprehending people's thoughts and feelings and the reasons behind their decisions.

## III. Results and Discussion

# **Research Findings**

# Implementation of Project Based Learning (PBL) in the English Drama Course

There are 4 (four) stages carried out in the implementation of Project Based Learning (PBL) in the English Drama Course:

- 1. Investigation into Project Based Learning (PBL)
- 2. Planning in Project Based Learning (PBL)
- 3. Implementation of Project Based Learning (PBL)
- 4. Reflection in Project Based Learning (PBL)

The following is a picture of the stages of the implementation of Project Based Learning (PBL) in the English Drama Course

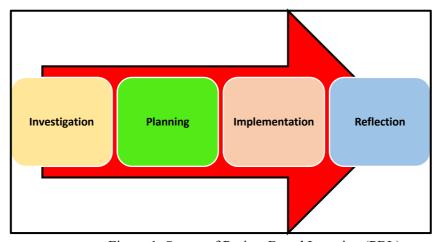


Figure 1. Stages of Project Based Learning (PBL)

# 1. Investigation in Project-Based Learning (PBL)

Project-based learning (PBL) investigations are carried out to sharpen students' research abilities in relation to English Drama courses. Students attempt to pinpoint their particular interests and passions at this level, as well as the global context, goals that are obvious and meaningful, and prior information that is pertinent.

# 2. Planning in Project-Based Learning (PBL)

Planning is done as part of Project Based Learning (PBL) to help students develop their self-management abilities in relation to English Drama courses. Students collaborate with the course instructors throughout this phase, establish rigid project success standards, create precise and thorough action plans, and gather the necessary materials.

# 3. Implementation of Project-based learning (PBL)

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English Drama projects are used to implement Project Based Learning (PBL) to polish students' thinking and communication skills. In this stage, students learn how to prepare English Drama performances, including how to write drama scripts, create costumes and make-up, and create performance stages. Students also assess the development's progress in preparing English Drama performances to meet objectives, a global context, and success criteria. Finally, students can complete a carefully planned English Drama performance project.

# 4. Reflection in Project Based Learning (PBL)

Project-based learning (PBL) reflection is used to assess the course's overall project activities for the English Drama unit. The aims, planning, preparation, and implementation of the English Drama project are discussed by lecturers and students. They also discuss learning connected to the global context, learning related to learning accomplishment indicators, and student performances when performing English Drama.

# Effectiveness of Project Based Learning (PBL) Implementation in Improving Students' Speaking Ability in English Drama Performances

Researchers conducted pre-test and post-test at the start and end of the semester to see how well Project Based Learning (PBL) was enhancing students' speaking abilities in English theater presentations.

The findings of the pre-test and post-test are displayed using descriptive statistics, including the mean and standard deviation of the results as well as the minimum and maximum values.

Descri		

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Pretest	12	72.00	78.00	74.8333	2.16725
Posttest	12	74.00	85.00	78.9167	3.62963
Valid N (listwise)	12				

The normality test determines if the distribution of a set of data is compatible with that of a normal distribution. Typically, they are fit tests—that is, tests of the null hypothesis that the data are samples from the general population. The most that can be claimed if the null hypothesis is not rejected is that the data may come from a regularly distributed population, even if it is feasible to get to the firm conclusion that a data set is not normally distributed (by rejecting the null hypothesis). For data below 50, researchers utilized the Shapiro-Wilk normality test.

**Tests of Normality** 

		Kolmogorov-Smirnov <sup>a</sup>			Shapiro-Wilk		
	Kelompok	Statistic	df	Sig.	Statistic	df	Sig.
Hasil	1	.205	12	.176	.890	12	.118
	2	.266	12	.019	.880	12	.087

a. Lilliefors Significance Correction

If the value of Sig. is larger than > 0.05, the data is considered to be normally distributed according to the Shapiro-Wilk normality test. It is clear that the data is normally distributed from the results of the normality test table above, which are results of 1 (Pre-Test) Sig. 0.118 and result 2 (Post-Test) Sig. 0.087.

**Test of Homogeneity of Variances** 

		Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
Result	Based on Mean	2.622	1	22	.120
	Based on Median	.858	1	22	.364

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Based on Median and with adjusted df	.858	1	14.345	.370
Based on trimmed mean	2.448	1	22	.132

This test checks whether the distribution of one categorical variable is the same across two or more populations (or subsets of a population).

If the value of Sig. is larger than > 0.05, the homogeneity test declares the data to be homogeneous. It is clear from the homogeneity test results that the data is homogeneous because the results are based on the mean Sig. 0.120, based on the median Sig. 0.364, by median and by setting df Sig. 0.370, and based on trimmed mean Sig. 0.132.

#### T-Test

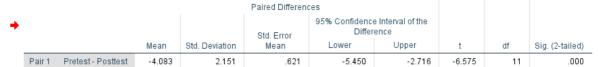
#### Paired Samples Statistics

		Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Pair 1	Pretest	74.83	12	2.167	.626
	Posttest	78.92	12	3.630	1.048

# **Paired Samples Correlations**

		N	Correlation	Sig.
Pair 1	Pretest & Posttest	12	.842	.001

## **Paired Samples Test**



It is evident from the paired T-Test sample test outcomes that Sig. The outcome of the (2-tailed) test is 0.000. Guidelines for making decisions based on the outcomes of the paired sample T-Test. The significance of the SPSS output is:

- 1. In the event that Sig. H0 is rejected while Ha is accepted if the 2-tailed P-value is less than < 0.05.
- 2. Conversely, if the value of Sig. If H0 is accepted and (2-tailed) > 0.05, Ha is rejected.

Consequently, it can be said that Sig. When two-tailed analysis yields a result of 0.000 0.05, H0 is rejected and Ha is accepted; in other words, project-based learning (PBL) implementation significantly enhances students' speaking abilities in English drama performance.

#### **Discussion**

Teaching-centered in nature, university instruction typically comprises lecturing and focuses on lower learning levels. Additionally, it discussed how learning-centered methodologies might address the modest gains in students' critical thinking, analytical reasoning, problem-solving, and writing abilities. One key difference between these approaches is that they are focused on student actions, making the student an active participant rather than a passive observer, which promotes deep learning.

For instance, children who are taught in small groups do better academically, are more likely to adopt a deep learning strategy, retain information longer, and develop stronger teamwork and communication skills than those who are taught in the conventional way [11]. Doing projects need for orientation, planning, practice, and an openness to structure and direction [12]. Students that exhibit some level of pre-commitment to project-based learning may learn and retain project effectiveness more effectively [13]. According to student surveys, students don't experience greater satisfaction, improved problem-solving abilities, improved knowledge integration to find solutions, the promotion

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of their self-directed learning, or a preference for project-based learning over lectures and tutorials until they have completed one or two projects [14].

The terms "project-based" and "problem-based." An issue is defined as being theoretical, practical, social, technological, symbolic-cultural, and scientific. A problem arises from students' inquisitiveness within various academic fields and occupational settings. The issue is that the pupils' learning process is directed from the outset and is placed in a context [15]. From this vantage point, instances and projects are examples of problem-solving techniques [16]. However, in other circumstances, resolving issues might be regarded as a project itself.

Stegeager et al. (2013) [17] view problem-based as relating to the orientation of the learning process, that is, on problems, whereas project-based relates to the organization through which students address the problem and the main learning context of the students in an effort to draw a meaningful distinction between problem-based and project-based. Although there are numerous perspectives on how to differentiate between problem-based and project-based learning, it is assumed in this book that readers are not very interested in the theories, so issues will be treated as a particular kind of project for the purposes of discussion.

The general characteristics of project- or problem-solving methods utilized in educational settings are what matter for the topic [18]. They feature participant-directed or self-directed learning methods and are student-centered. Experience-based learning is involved, meaning the learner draws on his or her own experiences and interests. Activity-based learning is included. It necessitates undertaking decision-making, writing, and research-related tasks. As opposed to being a transmitter of knowledge, the instructor facilitates learning. The facilitator externalizes self-reflection by asking relevant questions of individuals, guiding the development of higher-order thinking abilities by encouraging pupils to defend their ideas [19]. They are trans-disciplinary and problem-oriented. An issue, according to the definition, might be a challenge or even a mystery; in other words, it's something you want to get rid of as quickly as possible. This is not the kind of issue being discussed. An issue with project-based learning is providing students with a challenge to get them started on their learning process; see De Graaff and Kolmos (2007) [20].

A fundamental tenet is that the student must comprehend the chosen complex problem more thoroughly. However, there is a danger with project-based learning that it won't give students a thorough enough knowledge of the field. As a result, the students must learn how to apply concepts, theories, and methodologies from previously studied fields to new ones. The fact that they take place in small groups means that much of the learning is done in teams or groups. Thus, students learn to manage the process of group cooperation in all of its stages and improve their personal competencies.

Projects in the classroom can be organized around many different qualities and can be directed on a number of topics. The number of students on the project-work team. Projects, for instance, can be carried out in both small groups (3-5 students) and larger groups (8–12 students). The project's level of complexity. The level of Bloom's taxonomy [21], which is the project's aim, is connected to this complexity feature. Chapter 2's discussion of Bloom's taxonomy demonstrated that it has six levels. Particularly two stages are important for projects. This pertains to the project's "final objective." Utilize (level 3): This entails following procedures to carry out tasks or resolve issues. Exercises are tasks for which students already know the right way to proceed. An issue is a task for which the learner must find a procedure to complete since they initially are unsure of how to proceed. Applying a method to a routine task is what is meant by "executing" (carrying out) (exercise). Implementing (using) means carrying out a process for a new activity (problem). Create (level six), which entails combining pieces to create a logical or useful whole, or rearranging elements into a different pattern or structure Despite the fact that the categories of "understand," "apply," and "analyze" may entail finding connections between the pieces that are offered, "create" is distinct because it also entails the creation of a unique result.

In contrast to the other categories, create requires students to combine components from many sources into a unique structure or pattern that is related to their prior knowledge. The other categories include working with a predetermined set of elements that are a part of a whole. The three stages of the creative process are problem representation (where students try to comprehend the task and come up with potential solutions), solution planning (where students consider the options and create a workable plan), and solution execution (where students successfully carry out the plan). Generating (hypothesizing) is the process of developing an alternative hypothesis in accordance with criteria.

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Planning (designing) is the process of creating a plan of action to complete a task. Producing (building) a product is invention.

## **IV. Conclusion**

Projects can be quite difficult for students, especially when they have to learn the theory because this is very different from what they experience in lecture scenarios. Problem situations when the instructor's support is limited can also be very difficult. Students should carefully assess the type of project environment they are confronting, what this means in terms of the expectations in the course, and their approach to completing it effectively once a project has been introduced into a classroom setting.

There are a number of active and student-centered teaching methods in addition to the passive lecture method. The project-based learning strategy is one of those ways. Projects are utilized as a teaching tool in the project-based learning approach. This type of method has the advantage that students get more hands-on experience and learn and retain material more effectively by using deeper learning strategies.

Projects can be included into a course in a variety of ways, and as a result, there are a wide variety of project kinds. The environment for classroom projects is influenced by a variety of factors, including the number of students on the student team, the duration, and the difficulty of the project. There were two crucial variables found. First, determine whether the project's focus is on adding to theory or practice. Second, consider whether the project builds on prior knowledge that students already have or if it aims to advance that knowledge. Four separate project kinds were determined as a result. The amount of guidance offered for the job is yet another crucial aspect. Three different approaches—task, discipline, and problem—were used to discover this.

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