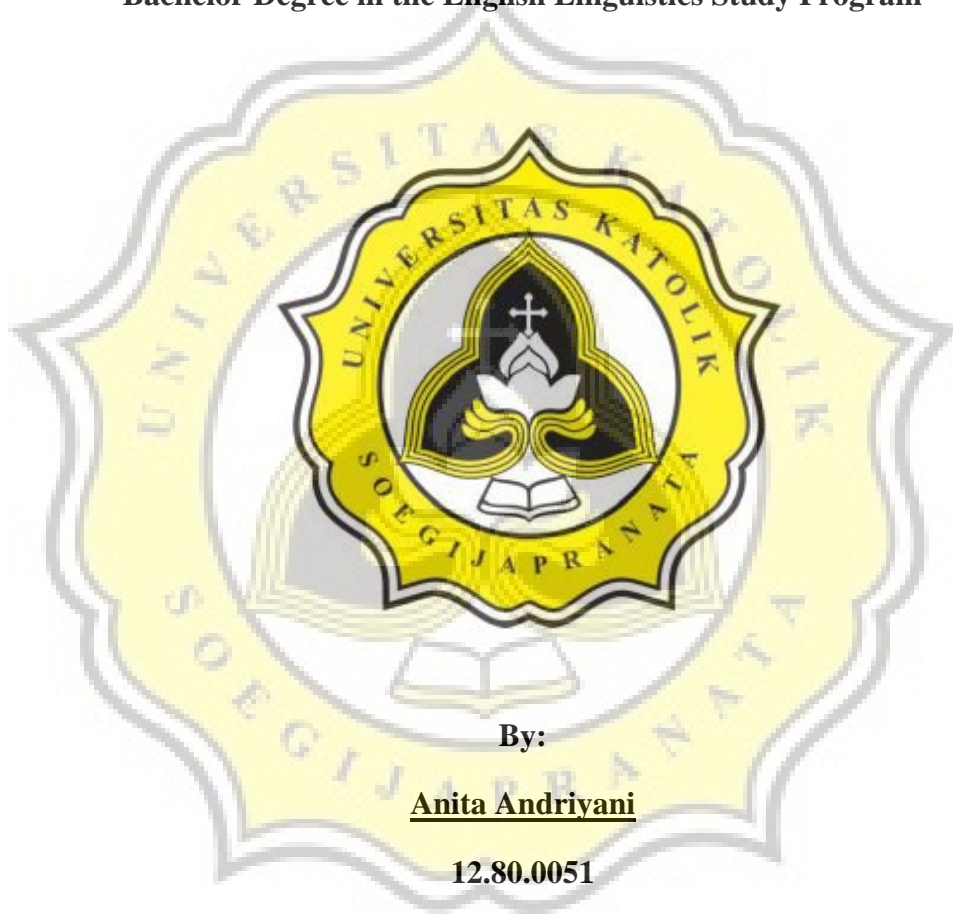


**THE CHALLENGES FACED BY ENGLISH TEACHERS IN TEACHING
ENGLISH TO FIRST YEAR STUDENTS IN PRIMARY SCHOOL AND
THE STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME THE CHALLENGES**

**A Thesis Presented as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement to Obtain the
Bachelor Degree in the English Linguistics Study Program**



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SEMARANG**

2017

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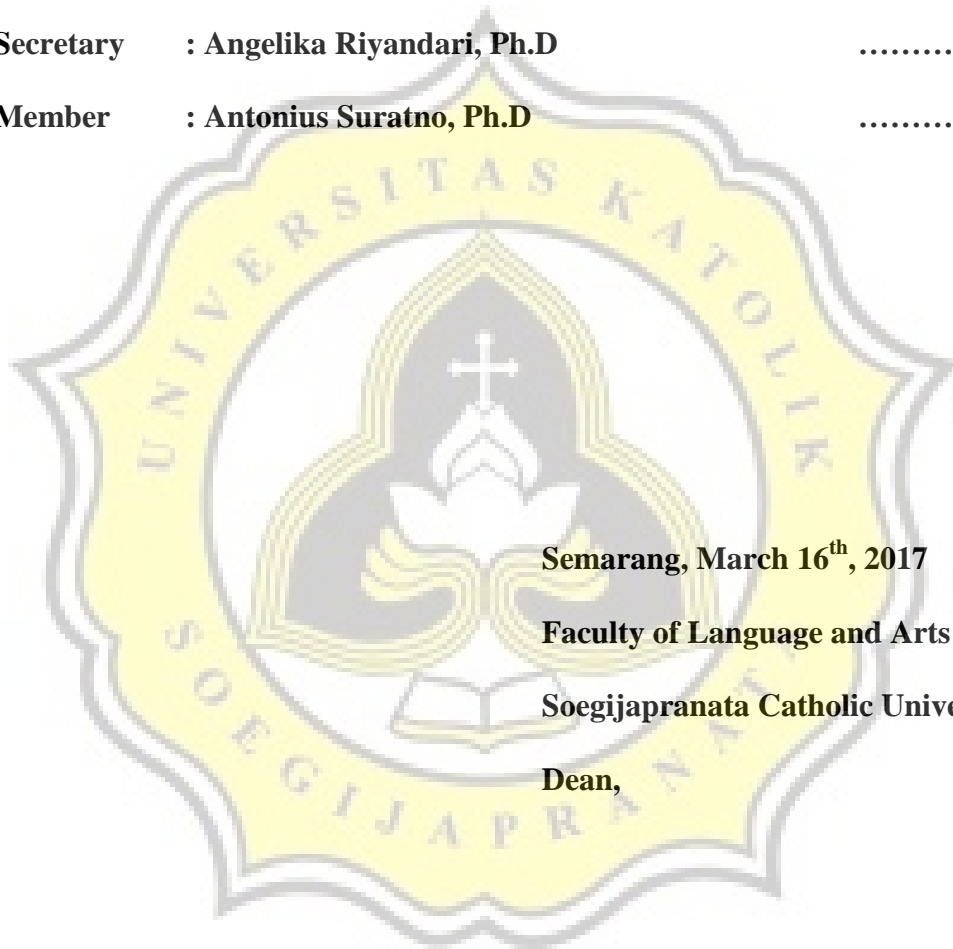
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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

First of all, I would like to praise God, the almighty, merciful and passionate, for giving me this opportunity and granting me the capability to proceed successfully. I thank the one above all of us, omnipresent God, for answering my prayers for giving me the strength to plod on during each and every phase of my life. The thesis appears in its current form due to the assistance, guidance, and support of several people. I would like to offer my sincere thanks to all of them.

At the very outset, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my advisors, Ms. Emilia Ninik Aydawati as my major sponsor and Ms. Angelika Riyandari as my co-sponsor. Thank you for your time, warm encouragement, thoughtful guidance, critical comments and correction of my thesis.

I would also like to thank my parents, my grand-mother, my older brother, my sister-in-law, and my cousin. They were always praying, supporting, and encouraging me with their best wishes.

I also thank all my honorable lecturers at the Faculty of Language and Arts, Soegijapranata Catholic University, Ms. Cecil, Ms. Eka, Ms. Heni, Ms. Wuryani, Ms. Lingga, Mr. Budi, Mr. Retang, Mr. Anton, and Mr. Adhy, who have taught me precious and important things which are very useful for my future. Moreover, I thank the administrative staffs at the Faculty of Language and Arts who have helped me to complete administration things.

Next, my sincere thanks go to my family in Christ in JKI Injil Kerajaan Satelit Citarum Church who have prayed and supported me to finish my thesis. They are Tabitha, Stefani, Sherly, Sari, Yosua, Jeremia, Elis, all members of Citarum Community Choir (Ercelina, Berry, Milkha, Gizella, Epha, Yohana, Yedida, Dinda), and praise and worship team in JKI Injil Kerajaan Satelit Citarum Church.

I thank to my friends in college who have supported and accompanied me to finish my thesis. They are Marlia, Risma, Wanda, and Dias. I also thank to all my friends at the Faculty of Language and Arts, Soegijapranata Catholic University. Moreover, I thank to my best friends since I was in high school who also have supported me. They are Yuli, Karlina, Tyas, Aufa, and Yuanita.

Last but not least, I would say thank you so much to all people that I cannot mention one by one who have helped me and contributed in this thesis by giving supports, ideas, cares, and prayers.

*When the time is
right, I, the Lord,
will make it happen.*

Isaiah 60:22

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ABSTRACT

This study describes the challenges faced by English teachers in teaching English to first year students in the primary schools and the strategies to overcome the challenges. This study was conducted in three private primary schools in Semarang. The respondents were four English teachers who teach first grade in the primary schools. The method used is qualitative. To collect data, the writer used a semi-structured interview and observation. Based on the interview, it has been found that there are five challenges and strategies done by teachers to overcome the challenges. The first challenge is students' boredom. To deal with it, teachers teach students using songs, games, and pictures or visual things. The second is students' different attention. To deal with this challenge, teachers give special attention to examine or identify the characteristics of the students in the classroom, and ask parents to pay more attention to their children. The third is students' persistence in using their first language (Indonesian language). To deal with it, teachers do translation, familiarize the students to listen to English sentences, and use English to give commands or announcements to the students. The fourth is students' difficulty in pronunciation. To overcome this challenge teachers ask the students to pronounce the word repeatedly until they remember how to pronounce it correctly, ask the students to listen to what the teachers pronounce, and ask them to repeat the words or sentences. The next challenge is students' disruptive behavior. To overcome it, the teachers discipline, encourage, and are firm to the students. Beside that, the teachers always manage and control the class during the lesson. However, not all respondents apply the strategies they mentioned.

Keywords: English teaching, teaching challenges, teaching strategies, first grade students

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini menjelaskan tentang tantangan-tantangan yang dihadapi oleh para guru Bahasa Inggris dalam mengajar Bahasa Inggris kepada siswa kelas satu di Sekolah Dasar dan strategi untuk mengatasi tantangan-tantangan tersebut. Penelitian ini dilakukan di tiga Sekolah Dasar swasta di Semarang. Responden dalam penelitian ini adalah empat guru Bahasa Inggris yang mengajar kelas satu di Sekolah Dasar. Metode yang digunakan adalah kualitatif. Untuk mengumpulkan data, penulis menggunakan wawancara semi-terstruktur dan observasi. Berdasarkan wawancara, telah ditemukan bahwa ada lima tantangan dan beberapa strategi untuk mengatasi. Tantangan pertama adalah kebosanan siswa. Untuk menghadapi itu, guru mengajar siswa menggunakan lagu, permainan, dan gambar. Yang kedua adalah perhatian siswa yang berbeda. Untuk menghadapi tantangan ini, guru memberikan perhatian khusus untuk memeriksa atau mengidentifikasi karakteristik siswa di kelas, dan meminta orang tua untuk lebih memperhatikan anak-anak mereka. Yang ketiga adalah kebiasaan siswa yang menggunakan bahasa pertama mereka (Bahasa Indonesia) secara terus menerus. Untuk menghadapi itu, guru menerjemahkan kata-kata dalam Bahasa Inggris kedalam Bahasa Indonesia, membiasakan siswa untuk mendengarkan kalimat Bahasa Inggris, dan menggunakan Bahasa Inggris untuk memberikan perintah atau pengumuman kepada siswa. Yang keempat adalah kesulitan siswa dalam mengucapkan kata-kata dalam Bahasa Inggris. Untuk mengatasi tantangan ini guru meminta siswa untuk mengucapkan kata-kata dalam Bahasa Inggris secara berulang-ulang sampai mereka ingat bagaimana mengucapkannya dengan benar, meminta siswa untuk mendengarkan apa yang guru ucapkan, dan meminta mereka untuk mengulangi kata-kata tersebut. Tantangan berikutnya adalah perilaku siswa yang mengganggu. Untuk mengatasi hal itu, para guru mendisiplinkan, mendorong, dan tegas kepada siswa. Selain itu, para guru selalu mengatur dan mengendalikan kelas selama pelajaran. Namun, tidak semua responden menerapkan strategi yang mereka sebutkan.

Kata kunci: pengajaran bahasa Inggris, tantangan mengajar, strategi mengajar, siswa kelas satu