Papuan Students' Strategies and Challenges in Learning English A THESIS



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Faculty of Teacher Education

Widya Mandala Surabaya Catholic University

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Papuan Students' Strategies and Challenges in Learning English

A Thesis

Presented to Faculty of Teacher Training and Education
Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya
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Sarjana Pendidikan in English Language Education



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December 2022

APPROVAL SHEET

(I)

This research entitled "Papuan Students' Strategies and Challenges in Learning English at Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya" has been prepared and submitted by the Researcher. This research has been accepted and approved as partial fulfillment for completing education at the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, English Language Study Program to be examined by the Board of Examiners.

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ABSTRACT

English is known as an international language to interact with other countries. Therefore, this English lesson is very important for students. Through English, students can improve their knowledge even though it is not easy to learn. Based on the writer's observation toward her Papuan peers, they often feel bored when learning English because there are various skills in English that by nature is different from our national and local languages. This also makes them feel that it takes a long time to learn. The research problems are: what learning strategies are used by Papuan students to learn English and what challenges they face when learning English. The researcher used a quantitative method by distributing questionnaires to 91 respondents of Papuan students at Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya and conducting interviews with 8 respondents who were willing to be interviewed further. Those respondents told their experience of learning English from the first time they know English until the present with a guide of 10 questions given by the researcher. Through the answers to the questionnaires and also the results of the interviews, it can be concluded that Papuan students at Widya Mandala Catholic University who received the YPMAK scholarship are on average interested in memory learning strategies. This can be seen from 45% of students who agree and 26% of students who strongly agree when given the statement "I like listening to English songs, Talk shows, Podcasts and watching English films" and 44% agree when given the statement "they make efforts to translate the words they hear or seen when listening to or reading song lyrics". Even though English is difficult to understand, they have their own way of understanding English. The challenges that they face are lack of interest in learning English and lack of facilities to support their learning.

Keywords: learning strategies, English learning challenges, Papuan students

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