The Implementation of Jigsaw on cooperative learning activities in Basic Inorganic Chemistry class: What these activities mean to the student

ABSTRACT

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This research aimed at encouraging the students’ motivation and interests in The Basic Inorganic Chemistry class through cooperative learning, as well as improving the students’ comprehension and achievement in Basic Inorganic Chemistry.

The subject of the research involved the third semester students of the Department Chemistry Education FMIPA-UNY in the academic year 2008/2009. In addition, it was a Classroom Action Research (CAR). The research was designed to be implemented in two cycles. Class members were divided into smaller groups consisting of 4 or 5 students picked randomly. In the first cycle, students were given the assignments prepared before. Students did the assignment in the class and turned in their assignments to be evaluated by the lecturers. This procedure was conducted in four sessions. In each stage, researchers investigated the students’ interests and motivation through: (1) the level of students’ participation in doing assignments; (2) students’ participation in class; and (3) the students’ achievement in each assignment. Then, the researchers made a reflection to see the improvement accomplished by students based on the students’ accumulative achievement in the four sessions. The reflection is used as a starting point for the second cycle, whether the particular action should go on, be modified, or totally be rearranged. The data includes the implementation of the in-class activities such as assignments, discussions, participation, and mid semester test results. The technique of data collecting includes both test and non-test (through observation, documentation and questionnaire). The data are analyzed descriptively using tabulation and percentage.

The research outcome is that during the implementation of the cooperative learning, there was a significant improvement in students’ interests and motivation in Basic Inorganic Chemistry, which corresponds to their achievements.

Keywords: implementation, cooperative learning, jigsaw, Basic Inorganic Chemistry.