DEVELOPING PROPHETICAL STORIES AS A CHARACTER-BASED ENGLISH LEARNING SOURCE

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Abstract: The purpose of this study is to develop the stories as the learning sources for teaching character at English lesson. This research was conducted by using research and developmental design (R & D) because the goal is to develop a product, i.e. the translated stories of Prophets. By developing the adapted model of Borg and Gall (1983), some procedures had been carried out. The product of the research is a book consisting of the translated stories of Prophet which were reviewed by experts in terms of its plot, content, language and design. In short, through this story book of Prophets, students and readers can learn the virtuous – worthy character – of Prophets as the good model for them. Besides, they can also learn English Language, especially in increasing their vocabulary in English. The suggestion given to the product of research was related to quantity of Prophet stories. Since this book just contains the story of the outstanding Prophets, it was suggested to cover all the Prophet stories for the next study.

Key words: stories of the Prophets, character education, English lesson

INTRODUCTION

Character is closely to related to virtue and human action are seen as an expression of the character of the moral agent, with the moral quality of our actions being shaped by our ethical character. Character

begins with God. What is considered right or wrong is defined by reference to God (James, 2003:45).

Moral education is a matter of the setting by parents or teachers of appropriate examples of good or virtuous deliberation and conduct for the young. Thus, if we are to make virtuous characters of the young, and a precondition of such character in good example, the guardians and teachers of youth need themselves to be models of such good character (Nucci & Narvaez, 2008:115).

As parents raising our children, we have a dual goal. We want to prepare our children to receive the God, Allah, and we want to train them to be proper human being. We do it first by infusing them with knowledge of God and by educating their conscience with the law of the religion, which is a child conductor to bring them to Allah. For the second goal, we as the parent can do it by molding their character and teaching them what is the proper behavior. This is the transmission of our cultural values to our children (James, 2003:45).

Referring to those goals, one of the parents can do is by providing good literature to be consumed by our children. Good literature can supplement our own good examples by giving children an abundance of proper role models. Sometimes literature can make an even stronger impression on the children that we can, because children readily identify the characters in a story.

Nowadays teaching character have been integrated the learning process of all the lessons included the English lesson. The goal of teaching character is to teach the traditional values accepted as the moral attitude. Teaching character in the learning process in the class can be applied by using thematic approach with the targeted values.

To meet the goal, many teaching techniques can be implemented; one of them is using stories. Stories can allow the students to be creative, imaginative and can give them a sense of achievement. They can be the alternative source in exploring the values through the characters. Children exercise their imagination through stories. They can become personally involved in a story as they identify with the characters and try to interpret the narrative and illustrations. There are some project of the research carried out to fulfill those efforts, one of

them is the research held by Riyadi (2010). His research title is "Teaching English Using story book to improve their reading skill". It gives the idea for the writer to develop the stories to be the appropriate ones not only to improve the English skills but also to teach the valuable character to the students through the characters in the stories.

Relating to good stories, Islam through the Holy Qur'an has provided a lot of stories of Prophets. These stories consisted many moral virtuous as expressed through the good behavior of Prophets. The stories of Prophets also provide the good value as the moral messages that can be learned and take it as the guidance to get the better life.

God stories can be used as the source in teaching in order that students can get both knowledge as well as good values as reflected through the characters of the story. This goal can also be implemented in teaching English by taking the Prophet stories. There are two goals can be achieved. First it can keep the existence of the religious figures and inherit them to the young generation. Besides that, the students can explore the great value expressed through the character of those stories as the moral message. Hopefully the students can learn from those stories how to have such good characters that are useful for life.

Through some reason above, this research has been conducted and aimed to develop the Prophet stories as learning source that is appropriate with the goal of character education that is building good character for students as young learners. Hopefully they are the ones who will build this country be better.

RESEARCH METHOD
Research Design

Considering the purpose of this research for developing the stories as the learning source, the writer decides that the appropriate research design is Research and Development (R&D) since it is used to develop the learning source for teaching character. The major purpose of the research is not formulated or test a theory like in the basic research, but it is to develop the effective products for use in schools (Gay, 1992:10). The objective of R & D is to produce the finished products; like

textbooks, audio visual games, training manuals, story books for reading, etc. It is a process used to develop and validate educational product (Borg & Gall, 1983:772).

Borg and Gall (1983:775) propose 10 steps of R & D cycle research in developing mini course. They are research and information collection, planning, preliminary form of product, preliminary field testing, main product revision, main field testing, final product revision, dissemination, and implementation.

For the purpose of this research, the research and development design proposed by Borg and Gall (1983:775) is adapted. The adaption has been done by modifying the steps of the process based on the objective of the research, to produce a story book consisting moral virtuous, the good behavior of the Prophets. So there are some modification made to reach that objective.. The modification of adapted model includes the omitting the steps related to the field testing and implementing because this research focuses to produce the story book about the Prophets. The result of the modified adapted model is research and information collection, planning, developing preliminary form of product, the first product revision, validating from the expert, the second product revision, and final product.

Procedures of the Development

Referring to the adapted model of R & D, so the procedures of development covers to the steps in that model. For the first step is research and information collection. Here, the writer searched some material such as the English translation of Holy Qur'an (Ali, 2005), the original sources of the Prophets stories in Indonesian Language such as book written by Hamasah (2012) and El-Bantanie (2013), and some others' comments about the Prophet life (Katheer, 2001). Since it is a product resulted from the process of translation from Indonesian into English texts, so varied dictionaries also become the material of information collecting.

At the second step, the writer planned how many stories taken and Prophets that had the outstanding moral virtuous. It had been done by reading all the sources, the stories of Prophets in Indonesian

language. After choosing the prophets stories that will be translated, the writer read again to find out the difficult and special terms related with the Prophet life.

Next, the process of translation began. The Prophet stories in Indonesian directly translated into English as the preliminary form of the product. This process was not only translating the texts but also modifying the stories. It had been done by giving the conversations inserted through the story to make it enjoyable to be read, since the modification did not change the main plot of story.

Since the result was the first draft, so it was needed to revise. The writer as the first editor read this result and made notes of some mistakes appear. By consulting the Holy Qur'an, the writer consulted about the real and original plot of the Prophets stories. Besides consulting with the main source, the writer consulted with the varied dictionaries to find out the English words of some special terms.

Then the result of this first product revision was given to the experts to be read and corrected. The experts checked the translated stories of the Prophets and gave some corrections. The corrections were about the content of the stories and also the language used in this product of translation.

Getting the revision from the experts, the writer improved the stories based on the correction given. Then, the result of revision was given again to the experts to confirm the revised mistaken words. To get the final product, the second revision from the experts had been edited for the layout of the product, by giving some ornaments to make it beautiful and can get the readers interest to read it. At last, the translated stories of the Prophets had been finished in the form of a story book.

Types of Data

In the design of research and development, the data means any input gathered as the purpose of developing and revising the product. There were two kinds of data. The first and main data was the data of the stories of Prophets in the Holy Qur'an and in Indonesian language. The other data was data taken from the experts' validation which were obtained after developing the product, the translated stories of Prophets.

Research Instrument

The key instrument of this research is the writer herself since she is the one who read the primary source and translate the Prophet stories from Indonesian into English language. The other instrument was the questionnaire given to the experts. It consisted 18 items divided into four aspects; plot, content, language and design. The plot aspect covers the chronological order of the Prophet stories, the clear and original stories. The content aspect covers the available of Surah Al-Qur'an, moral virtues and moral messages of the prophet stories. While language aspect portrays the vocabulary used, the pattern of sentences and also level of language for the targeted readers. The last aspect, design, covers all about letters used, from size, font and also pictures in a cover. All of the questions related to the developed product, the translated stories of Prophets.

Data Analysis Technique

Since this research is research and development, the analysis data done for the data taken from the experts through the questionnaire given each aspect of each experts had been analyzed by calculating in the form of percentage to know the appropriateness of the product, the translated stories of Prophets. Statistic descriptive was employed to calculate the items given in questionnaire can be seen in the following formula (Sugiyono, 2008).

$$\text{Percentage} = \frac{\text{(response x weighting on each response) x 100 \%}}{\sum N \text{ x weighting the highest response}}$$

Note:

$\sum$ = total number

N = the total number of all the questionnaire item\

In order to give the decision on product's quality, the researcher uses achievement level conversion with scale 5 is described in Table 1.

Table 1 Validity Level Conversion

Percentage	Qualification	Discussion
90% - 100%	Very good	No need revision
75% - 89%	Good	Need revision
65% - 74%	Enough	Need revision
55% - 64%	Poor	Need revision
0% - 54%	Very poor	Need revision

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The draft of the development stories had been edited by the writer herself as the first editor. Then the result of frst revision given to the experts to be edited as the second editors. Besides the data about the correction on stories from the experts, the data was also from the questionare given to the experts about the appropriateness of stories as the learning source to teach character at English xclass.

The Presented Data Based on the Questionare Given to the Experts

The questionare given to the experts to get the idea about some points as the indicators of appropriateness ofnthe stories as the learning source for teaching character at English class. The result of questionnaire presented based on the aspects of a good story. There are four aspects in the questionnaire; they are plot, content, language and design. The content judgment displayed through the figures below.

The Validation Result of Questionare on the Aspect of Plot

The result of validation on the aspect of plot presented and analyzed based on the data of each expert.

Percentage   = $\dfrac{\text{first expert percentage} + \text{second expert percentage}}{2}$

              =   80 % + 80 % / 2 x

              =   80 %

After the score was converted to validity level, the translated stories of Prophets were categorized on good criteria of plot aspect as the percentage of this aspect is 80 %. It means that the Prophet stories had been told chronologically to build a well plot. It makes these stories will be understood easily by the students as the readers of this story book.

The Validation Result of Questionare on the Aspect of Content

The result combined both from the Questionnaire of the first and second experts

Percentage   = $\dfrac{\text{first expert percentage} + \text{second expert percentage}}{2}$

              =   100 % + 90 % / 2 x

              =   95 %

After the score on content had been converted to a validity level, it comes to the very good criteria since the score was 95 %, nearly the perfect score. It indicates that the translated stories of Prophets are appropriate for the students to read. These stories have provided moral virtues and moral messages which are good to teach character to students.

The Validation Result of Questionare on the Aspect of Content

The result combined both from the Questionnaire of the first and second experts

Percentage   = $\dfrac{\text{first expert percentage} + \text{second expert percentage}}{2}$

$$= \quad 76\ \% + 88\ \% \ / \ 2$$
$$= \quad 82\ \%$$

The score both from the first and second expert was 82 %. It shows that the level of language aspect was at good criteria. It means that the sentences used are appropriate for the students of junior high school in which most of the sentences in the translated of Prophet stories are familiar ones. So it will be easy for the students to catch the idea of story

The Validation Result of Questionare on the Aspect of Design

The result combined from the Questionnaire between the first and second experts

Percentage $= \dfrac{\text{first expert percentage} + \text{second expert percentage}}{2}$

$$= \quad 70\ \% + 97\ \% \ / \ 2$$
$$= \quad 84\ \%$$

For the design aspect, the score was 84 % and it showed that this translated stories of Prophets has good criteria. It means that there was a well design and appropriate letters which made this story book be interested to read.

This story book of Prophets was made to fulfill the need of students for the alternative source of learning. This book was the product of translation from the Prophet stories in Indonesian Language. Through the research, the writer translated and developed some sources concerning with the Prophet stories. To make these stories be appropriate for the readers, especially students, the writer had done editing by involving the experts who know more about translation as well as the language. The revisions had been made to improve this product, as the suggestion from the experts and also through self editing based on the sources.

From the validation of the experts presented at the previous chapter, it had been known that the translated stores of Prophets had fulfilled the criteria of appropriateness as the source of learning both language and character. The score of the result from the result of the questionnaire was at the range of 80 – 95 %. The highest sc ore was on the

content aspect and the lowest score was on the plot aspect. But all the score were still included to good criteria. It means that these translated stories of Prophets are appropriate to be used as the alternative learning sources for the students to learn English language as well as the characters of righteous people.

The appropriateness' the stories of the prophets can also be seen from the moral virtues expressed through the characters and moral messages of the stories as the table below.

Table 2 The Moral Virtues Expressed through the Stories of the Prophets

No	Names of Prophets	Moral virtues (Good Character)	Evidence in stories
1	Adam	Smart	• He can mention the names of things which the angels cannot do it
		Strong belief	• He believed that Allah gave the best life for him though it was not a pleasure one
		Obedient	• He did what Allah's command when he should marry his children and to solve Qobil and Habil's case
		Hard worker	• He diligently worked to fulfill his family needs though he ever lived at pleasure one in heaven Heaven
		Tough	• He never complained whatever the life he faced. It happened when he knew that Habil died because of Qabil.
		Sportive	• He admitted that he did a mistake when he ate the forbidden fruit in Heaven and received whatever the punishment because of that
2	Idris	Smart	• He liked to learn the Mushaf of Adam • He was capable of many languages • He was capable in Science and Mathematics • He can argue with Izrael to let him get an experience of death • He can also make Izrael let him know about Hell and come into Heaven
		creative	• He can design buildings (houses) • He was the first who wore the clothes

		Tough	• He never gave up in doing preaching though there were many obstacles from the Unbelievers
		Patient	• He faced all those problems without complaining and never revenged the ones who hurt him
		Brave	• He punished the guilty one whoever he was • He was known as *As'adul As'ad* (the greatest lion among the lions)
3	Noah	Strong Belief	• He believed every command from Allah is the best for him so he faced and did all the commands with his deep belief.
		Obedient	• He did whatever Allah's command; such as when he should build the ship. When he should sail and when he should stop sailing
		Patient	• He was a patient father. He still apologizes his son, Kan'an, though his son never heard his preaching death • He have never been angry when he was mocked by the Unbelievers when he made a ship on land.
		Tough	• He kept preaching though he had just got few Believers for hundred years
4	Abraham	Strong Belief	• He had a deep belief that Allah would protest him when he was burnt alive • He had strongest belief to Allah. For every command he had got from Allah. It happened when he should leave his wife and a son in a dessert. • He did what Allah's command to slaughter his beloved son, Ismail, as his love to Allah
		Smart	• He thought about the Creator since he was a child • He gave the best answer when he was in trial for destroying the idols by putting the axe on the big idol's neck • He had a smart way to make Haran's people realized from their bad attitude, to worship the sun, moon, and stars until they found that just Allah was

		Patient	- He received the fact that he had not got the child yet. He never complained about it. He just received is as the fact from Allah. - He gave the belief of Allah to his parent who was the Unbelievers without making them hurt.
		Brave	- He felt not afraid to destroy the idols even though he knew that the people would kill him because of it - He was calm when he would be burnt alive because he believed that Allah would protect and save him from such a danger. - He was brave to say in front of the people that they were stupid to worship the idols (statue).
		Tough	- He kept on praying to Allah for giving him a blessed child to be his descendant. He did it till he grew too old to have a child. - He kept on preaching and never complained though he should move from country to the countries.
5	Lut	Patient	- He patiently warned his wife not to think just about the wealthy though his wife never cared his saying. - He still negotiated to the people who wanted his handsome guests though they were so angry to him. - He still did preaching to the people though he was rejected his teaching.
		Tough	He never been despair to ask Sodom's people their bad attitudes, even they threatened to kill him
6	Ismail	Strong Belief	- He was a virtuous man who relied everything to Allah. He received his life as his faith when he should lived just with his mother in the place far away from his father. - He supported his father, Ibrahim, to do the command from Allah to slaughter him as his devotion to Allah. He felt sure that Allah would help him.

		Obedient	• He was an obedient son for Ibrahim. He fulfilled what Ibrahim's order. It happened when his father would slaughter him as Allah's command. He just wanted to make his father can fulfill all the commands. • On other occasion, Ismail also showed his obedience by helping his father to build Ka'bah.
		Wise	• He answered politely to make his father feel fine in doing Allah's commands, such as when his father should slaughter him.
7	Moses	Brave	• When he was a child, he pulled Pharaoh beard till he felt furious with him. • He also a brave to put the fire into his mouth when he was a baby. • He was brave to defend himself from Qibthi's attack and hit him till death • He was dare to preach in front of Pharaoh to make him worship to Allah. • He bravely accepted Pharaoh's challenging to face the attack from the witches. • He was brave to lead his Believers to run away from Pharaoh's army through the sea.
		Care	• He felt empathy to Israel man and defended him from the Qibthi's man who attacked him. • He directly help the women when he saw them try to give water for their sheeps.
		Tough	• He had never given up to guide the people to worship just to Allah, though he had got many threatens
8	David	Smart	• He possessed a wide range of knowledge
		Brave	• When he was still young, he was brave to go war. • He offered himself to face Goliath when there was no one brave to face him in a war. • He was no afraid to fight Goliath even

			just using Catapult. Finally, he can kill Goliath. • He was able to make the nature – mountain, hill- to praise in the name of Allah.
		Wise	• He treated his father-in-law well though he wanted to kill him. • He can solve the [people's problem in a wise that make both of the sides satisfied with his decision. The case between a cattle-breeder and a farmer
9	Solomon	Smart	• He can help his father, David, by giving the best solution in the case of the field when he was still young. • He can communicate the language of animals, such as ants, birds, etc. • He had a smart way to make Balqis realized her bad thing, to worship to sun, moon and stars. He finally can make Balqis joined with Solomon to be Believers.
		Brave	• He can conquer all jinns, animal, and nature and make them be his army.
		Wise	• He can wisely solve the case of his people without differentiating the wealthy and poor ones.
10	Muhammad	Trustworthy	• He honestly did his work as the sheep keeper till many Quraish people believed him to keep their sheep. • He carried out Khadeejah's business very well till she believed all of her goods to him
		Patient	• All of the bad treatments from the Unbelievers had been faced calmly and patiently by Muhammad. • He had never been angry to the people who did bad things to him. Even some of them joined with Islam because of his patience.
		Brave	• He became a brave commander when he guided his army to the wars. • He was no afraid when he and Abu Bakar hided in the cave to escape from the Quarish' army.
		Tough	• Since he was a child, he had work hard as he was the orphan, to be

| | | sheep keeper. |
| | | • He can handle his misery because being left by his wife and uncle. He relied on every facts of his life to Allah. |

Table 3 The Moral Messages Expressed through the Stories of the Prophets

No	Names of Prophets	Moral Messages
1	Adam	• Keep away from arrogant, jealous and envy because they will take us to the ruin of life.
		• We should always pray to Allah to keep us away from the Satan's temptation
		• Think first before doing something. Don't easily be influenced by Satan's temptation
		• if we have done mistakes, we have to directly ask apologize to Allah and improve our attitude
		• We will get the consequences as what we have done
2	Idris	• Be dilligent to read and learn everything cause it can make us have abroad knowledge
		• Be smart and skillful person! You will get the success in the life
		• Never been easily given up in facing the problems. Patience is needed to solve the problems.
		• Every person will have a taste of death. So be a righteous person since you are alive!
3	Noah	• Patience in facing the problem is the key to get success
		• Don't judge someone just from the wealthy.
		• Honest and obedient character can give us honor in the World and Hereafter
		• Don't cover ourselves with the proud because it will cover us from the truth
		• We will get the consequences as what we have done. If we do bad things, we will get bad result. So we should do the rights things to get the good result.
4	Abraham	• If Allah has a will to do something, there is nothing in the World and Hereafter can stop what Allah's wants.
		• Patient in facing the problem is the key to get success
		• Don't ever easily give up in making the efforts.
		• Don't ever been bored in praying to Allah to get guidance in running the life

		• Don't be afraid to tell the truth, though it is difficult to say.
5	Lut	• Obedient to Allah and His Prophet is the safe way in the world and hereafter
		• Men just allowed to marry with women. That is the rule from Allah.
		• Be a righteous person. It will make you save from the bad things happen to you.
		• Don't be greedy because it will ruin you. Wealthy is not everything but belief to Allah is the important thing.
6	Ismail	• There is just Allah, the One Almighty God in the World and Hereafter.
		• Be patient and tough in every test of the life. Allah loves the patient and tough one.
		• Allah never let the righteous people who are obedient to carry out His commands.
		• Allah will replace with the goodness of every sacrifice we have given in the name of Allah, the Merciful God.
		• We should always thank to Allah for whatever blessing come to us
		• Be obedient child will give the goodness in the World and Hereafter for himself and people surround him.
7	Moses	• There is just Allah, the One Almighty God who must be worshipped
		• Don't be too proud of yourself because we are just the creation of Allah.
		• Remember! Every wealthy, position, power is from Allah. So you shouldn't be proud because of that.
		• We should always thank to Allah for whatever blessing come to us
		• e a tough person in living in this world! There will be a way if you have a will.
8	David	• Remember! Someone who is honorable beside Allah is the one who has good characters, not because of wealthy and position.
		• Be a good person! Then you will be loved by people surround you.
		• A greater thanks we give to Allah, so Allah will give more blessing to us.
		• Keep your bravery if you think you are right. Allah will keep and help you.
		• If you have got the position, do the duty with honest, fair and wise characters
		• Don't ever underestimate someone else based on the appearance

9	Solomon	• When you have got the position, be the honest, fair and wise leader. Because Allah loves the good and fair leader.
		• The power and wealthy are the tests from Allah to know whether we are thankful ones or not
		• Greater thanks we give to Allah, so Allah will give more blessing to us.
		• Remember! The knowledge we have is the blessing from Allah. So the greater knowledge we have, the more we should believe on Allah's greatness.
		• Death is a secret thing which has only been known by Allah. It cannot be proposed, it cannot be denied.
10	Muhammad	• Honest, trustworthy and trustful are characters needed to live successfully in the World and Hereafter.
		• We have to always pray to Allah to keep us away from the Satan's temptation
		• The toughness in accepting the problems of life can be done by relying everything just o Allah, the almighty God.
		• if we have done mistakes, we have to directly ask apologize to Allah and improve our attitude
		• We will get the consequences for what we have done. So think first before doing something. Don't easily be influenced by Satan's pursue.

However, this product of the translated stories of Product as the source of learning has not been tested in the field yet since the focus of this research still in producing and improving this product to be the appropriate source of learning. It is planned that this product of the research, the story book of Prophets, will be applied through the experimental research to some schools to know how far it can make the students learn character as well English language.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The product of the research that is book consisting of the translated stories of Prophet got good response from the experts. The range of the calculated score based on the questionnaire was 80 % - 95% of the four aspects; they are plot, content, language and design.. The highest score is on the aspect of content. It means that the stories of Prophets are the valuable stories because they provide moral virtues –

good behavior – expressed through the life of Prophets and also moral message that can be useful for the readers and students. In short, all the aspects in the questionnaire shows that this product is appropriate as the learning source for teaching character to young learners at English class, there was some revision done to improve the stories. Through this story book of Prophets, students and readers can learn the virtuous – worthy character – of Prophets as the good model for them. Besides, they can also learn English Language, especially in increasing their vocabulary in English.

The suggestion given to the product of research was related to quantity of Prophet stories. Since this book consists of just the outstanding Prophets, it was suggested to cover all the Prophet stories. The researcher has thought about that. So in the future, she will explore the other Prophet stories to be developed into another story book.

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