EFFECTIVENESS OF AL-MIFTAH LIL ULUM METHOD IN IMPROVING UNDERSTANDING OF NAHWU MTs TANWIRUL QULUB LAMONGAN

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Abstract

Teaching methods are crucial in the process of learning Nahwu. The Nahwu teaching method applied at MTs Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan still uses conventional methods, which lead to learning problems among students. The students struggle to understand Nahwu material properly, face difficulties in memorizing the material, and have trouble creating examples of rule application. Based on these issues, there is a need for an appropriate teaching method to address these problems effectively. This study uses a quantitative method and employs a quasi-experimental design to determine the effectiveness of the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method in improving the nahwu understanding of eighth-grade students. The subjects of this study were 60 eighth-grade students from MTs Tanwirul Qulub, consisting of 30 students from class A and 30 students from class B. Tests, observation sheets, and documentation sheets were used to collect data. The research utilized a comparative descriptive method and t-test to analyze the data. The findings showed that the t-test value at the t-count value was 3.289, which is greater than the t-table value, and the sig. (2-tailed) value was 0.000, which is less than 0.05. This was then used to test the hypothesis. The results indicated that Ho was rejected and Ha was accepted, meaning that the application of the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method is effective in improving nahwu understanding compared to conventional methods among eighth-grade students at MTs Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan.

Keywords: Method Al-Miftah Lil Ulum; Nahwu.
INTRODUCTION

Arabic has many branches of knowledge. One of them is the science of nahwu.\(^1\) The ruling on learning nahwu is fardlu kifayah. However, it can become wajib ain for certain people. The purpose of learning nahwu is to avoid verbal errors in pronouncing Arabic, and also as a medium for understanding the Qur'an and Hadith.\(^2\) It is called a tool because all religious knowledge in Arabic will be easier to understand with nahwu.\(^3\)

In order for nahwu learning to be more easily understood, a good and interesting learning method is needed.\(^4\) Learning methods are crucial for the teaching and learning process.\(^5\) The success or failure of a lesson can be seen in terms of the material and methods used. In this case, a teacher must master various methods that will be used in delivering the material and learning objectives to be achieved.\(^6\)

In order for learning objectives to be achieved, one of them is by using the right learning method.\(^7\) It is a must for an educator to selectively choose the method to be used by paying attention to several important requirements, as mentioned by Ahmad Sabri about the requirements in using methods, including being able to arouse students’ interest and enthusiasm, stimulate the desire to learn and can improve and provide good learning outcomes.\(^8\)

So is the learning method at MTs Tanwirul Qulub. The institution applies various methods. In the interview activity, the researcher interviewed the teacher in charge of nahwu lessons in class VIII. He explained that the learning process at MTs. Tanwirul Qulub class VIII is sourced from the book of matan al-Jurumiyyah which has been modified by himself.

During the interview process, according to the nahwu teacher, he explained that out of 65 students in class VIII, there were 20 students who could not understand the nahwu material properly, had difficulty in the process of memorizing the material and had

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difficulty in making examples of the use of rules- rules so that many mistakes when analyzing the position of the sentence.\(^9\)

Based on these problems, a learning method is needed that can help students understand nahwu well, one of which is the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method. The Al Miftah Lil Ulum method is a method originating from the Sidogiri Pasuruan Islamic boarding school which is designed to make it easier to understand the yellow book and the science of tools. This method has four (4) volumes of books as guidelines. In setting the book adapted to the world of children, and with colorful fonts that can stimulate the right brain of students.\(^10\)

One of the studies relevant to this research is Adzkiyatul Banat's research entitled "Qowa'id Learning Using Kitab Al-Miftah Lil Ulum at Pondok Pesantren Nurul Iman Pasir Wetan Karanglewas District, Banyumas Regency". The result of this study is that the book of Al-Miftah Lil Ulum Qowa'id learning is very enjoyable and the male students and female students are very enthusiastic about learning Kitab Al-Miftah Lil Ulum and better understand the science of qowa'id so that they can read the yellow book well.\(^11\)

Likewise, the research conducted by Abdul Khamid entitled "The Effect of the Application of the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum Method in Improving the Ability to Read the Yellow Book of Students at the First High School of the Darul Karomah Mandaran Pasuruan Islamic Boarding School" found a significant improvement in the students' ability to read the yellow book at the Madrasah Aliyah Darul Karomah Mandaran Pasuruan. With hypothesis testing using the T-test (0.000) less than 0.05, there was a significant effect from the application of the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method. This was evident from the students' quicker understanding of the material, their ability to determine the position of the readings, and their capacity to interpret and explain the meaning of the readings.\(^12\)

At Madrasah Aliyah Darul Karomah Mandaran Pasuruan, students' ability to read the yellow book has significantly improved. It is evident that the application of the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method has a significant effect as hypothesized, tested using the T-test (0.000) less than 0.05. This is demonstrated by the students' quicker understanding of the material, their ability to determine positions within the readings, and their capacity to interpret and explain the meaning of the readings.

The research conducted by Muslihin Sultan and M. Yahya, titled "Metode Al-Miftah Li Al-Ulum: An Alternative for Teaching Classical Islamic Texts in Formal Religious Education," concluded that the implementation of the Al-Miftah method brings positive experiences for students. Learning Nahwu and Sarf using Al-Miftah materials is

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highly beneficial for beginners, as it focuses on the introduction and identification of individual words in Arabic.\(^\text{13}\)

The difference between this study and other research lies in the substantive aspect, which focuses on testing the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method to enhance Nahwu comprehension. The methodology employs a quasi-experimental design, and the research location is at MTs Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan.

Based on the above problems, researchers are interested in conducting research in class VIII due to the lack of innovation in the learning methods used. And related to this, the appropriate learning method is needed. As many methods are developing at this time. The researcher chose one of the methods that the researcher thought was suitable for the problem, namely by applying the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method. This research is important to do because to find out the improvement of understanding and mastery in nahwu lessons at MTs. Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan.

**RESEARCH METHODS**

A quasi-experimental design approach was used in this quantitative research. The purpose of this experimental design is to reveal the causal relationship between two groups, one experimental group and one control group, and to determine whether there is an effect of "something" on the subjects being studied. The control class used conventional teaching methods, while the experimental class used the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method\(^\text{14}\). This study was conducted over three meetings, or three weeks. The subjects of this research were all eighth-grade students, totaling 60 students from VIII MTs. Tanwirul Qulub, consisting of 30 students from class VIII A and 30 students from class VIII B.

Determination of the control class and experimental class is done by random sampling technique, which means that the researcher is free to determine the class. Data collection instruments used test sheets, observation sheets, and documentation sheets. The tests used in this study were pre tests and post tests. Observation was carried out to observe the process of applying the al Miftah Lil Ulum method at MTs Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan. The observations that researchers make are direct, systematic and gradual, meaning that the observations that researchers make are continuous, so that the results or findings of these observations can answer the focus of the problems that researchers have written. And the documentation technique is that researchers take several documents related to this research, which will help answer the focus of the problems of this study.

To find out the comparison of the effectiveness of the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method, data analysis was carried out using descriptive analysis techniques and statistical analysis techniques. Descriptive analysis techniques are used to see the average value, maximum value, and standard deviation. While statistical data analysis techniques are used to see the effect of the application of the two learning approaches by conducting

\[\text{Equation}\]

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prerequisite tests and hypothesis tests. This data processing activity was carried out using the SPSS for windows version 25 application.

The validity test was conducted using SPSS 25. Before testing with SPSS 25, the questions that had been created were given to an expert in Nahwu for correction. Then, the questions were administered to 25 students of class VIII at MTs Ma’arif NU Kota Blitar. The answers were subsequently analyzed using SPSS 25. An instrument has an adequate level of reliability if, when used to measure the same aspect multiple times, it produces the same or relatively similar results. The more reliable a test is, the more confident we can be that the test results will be consistent if the test is repeated. The validity test was conducted using SPSS 25 to examine the instrument's reliability level.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The al Miftah Lil Ulum method is a publication of the Sidogiri Pasuruan Islamic boarding school, the birth of this method was due to the unrest of the board of the boarding school seeing the lack of beginner students or new students in reading the yellowclassical books which had an impact on understanding other books, the peak in 2010 education in the boarding school experienced a setback, especially in yellowclassical book learning. Departing from this unrest, the administrators and teachers or asatidz in this boarding school deliberated which led to the birth of a practical and interesting method to be applied in learning the yellowclassical books. This method was published by BATARTAMA, namely the Tarbiyah wa Taklim Madrasi Agency by the Sidogiri Islamic boarding school. This method is called the al Miftah Lil Ulum method.

The first step that was taken until the birth of this method was a comparative study to pesantren and other Islamic educational institutions to find references to create new methods and materials. After careful consideration and deliberation, this method was born, which was arranged as interestingly as possible. The vision and mission of the birth of this al Miftah Lil Ulum method, the vision is to revive the lively learning and recitation of the yellow book while the mission is to produce students who are reliable in reading the yellow book and can apply it in everyday life.

The development of the al Miftah Lil Ulum method is considered quite successful in answering the concerns of the administrators and teachers at the Sidogiri Islamic boarding school. Slowly the students began to better understand the knowledge of how to be able to read and understand the yellowclassical books. Even some other Islamic boarding schools and madrasas want to use this al Miftah method in learning the yellowclassical books, including Al Yasini Islamic boarding school, one of the advanced

Islamic boarding schools in the Pasuruan area and several branches of Sidogiri Islamic boarding school.\(^{19}\)

The longer this method is known by the general public, because it is not only written, but evidence of the success of using this method is also realized, so that the more the desire of educational institutions such as Islamic boarding schools, madrasah and even public schools to apply this method. Because of the many requests from other educational institutions, a seminar was held on how to use and apply the al Miftah Lil Ulum method.

The al Miftah Lil Ulum method has four (4) volumes of books as guidelines. In setting the book adapted to the world of children, and with colorful fonts that can stimulate the right brain of students. The details of the contents of the book are volume 1, discussing kalam and isim ghoiru munshorif. Volume 2, discusses isim nakirah, isim ma'rifat, isim mudzakkar and muannas, isim jamid and isim mustaq. Volume 3 discusses fi'il which includes madhi, mudhore' and amar fi'il. While volume 4, discusses marfuatul asma'which contains mubtada' khabar, fi'il and isim kana. Also discusses manshubatul asma' which contains ma'ful bih, tamyiz, isim inna. As well as discussing about makhfudhotul asma' which contains majrur, mudhof ilaaih and tawabi'.\(^{20}\)

As a complement to the material there is also nadhom al Miftah whose contents are extracted from the book al Fiyah Ibn al Malik and Nadham al 'Imrithi,\(^{21}\) coupled with songs that are in accordance with the material. In addition, as a complement there is also tashrif which discusses about fi'il sentences, featuring nine (9) important wazan that are often found in yellow books.\(^{22}\)

**RESEARCH RESULTS**

The results of the pretest and posttest scores that have been processed in this study show the difference in the average value of understanding nahwu in the experimental class using the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum learning method and the control class using conventional methods. The following are the results of descriptive analysis in the control and experimental classes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1. Descriptive Statistics analysis results of nahwu learning using Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Experiment Class</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Based on the table above, it can be seen that there is a difference in the average value of using the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method in the experimental class and using conventional methods in the control class. The results of nahwu learning scores using the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method in the experimental class showed an average of 47.33 and the average value in the control class using the conventional method was 45.67. Based on this explanation, it can be concluded that the use of the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method in the experimental class has a higher average than the control class.

After descriptive analysis, then statistical analysis techniques consisting of prerequisite tests and hypothesis tests were carried out. The prerequisite tests in this study include normality test, T-test, and N-Gain Score test conducted with the SPSS for windows version 25 application. The normality test is used to determine whether the two groups are normally distributed or not.

Based on the results of the normality test in the control class and the experimental class, the distribution is normal. This is evidenced by the significance value in the Kolmogorov-semirnov table of the class using the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method in the experimental class showing the result of 0.255 which means > 0.05. And in the control class that uses conventional methods shows a result of 0.177 which means > 0.05.

T-test or mean difference test was conducted after the normality test was conducted and normally distributed. The T-test aims to determine the effectiveness of using the AL-Miftah Lil Ulum method in nahwu lessons. The results of data processing show that there is a significant difference in the use of methods in the control and experimental classes. This can be seen from the sig. (2-tailed) value of 0.000 which means < 0.05. Based on this data, it can be concluded that Ho is rejected and Ha is accepted, meaning that the application of the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method is significantly effective on understanding nahwu class VIII MTs. Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan.

The N-Gain Score test was conducted to see the increase in learning outcomes of experimental classes that received learning using the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method and control classes that received learning with conventional methods can be seen from the table below:
Effectiveness of Al-Miftah Lil Ulum Method in Improving Understanding of Nahwu MTs Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan

Gain Score test results table (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Experiment Class</th>
<th>Control Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>100,00</td>
<td>61,19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>73,53</td>
<td>.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>82,35</td>
<td>28,81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>100,00</td>
<td>55,93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>66,67</td>
<td>23,88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>61,19</td>
<td>.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
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<td>.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>100,00</td>
<td>.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>59,52</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>74,63</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
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<td>61,19</td>
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<td>16</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>100,00</td>
<td>33,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>100,00</td>
<td>37,31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>71,19</td>
<td>-50,00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>100,00</td>
<td>42,37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P.27
According to the results of the N-Gain Score test calculation, the experimental class (Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method) has an average N-Gain Score of 79.3684, or 79.4%, placing it in the effective category with a minimum N-Gain Score of 34.62% and a maximum of 100%.

However, the average N-Gain score for the control class (conventional method) is 21.5037, or 21.5%, placing it in the ineffective category with a minimum N-Gain score of -50% and a maximum of 61.19%.

So it can be concluded that the application of the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method is effective for improving understanding of nahwu in class VIII students of MTs Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan in the 2023 academic year. While the application of conventional methods is not effective to improve understanding of nahwu in VIII grade students of MTs Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan lesson year 2023.

The following are the categories of interpretation of the effectiveness of N-Gain

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;40</td>
<td>Ineffective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-55</td>
<td>Less effective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56-75</td>
<td>Effective enough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;76</td>
<td>Effective</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Hake, R.R, 1999
DISCUSSION

Research activities that have been carried out at MTs. Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan which has been designed has run according to the design. The implementation of learning using the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method is in accordance with the learning syntax. There is a difference in effectiveness between the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum learning method on understanding nahwu with conventional learning methods. This is evidenced by the results of data processing in the learning implementation process with SPSS version 25.

The results of data processing using descriptive analysis techniques showed a difference in the average value in the control class and the experimental class. The average value in the experimental class using the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method was 47.33 and the average value in the control class using conventional methods was 45.67. It can be seen that there is an influence on the experimental class using the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method and has a higher increase than the control class.

Furthermore, prerequisite tests and hypothesis tests were conducted. The prerequisite test consists of normality test, t-test, and N-Gain Score test. The normality test was conducted to test whether this research was normally distributed or not. The results of the normality test in this study showed a normal distribution as evidenced by the test results in the Kolmogorov semirnov table showing a result of 0.255 which means > 0.05. And in the control class that uses conventional methods shows a result of 0.177 which means > 0.05.

Furthermore, a t-test was conducted to see the difference in the significance value of the control class and the experimental class. the type of t-test used is Independent Sample T-Test. This test was chosen because there were two groups of experimental and control classes that were given different influences or treatments. The results of data processing can be seen that the t-count value is 3.289 > t-table of 2 with a sig. (2-tailed) value of 0.000 meaning <0.05. This is then used as the basis for testing the hypothesis, which means that Ho is rejected and Ha is accepted, which means that the application of the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method is more significant in improving understanding of nahwu than the conventional method.

Furthermore, to determine the increase in learning outcomes of the experimental class that received learning using the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method and the control class that received learning with the conventional method, the N-Gain Score test was conducted. Based on the results of the N-Gain Score test calculation above, it shows that the average value of the N-Gain score for the experimental class (Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method) is 79.3684 or 79.4%. With a minimum N-Gain Score value of 34.62% and a maximum of 100%. And as for the average N-Gain score for the control class (conventional method) is 21.5037 or 21.5% with a minimum N-Gain score of -50% and a maximum of 61.19%. And it can be concluded that the experimental class shows a
significant increase compared to the control class which means that the application of the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method is effective for improving understanding of nahwu in class VIII students of MTs Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan. While the application of conventional methods is not effective for improving understanding of nahwu in class VIII students of MTs Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan.

The results of this study are also in accordance with the behavioristic learning theory proposed by Edward I Thomdike 23 that learning is a relationship or interaction between stimulus and response. As well as the opinion of Bariyah Oktariska, that there are two main aspects, namely stimulus and response.24 In general, a stimulus can be interpreted as a stimulus or encouragement that is used to improve achievement or shape behavior,25 while the response is defined as the response or ability shown after the stimulus is given, so that from this stimulus and response, the desired learning outcomes are expected in accordance with the learning objectives.26

From several explanations and results of previous studies that have strengthened and supported the results of this study, both theoretically and empirically which found that there is a significant positive effect between the application of the al Miftah Lil Ulum method on the ability to understand Nahwu of MTs Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan students. Thus an understanding can be obtained, that to improve the ability to understand Nahwu of students, an educator must be selective in choosing and using good methods, so that later it is expected to have a positive influence or impact on student learning outcomes.27

With the positive effectiveness of the application of the al Miftah Lil Ulum method on students’ Nahwu comprehension skills as described above, it is hoped that it will be able to provide much better learning results and is expected to quickly improve the ability to understand Nahwu for students. Therefore, an educator is required to be selective in choosing the right method, so that teaching and learning activities can be delivered properly, effectively and efficiently.

The results of this research are in line with research conducted by Ahmad Mujali in his journal which explains that the application of the al Miftah Lil Ulum method is very effective in improving the yellow book reading skills of new students at the Syaikhona Moh Islamic boarding school Cholil Bangkalan Madura28. This is also in line with

27 Endang Switri, Metodologi Pembelajaran Bahasa Arab Di PTU (Penerbit Qiara Media, 2022).
research conducted by Dewi Afifah in her research entitled Using the al Miflah Method in Improving the Quality of Reading the Yellow Book for Santri at Madrasah Diniyah Miftahul Ulum al Yasini Pasuruan, explaining that the improvement in the quality of reading the Yellow Book for students can be seen from several indicators, including: increasing learning outcomes, being able to understand the material easily, and being able to analyze the position of pronunciation in sentences correctly29.

This proves that several theoretical bases and previous research are in line with the findings of this research, theoretically and empirically there is a significant increase in students' Nahwu understanding ability using the al Miftah Lil Ulum method, which means that the higher the students' Nahwu understanding ability, the higher also the significance of using the al Miftah Lil Ulum method

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

The study shows that the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method significantly improves nahwu understanding at MTs Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan. The t-test data processing results indicate that the t-count value of 3.289 is greater than the t-table value of 2, with a sig. (2-tailed) value of 0.000, which is less than 0.05. This was then used as the basis for hypothesis testing. The results indicate that the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method plays a greater role in improving nahwu understanding compared to conventional methods.

Suggestions for teachers are expected to be more selective in choosing and using the right method in learning, especially learning nahwu. Teachers are advised to use the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method in learning nahwu because it has proven effective in improving students' understanding of nahwu. For further researchers, so that the implementation of research using the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method is carried out with a long period of time, so that research can be maximized. This study investigates the effectiveness of the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method in improving students' understanding of Nahwu at MTs Tanwirul Qulub Lamongan. The practical impact found shows that applying this method significantly enhances students' comprehension of Nahwu, making it an effective teaching method recommended for use in other madrasas.

The results of this study are expected to benefit the development of knowledge, especially in Nahwu learning. For future researchers, it is suggested that studies using the Al-Miftah Lil Ulum method be conducted over a longer period to achieve more comprehensive and in-depth results. Additionally, future research directions could focus on applying this method at various educational levels and in different learning contexts to optimize overall student learning outcomes.

29 Afifah, “Penggunaan Metode Al-Miftah Dalam Peningkatan Kualitas Membaca Kitab Kuning Pada Santri Madrasah Diniyah Miftahul Ulum Al-Yasini Wonorejo-Pasuruan.”
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