

IN-SERVICE EFL TEACHERS' EXPERIENCES OF CONDUCTING REFLECTIVE PRACTICE AS CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

Teaching is a demanding job and it requires professional individual to perform the job. There is a need for teachers, especially language teachers to reflect on their action in order to be professional educators. To ease teachers in conducting reflective practice there are some tools that can be utilized. This qualitative case study investigated experiences of in-service EFL teachers in Indonesia in conducting reflective practice. More specifically, it discussed the tools of reflective practice employed by participating teachers in doing reflection. Four in-service EFL teachers were purposively chosen as respondents of the study. The data were acquired by spreading questionnaire, doing interview, and conducting document analysis. The results of the study revealed there were five tools of reflective practice utilized by in-service EFL teachers in doing reflective practice, namely; teaching journal, peer observation, students' feedback, video/audio recording, and action research. The finding of the study informed that the practice of reflective practice among in-service EFL teachers was not maximal yet. Especially on the utilization of video/audio recording and action research. Moreover, no teachers were getting involved in peer coaching activity.

Keywords: reflective practice tools, in-service EFL teachers, reflective practice, professional development activity, teaching improvement.

INTRODUCTION

As the main actor of education teachers hold an important role in teaching and learning process. Peraturan Pemerintah Republik Indonesia (PPRI) No 74, 2008 on teacher states teaching as profession, thus it obliges teachers to be professional. There are several roles teachers should perform as the professional educators; educating, instructing, directing, training, scoring, and evaluating students (PPRI, 2008). Further, The Regulation of The Republic of Indonesia Number 14, 2005 on Teacher and Lecturer Chapter IV, Article 10 Verse 1, requires teachers to possess a set of competences

which includes pedagogical competence, professional competence, personality competence, and social competence (as cited in Dikti, 2016). In response to this mandate therefore, teachers have to be both professional and empowered. Based on these regulations, it is obvious that teaching profession requires teachers to have some knowledge and skills to be able to perform their duties well, so they can create a more meaningful learning for their students. Professional development is considered one element that supports teachers' competence in catering the demands of schooling systems today as teachers are expected to be professional.

There is a growing interest of professional development for English teachers to address the daily needs of teachers and learners in today's world. Professional development is believed to be one of the most effective ways to empower teachers. The term 'professional development' has been used in many contexts.

Wong (2011, p. 142) defines professional development as "a lifelong endeavor, a way of being, and a perspective on how one practices as well the practice itself". Professional development may be in the form of personal decisions in order to improve teachers' practices of working into a more professional level. It can also be in the form of institutional working program to empower their teacher. One of personal professional development that can be practiced by educators is reflective practice. This study is aimed at elaborating in-service EFL teachers' experiences in conducting reflective practice as a form of professional development activity. More specifically, it attempts to answer the following research question "What tools of reflective do in-service EFL teachers' utilize in doing reflective practice?"

LITERATURE REVIEW

Overview of the Term

John Dewey is generally recognized as the founding father of the reflective practice theory. Reflection or reflective practice, which is a relatively old concept in teacher education, was first defined by its founder, John Dewey. According to Dewey (1933) as cited in *How We Think*, Dewey (2007, p. 9) "Reflection is an active, persistent, and careful consideration of a belief or supposed form of knowledge, of the grounds that support that knowledge, and the further conclusions to which that knowledge leads". Dewey's concept of reflective practice inspired many other researchers in the field to revise or expand the term. One of the researchers who expanded the theory is Schon. He recommends reflective practice as a way for teachers to recognize consonance between their own individual practices and

those of successful practitioners. As defined by Schon, reflective practice involves thoughtfully considering one's own experiences in applying knowledge to practice (Schon, 1996 cited in Schon, 2016).

Farrell (1998) suggests that reflective practice should be the feature of EFL/ESL teaching due to its usefulness. He pinpoints that "Routine in teaching without any reflection can lead to this type of 'cutting the slice off the roast' and can lead to burnout on the job" (Farrell, 1999, p. 52). Pennington (1992) as cited in Farrel (1998, p. 1) highlights reflective practice "as a means for (1) improving classroom processes and outcomes, and (2) developing confident, self-motivated teachers and learners". Many researchers agree that reflective practice will enable teachers to renew their teaching by reflecting their teaching experience

Tools of Reflective Practice

There are some tools teachers can use in conducting reflective practice. Some experts propose several forms of reflective practice activities, such as; learning journal, peer observation, students' feedback, peer coaching, video/audio recording, and action research.

Teaching journal: Goker (2016) says reflective or teaching journal is considered as one of the most common tools utilized by educators or reflective practitioners in doing reflection because of its practical utilization in providing useful evaluation. Similarly, Zulfikar & Mujiburrahman (2018) says teaching journal facilitates teachers to make some reflections on their teaching and then generate feedback for the improvement of their classroom practices. The finding of their study generated from interviews indicates that most participants are convinced that teaching journals help them become reflective teachers. It also reveals that most of in-service teachers regard teaching journal as an effective tool to increase teaching awareness, and thus improve their performance during teaching. Whitton, Sinclair, Barker, Nahlohy, & Nosworthy (2004) find out by actively using teaching

journal teachers can develop their professional growth since it enables teachers make evaluation of their teaching.

Peer observation: Conducting peer observation is considered essential. Zacharias (2012) proposes 3 reasons why peer observation is needed; to learn, to describe, and to evaluate teachers' pedagogy competences. Further, Cakir (2010) contends that through peer observation teachers will get new insights to improve their teachings because it provides teachers opportunity to identify some problems they cannot observe by themselves. While Richards & Farrell (2005) claim peer observation has a number of benefits; it helps teacher become more aware of the problem they confront, and it also help teachers narrow the gap between the ideal condition of teaching with what actually happen. Rose (2007, p. 1) says "peer coaching partnerships will support individual teachers in reflecting on and describing their practice. As a result of these focused discussions, a teacher is able to better understand practice and be able to take steps to improve practice". Similarly, Sharifi & Abdolmanafi (2014) prove that "collaboration is a vital ingredient for reflective courses" (p. 57) while teachers can reflect on their peers and evaluate and comment each other in order to improve themselves. According to Weston (2015) "observations provide value to both the "visited" and "visitor" teacher, whose collaboration before and after the observed lesson promotes active reflection" (p. 23).

A study by Merc (2015) also informs us about the positive attitude of EFL teachers on classroom peer observation, even though they are lack of experiences. Instead, this study also confirms conducting classroom observation has more advantages than disadvantages because teacher can learn many positive things from his or her colleagues.

Peer coaching: Joyce & Showers (1980) in Showers & Joyce (1996) comment that peer coaching was first coined as an on-site dimension for staff development in United States. Yee (2016) defines peer coaching as

collaborative process among two or more individual who together to reflect the current practice in educational field. It may be used for expanding, refining, or building new skills. On the other hand, Ladyshevsky (2004, p. 1) comments "Peer coaching is a learning strategy that is used extensively in education to promote learning. The term 'peer' denotes equal standing or rank in any respect. 'Coaching' is a term we are familiar with from sports and is a strategy that is used to guide others towards achieving maximal performance. 'Peer coaching', therefore, is an educational strategy in which individuals of equal rank or standing coach one another towards achieving some higher level of performance". Further, he mentions several benefits of conducting peer coaching. Those are mutual problem solving; learning through observation; and self and peer development.

Other researchers, Scott & Miner (2008) add peer coaching is a collaborative non-judgmental process which is aimed to develop strong professional relationship between colleagues. Lately, peer coaching has been proven to be an effective means to improve staff development and provide opportunity and support for teachers to implement new ideas or strategies.

Video/audio recording: Video or audio recording is another tool that can be utilized by teachers to evaluate or look deeper to their classroom. Tice (2002) highlights audio or video recording lets teachers revisit their behavior during teaching session from a different perspective. During teaching and learning process, there might be some incidents missed from teachers' observation. Mathew, Mathew & Peechattu (2017, p. 129) argue:

"Video or audio recordings of lessons can provide very useful information for reflection. Through watching their own or other peer members' audio and video recordings, student teachers can develop their awareness of teaching. A teacher may do many things in class but may not be aware of many things happening in the class which

the teacher may not normally see. A classroom video can vividly picture the whole process of teaching. It can trigger teachers' reflective thinking, reflect on their weaknesses and help them get some inspiration and ideas for their teaching improvement"

Jaworski (1990, p. 63) highlights several benefits of recording the teaching, they are "to offset the isolation of teachers who rarely see beyond their own classrooms, by providing glimpses of other teachers at work, to provide opportunities for viewing other teaching styles and observing other teachers' strategies in the classroom, to provide a medium for reviewing a teacher's own classroom as an aid to reflection on teaching, and to provide a shared experience which can form a starting point for discussion of teaching, leading to identification of important issues and the possibility of working on these issues in the classroom". Kember (2000) also believes that audio/video recording is the least intrusive method for gathering data for reflection.

Students' feedback: Other way to evaluate teaching and learning process can be conducted by asking students' feedback. Tice (2002) opines students' feedback as a powerful tools that can be utilized by teachers to know students' perception and opinion about teaching and learning process carried out by teacher. Teacher can ask students' opinions and ideas about teaching and learning process through direct questions or questionnaire. Mathew, Mathew, & Peechattu (2017) argue students' feedback will give new perspectives to teaching and learning process run by teachers.

Students' feedback will also be meaningful for teachers in some respects. Firstly, it can be used to improve teaching, and secondly, it will also be useful to create a good relationship among teachers and students (Iqbal, Ramzan, & Arain, 2016). On the other hand, Burniske & Meibaum (2012) as cited in Iqbal, Ramzan & Arain (2016) argue that even students' feedback can provide useful information, but it cannot be used as single parameter to judge teachers'

performance since it has some limitation, such as the limitation of students' knowledge related to teaching strategies, classroom management, and curriculum.

Action research: Cirocki & Farelly (2016) view action research as "an approach to classroom-based research that connects classroom research and action towards change" (p. 34) which is very important to gain deeper understanding on classroom problem. Mathew, Mathew, & Peechattu (2017) emphasize action research can be a reflective tool to overcome classroom problem. They believe action research is a progressive problem solving process to understand teachers' teaching and it helps teachers to become more aware of what is happening in their classroom. Skytt (2000) announces that action research is a kind of strategy for teachers to investigate problems or interest related to their professional context. Hamilton (1997) cited in Skytt (2000, p. 3) says "action research is a process of systematic inquiry into a self-identified teaching or learning problem to better understand its complex dynamics and to develop strategies geared towards the problem's improvement". That's why through action research it is expected teachers can make improvement of their teaching activity. Instead, Richards (1999) as cited in Qing (2009) opines action research can be very useful in getting to know our students. Through action research teachers can investigate learners' cognitive styles and their preferences for particular learning approach.

Cirocki & Farelly (2016) utter that doing action research seems to overwhelmed for so many teachers, thus, many teachers decide not to conduct it. Further, they classify several factors that may hinder teachers from conducting action research, some of them are lack of training, motivation, and lack of support from institution.

Previously, there have been several research studies discussing reflective practice among EFL or ESL teachers. One of which is a research carried by Fatemipour (2013). It was a descriptive study. It involved

40 English teachers who were selected through simple random sampling. It was believed that in order to reflect teaching and learning process, reflective teachers need some tools to obtain reliable data for reflection. The data in this study were collected through questionnaire, observation, interview and documentation (teacher journal). The result of the study revealed there were four most effective tools of reflective practice utilized by participating teachers. The followings were the tools of reflective practice ranked from the most effective to the least; teacher diary (teaching journal), peer observation, students' feedback, and audio/video recording. Teacher diary (teaching journal) was considered as the most efficient tool in doing reflective practice. Peer observation was considered more effective than two remaining tools. Students' feedback was positioned in the third place. Audio/video recording was the least effective tool for reflective practice.

METHODOLOGY

This study is a qualitative case study. It involved 4 female in-service EFL teachers teaching at vocational high school in Indonesia. The participating teachers had varied teaching experience ranging from 8-27 years. The samples were selected through purposive sampling. In this case, we set up some criteria before selecting the sample. Those were; they should pose at least 1 year teaching experience and the second they had experience of conducting reflective practice. we also did interview with the participating teachers to know if they understood about reflective practice and its implementation on teacher development program. Instruments used in this study were questionnaire, documentation and interview. A close questionnaire was designed in accordance with research question. Instead, in-dept interview was also conducted to get more accurate data from participants.

The data in this study were gathered through questionnaire, document analysis and interview. A close questionnaire was

spread out to participants to identify the tools of reflective practice utilized by in-service EFL teachers. After filling out the questionnaire, we discussed interview schedule with participants. we let them decided the day, time, and location of the interview. We also let the participants to choose the language of interview, and finally they decided to have interview in Indonesian to avoid misunderstanding. The interviews were carried out at school (school library and office).

The data collected through questionnaire, documentation and interview were analyzed by using Interactive Models by Miles, Huberman, & Saldana (2014). It involved data collection, data condensation, data display, and drawing conclusion. Since interviews were conducted in Indonesian, we firstly transcribed the recording of the interview into English. We also coded the data to make it easier in identifying the themes appeared. Meanwhile, the results of questionnaire were tabulated and transformed into percentage. Some of the codes appeared in the result of the study are as follow: T1# refers to participant 1, INT, refers to interview, to indicate data were extracted from interview and the last QST, used to indicate data were taken from questionnaire.

FINDINGS

The findings of the study are presented in accordance with research questions. Thus, it describes tools of reflective practice utilized by in-service EFL.

In-service EFL teachers who participated in this study had employed some tools of reflective practice to ease them in doing reflection. The results of questionnaire and interview reveal there are five tools utilized by respondents in doing reflection. Those tools are teaching journal, peer observation, video/audio recording, students' feedback, and action research.

Teaching Journal

Table below shows the summary of the result of questionnaire on the number of

teachers who employed teaching journal in doing reflective practice.

Table 1: The Summary of Number of Participants Who Used Teaching Journal

Statements	Response				
	Always	Often	Usually	Rarely	Never
I reflect my teaching and my classroom activities on my teaching journal to make evaluation of my classroom performance.	25%	75%	-	-	-
I use teaching journal as a medium to “tell” my daily teaching (evaluating teaching strategies, learning materials, students’ difficulty, etc)	25%	75%	-	-	-
I write some problems I encountered during teaching and learning process in a teaching journal.	50%	50%	-	-	-

(Source: QST)

The result of questionnaire revealed that all respondents utilized teaching journal as the tool to reflect their teaching. Teaching journal seemed to be the most common tool utilized by the respondents in doing reflection, it might be because it was much easier to utilize. As a tool in doing reflection, T3#JT elaborated her experience in utilizing teaching journal

“I always take notes related to my teaching, it might be not in detailed nor comprehensive. Those notes contain outlines of problems I encountered when I teach” (T3#JT, INT, May 12).

From this interview, T3#JT indicated she always rethinks her classroom action by taking notes to problems she found in her classroom. Another respondent, T2#AZ, added that she usually wrote her teaching journal during or after the classroom.

“..... I write this [teaching journal] while on the job or after teaching. It contains teaching-related problems that need solutions. I look for solution by discussing with my colleagues or finding from other sources” (T3#AZ, INT, May, 9)

Eventhough all respondents utilized teaching journal as tool to reflect their teaching, there was no fixed format for their teaching journal. T4#ES, explained,

“... the format [of teaching journal] is diverse among teachers

since it is used for personal purposes” T4#ES, INT, May 9).

Generally, the participants of this study utilized their notebooks as their teaching journal. There was no agreed format for their teaching journal. But, one teacher, T2#AZ, already had some guideline questions to help her work with her teaching journal. T2#AZ started her teaching journal by identifying the objectives, material, and method used to deliver the topic. And then, it was followed by some guideline questions, there were 6 questions in total; 1. What I did well? 2. What my students did well? 3. What I did not do so well? 4. What my students did not do so well? 5. What would I change? 6. What did I learn from my teaching today? (Doc of Teaching Journal of T2#AZ)

From T2#AZ’s we can see her reflection is quite comprehensive. She does not only focus on students’ related problems, but she tries to investigate both students and teacher sides.

Peer Observation

Other way to do reflective practice is by conducting peer observation. In this case, teachers watch each other’s teaching to learn from their colleague. The following table is the result of questionnaire on number of participants who did peer observation as part of their reflective teaching in order to be a professional teacher.

Table 2: The Summary of Number of Participants Who Conducted Peer Observation

Statements	Response				
	Always	Often	Usually	Rarely	Never
I sometimes ask my colleague to observe and give comment on my teaching.	-	-	100%	-	-
I sometimes observe my colleague classroom and learn how to conduct effective teaching	-	-	100%	-	-
I learn many things from observing other fellow teachers' classroom	-	-	100%	-	-
I discuss practical/theoretical issues in language teaching with my colleagues after doing peer observation.					

(Source:QST)

All respondents in this study agreed to say they “usually” did peer observation. They preferred to use term “usually” to indicate that it was an occasional agenda, in this case, it was done once per semester.

From the interview with participants of this study, it is clear that peer observation has become a biannual routine. It is usually conducted by the end of the academic year. T2#AZ expressed:

“..... We, English teachers, do peer observation routinely. I think teachers of other subjects have not done it yet. When we did peer observation, we came to the classroom with observation sheet to help us do the observation. There are several indicators [on the sheet] we need to observe. We just need to fill in the form during observation” (T2#AZ, INT, May, 9).

Another participant, T4#ES, also explained,

“ Peer observation is usually conducted once per semester. We observe each other's teaching, then we have discussion on the results of observation. We can learn much by doing observation” (T4#ES, INT, May 9).

From the interview it can be said that peer observation is not only about teachers observing each other, but there is a follow up action. It is followed by discussion between observer and teacher being observed. T3#JT Added discussion was not only about the result of observation, they could talk about

other aspect or case they found in their classroom.

“.... for example, when I found student A did not obey my rules [misbehaved], I talked to other teachers who taught this student previously, to learn more about him [his character] (T3#JT, INT, May 12).

In doing peer observation, the participating teachers prepared it really well. It is proven by the existence of observation form they used during peer observation. The forms contains several points such as teaching and learning process, teaching method, classroom management, clarity, and problem solving. On the first point, teaching and learning process, teachers commented on how to open and close teaching and learning process and how to propose questions to students. And then, the next they also commented on the appropriateness of the selection of teaching technique with the topic. For example in one of the sheets or forms , we found a participant commented on her friend who was teaching about passive voice. She wrote on the form “ students are still confused about verb changing, so before starting the explanation about passive voice, it will be better if you make sure that students have already understood about verb change”. And then, related to classroom management, their comments are varied from how to handle students who come late, how to handle talkative students to how to manage time distribution for both lecturing and practicing. The next point is clarity, here teacher commented on teachers' voice during teaching and learning process, if it is clear

enough or not. And then, they also commented if the concept is well explained. The last point is problem solving. It includes how teacher solved classroom problem she found during her teaching. (data source: peer observation sheet).

Students' Feedback

Students' feedback is another tool utilized by in-service EFL teachers in

evaluating their teaching through reflective practice. Students' feedback is an important tool to understand students' perception toward teachers' teaching. The use of students' feedback in doing reflective practice is quite popular among participating teachers. It can be seen from the result of questionnaire presented on the following table.

Table 3: The summary of number of participants who asked for students' feedback

Statements	Response				
	Always	Often	Usual	Rarely	Never
I conduct pre-lesson conferencing to discuss what I am going to teach and engage my students to give their opinion or ideas.	50%	50%	-	-	-
Together with my students, I set up classroom norms and rules at the beginning of the meeting.	75%	25%	-	-	-
I sometimes talk to my students about their learning styles and preferences	-	100%	-	-	-

(Source:QST)

Table 3. above revealed that teachers regularly ask for students' feedback to improve their teaching. Students' feedback is expected to give teachers some views about their weakness in teaching. It is supported by the finding on the interview. As stated by T2#AZ,

“Students' feedback is necessary to renew our teaching. There might be some students who dislike our current teaching method. Or it might be confusing them. So, student feedback is very important to improve teacher's teaching” (T2#AZ, INT, May 9).

In line with T2#AZ, T3#JT also stated that she gained benefit from students' feedback.

“I always ask for students' feedback for teaching improvement, I usually did it by asking questions, spoken or written. I feel this activity benefits me because it informs me about students' perception to us [their teachers]” (T3#JT,INT, May 12).

Further, she explained some students were very shy to comment on their teacher. To anticipate this case, T4#ES preferred to ask for comments from her students in a piece of paper and kept it anonym. Some comments from students are very constructive (the following comments are taken from students' feedback gathered by participating teachers).

“You are good in teaching, but you advice your students too much. So, you run out of time and the lesson was incomplete] (Student A).

“We like your class because you are a decisive teacher. Please do not get mad at us during your teaching” (Student B).

“Your voice [volume] is too small, as the result students who sit on the backseat hardly hear your explanation”(Student C)

By looking at those comments, it is obvious the essence of using students feedback to evaluate teachers' performance in teaching is positive. By considering students' comments teacher can adjust their performance with students' need. So, teacher can do better in their teaching.

Video/audio recording

The use of video/ audio recording is not a favourite tool in doing reflection. Out of four participants, there were only 2 participants who did video or audio

recording. The result of questionnaire below indicated video or audio recording is not a popular attempt to help teacher do reflection over their teaching.

Table 4: The summary of number of participants who recorded lesson

Statements	Response				
	Always	Often	Usually	Rarely	Never
I record my lesson and play it after the class as form of reflection	-	-	50%	-	50%
I also show my teaching video and ask for some suggestions from my colleague	-	-	-	25%	75%
I sometimes look at my teaching video and analyze what runs well and what does not.	-	-	50%	-	50%

(Source:QST)

T3#JT and T4#ES acknowledged that they have not had any thought of recording their lesson.

“For this time, I have not recorded my lesson yet. Perhaps, next time(T3#JT, Int, May 12)

Meanwhile, participants who had already practiced video or audio recording said there were benefits on it. They said through video or audi recording they can investigate their teaching from different point of view.

“...in my opinion, recording lesson is very beneficial. Teacher can investigate her/his classroom activities from different perspectives” (T1#DS, INT, May 12)

T2#AZ agreed with T1#DS about the benefit of recording the lesson.

Further, she added *“by recording lesson, we see other sides of our teaching... we will see some students did not pay attention to our lesson during teaching and learning process, and it was not observable during teaching session” (T2#AZ, INT, May 9)*

Action research

In order to grow professionally, teacher can also engage in writing scholarly article to solve their classroom problem. Conducting action research is one of the tools of reflective practice teacher can utilize to promote teacher professional development. Unfortunately, the finding of this study informed us that conducting action research is not a common practice among participants.

Table 5: The summary of number of participants who carried out action research

Statements	Response				
	Always	Often	Usually	Rarely	Never
I try to analyze the incident that occurred during my teaching as genesis for research topic	-	-	-	50%	50%
I sometimes analyze classroom incident and devise it as research topic	-	-	-	50%	50%
Based on the classroom problem, I conduct an action research to overcome the problem	-	-	-	50%	50%

(Source:QST)

Two participants, T2#AZ, and T3#JT asserted that they had experience of conducting action research. T2#AZ said:

“For action research, I did it when I was in Jakarta. It was a collaborative action research.

Honestly, I find it difficult to write due to lack of training, especially when I have to conduct my own action research, it is really hard. Moreover, I have not found any reasons that oblige me to write. Hmm.. may be later for my preferment” (T2#AZ, INT, May 9)

Quite similar to T2#AZ, T3#JT opined:

“I did action research, but I stucked on chapter 3. Since I do not write for a long time, I found difficulties in writing finding and interpretation part. It probably caused by lack of training, moreover teachers are not empowered [through regulation] to write. In fact, doing research is very important for teachers, by doing so they know the appropriate teaching method with students' learning style” (T2#JT, INT, May 12)

While, T1#DS and T4#ES mentioned they never got involved in action research. It seemed doing action research among high school teachers is not a common activity. The participants of this study also revealed that doing action research was really hard. T1#DS expressed as follow

“I have never carried out action research yet. It is not easy” (T1#DS, INT, May 12)

So, the data above revealed a fact that conducting action research is a challenge for teachers. While, doing research is considered important for teachers to solve problems or just to test the effectiveness of certain teaching techniques

DISCUSSION

Teachers will always be the one of the most important pillars in educational context. The way they carry out teaching and learning process will always be one of teacher related issues discussed worldwide. As stated on the previous section, this study was aimed at investigating in-service EFL teachers experience in conducting reflective practice. More specifically, it talks about some tools of

reflective practice utilized by participating teachers.

The obtained results from this study revealed there are 5 tools of reflective practice employed by in-service EFL teachers to ease them reflect on their teaching. The results of this study are in partial harmony with a research conducted by Fatemipour (2013) who, in his research, arrived to a conclusion that there were four most effective tools utilized by ESL teachers in Iranian context. He found teaching journal is the most effective reflective tools utilized by Iranian ESL teachers who participated in his study. This current study has revealed that all participants utilize teaching journal as a tool to reflect their teaching. Teaching journal, as stated by Zulfikar&Mujiburrahman (2018) facilitates teachers to make some reflections on their teaching. By doing so, they can improve the quality of their teaching. The participants of this study utilized teaching journal as part of their routine. In this case, they tried to take note of the classroom incidents the encountered in their classroom. Their decision to take note and make some evaluation over their teaching shows their awareness of their responsibility as educators.

Based on the finding, it is also found that participating teachers also employed peer observation as a means to conduct reflective practice. They shared some benefits of conducting peer observation. T4#ES stated that they can learn many things by doing peer observation. This statement was supported by other teachers, T3#JT for example elaborated that they can discuss manythings after the observation. This current study comes to a conclusion that the participants felt positive with peer observation as a tool to reflect their teaching, since it facilitates them with opportunity to learn from each other. The benefits of doing peer observation experienced by participants have previously been discussed by Zacharias (2012), He proposes several reasons why teachers should engage in peer observation, those are to learn, to describe, and to evaluate teachers'

pedagogy competences. In line, it is also supported by Weston (2015) who says peer observation can provide positive value for both teachers who conduct observation (observer) and the one under observation. Aside from teaching journal and peer observation, students' feedback is other useful tool for reflection. Teachers who participated in this study said they occasionally asked for students' feedback. As teaching journal and peer observation, all respondents of this study utilized students' feedback to evaluate their teaching performance. Mathew, Mathew, & Peechattu (2017) argue students' feedback will give new perspectives to teaching and learning process run by teachers. The finding of the study also informed us that students' feedback is very useful to create a meaningful teaching and learning process. By regularly asking for students' feedback teachers can evaluate if they run a meaningful teaching and learning process. Students' feedback is another form of democracy in the classroom since teachers teach their students by considering their students' needs, not only by teacher personal interest.

Some of the participants also utilize video/audio recording to reflect their teaching. There are 2 participants out of 4 participants who used this tool as means to conduct teaching evaluation. The other remaining 2 teachers said they never did video recording, since they did not really know about this activity. Teachers involved in this study, who employed video/audio recording, said video/ audio recording is very beneficial for teachers. Through this means they can investigate their classroom action more thoroughly. They can revisit their classroom by looking at their teaching video. Regarded to the use of video/audio recording, Jaworski (1990) highlights video/audio recording is aimed to provide opportunities to observe other teachers' teaching style. Finding of this study does not show that point since participating teachers did not share their recorded teaching video with other

teachers. They used teaching video for personal evaluation.

The last tool of reflective practice to discuss based on the finding of the study is the utilization of action research. Conducting action research seems to be least favourite tools to make evaluation. Even teacher who has completed their master degree still encountered problems in carrying out action research, especially in writing the results. Most of the participants said conducting action research is not easy. It goes along with Cirocki & Farelly's opinion (2016) doing action research seems to be overwhelmed for so teachers, thus, many teachers decide not to conduct it. While in fact, conducting action research as stated by Richards (1999) in Qing (2009) can be utilized to investigate learners' learning preference. We assume, most teachers did not do research because they were lack of knowledge in research. Moreover, there is no regulations that oblige them to conduct action research.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above finding and discussion, some conclusion are drawn. The first, conducting reflective practice is crucial for language teachers since it fosters teacher professional development. Through reflective practice, teachers can evaluate their classroom performance by revisiting their action. So, it leads them to be professional teachers.

The second, in-service EFL teachers who participated in this study have conducted reflective practice, unfortunately it has not done maximally yet. Teachers need to encourage themselves to gain more knowledge and training on reflective practice, specifically in carrying out action research.

The last, since there is teachers' limitation in doing reflective practice, institutional support is needed. For example, by inviting trainer to train teachers on how to conduct reflective practice in appropriate way.

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