#### **CHAPTER I**

#### INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes research background of this research that contains the reasons why the researcher conducted this research, then based on the research background, the researcher formulated research questions of this research, the explanation about objective of the research, hypothesis, significance of the research, scopes and limits of the research, and definition of key terms also presented in this chapter.

## A. Background of the Study

Particularly in high school English class more displays basic materials that require students to be able to master speaking and writing. In communicating using English, students must be skilled in treating attention to elements of vocabulary and grammar, when expressing their ideas in writing or speaking. It means that grammar have large influent for four skill. So, if we mastery of grammar, every skill can be resolved very easily. In addition, the material about grammar much removed in 2013 curriculum, it is impacted when students carry out the National Exams. In matters usually found there in written text that contains elements of grammar, especially phrasal verbs. A Phrasal Verb is a phrase which consists of a verb in combination with a preposition or adverb or both, the meaning of which is different from the

meaning of its separate parts: 'look after', 'work out' and 'make up for' are all phrasal verbs (Koprowski, 2005: Mart, 2012).

Teaching English as foreign language has many problem faced of the students in mastering phrasal verbs. Especially for phrasal verbs mastery, most students has limited phrasal verbs. The students also has difficult to understanding the material of phrasal verbs, because they cannot distinguish the use and the meaning of phrasal verbs. Mastery of phrasal verb difficulty experienced by students may be due to the difficulty memorizing of new phrasal verbs. According to Handayani, 2019, the students' problem in learning phrasal verbs there are, first because of their lack of knowledge confusing them with similar simple verbs, second phrasal verbs are a special case of lexical items, third the context without knowledge in vocabulary is not always helpful in understanding the phrasal verbs.

Teaching phrasal verbs is a difficult area in learning English. Phrasal verbs are one of the most difficult items of language to teach and learn (Gardner and Davies, 2007). There are several factors that cause students' difficulties in learning phrasal verbs. Phrasal verbs are an essential part of the English language - especially the spoken language. Simple combinations like sit down and stand up cause the learner few problems. The difficulties begin when the combination is 'idiomatic': that is, when the meaning of the combination as a whole (i.e. the phrasal verb) is different from the meanings of its separate parts. The learner may, for example, know the meaning of the verb break and the meaning of the adverb down, but this knowledge would not help him or her to understand the different meanings of the phrasal verb break down. All the

phrasal verbs in this book are idiomatic, and each different meaning is treated as a separate phrasal verb (Shovel, 1992).

Phrasal verbs is one of important aspect in learning English. Without having enough phrasal verbs, students would have difficulties to know the meaning and the use of phrasal verbs when they want to express their idea or opinion to communicating. Beside that, though phrasal verbs often arise or are often used in written text, for example, written texts on the topic news items, report text, narrative, letters, recount, etc. Not only found in written text, but also phrasal verbs are used in common everyday spoken. The teaching of grammar must be meaningful and fun, if it is to be successful (Garrett, 2003). Educators are now looking to technology to address many of the challenges related to teaching grammar from a meaning-based and communicative perspective, as well as to teach English more efficiently and effectively (Bikowski, 2018). To solve the problem teacher should guide a interesting way in teaching phrasal verbs.

Along technological developments, there is created of new innovations in learning English through the online by mobile phone or computer. People can not be separated with the technology. Especially smartphone, whether Android or IOS, almost everyone has a smartphone or even that they had more than one. Smartphones are not only used for communication but also for social media, gaming, business, or learning. It also has become a habit in for high school students. Nowadays many learning applications that compete to offer superior features for its users. While at the present language learning applications apply a variety of learning methods. The application is used as a

medium of learning innovative and contemporary. Many applications that offer English language learning with a variety of methods. It can help students in learning English especially for learn phrasal verbs with an application through mobile phone, or it can accessed by computer or website. One of them is Memrise application.

Memrise is an educational tool available both online and for mobile devices. Memrise uses flashcards and mnemonic technique to aid in teaching foreign language and memorizing information from other subjects (Luczak, 2017). However, Memrise can help teachers to facilitate to teach as teaching media. Memrise uses drill and practice methods, it is very appropriate when applied to high school students whose difficulty in distinguishing the use and meaning of each phrasal verbs. The students found using Memrise enjoyable and convenient, and therefore it would be a useful tool in teaching vocabulary (Louis, 2016). Memrise a language learning application that offers a variety of interesting features and memorable. Memrise presented features "meaning", and "clue", which helps students make it easier to learn phrasal verbs. So, by using Memrise may be easily to improve student's mastery of Phrasal Verbs, and by using Memrise may help teacher to be alternative to teaching Phrasal Verbs.

The author tries to look for alternative media to teach phrasal verbs. Memrise made students enjoy in learning phrasal verbs and they would get active in teaching and learning process. By using media students would be easier to mastery phrasal verbs. This learning technique made the students understand the English subject actively, independent and fun. Hopefully

Memrise application can help students in mastering phrasal verbs, because such applications have varying features and used drill and practice method. Students only need to download this application on the Play Store or the Apple Store. By using Memrise application teachers can create in learning atmosphere more enjoyable, comfortable, relax.

The purpose of this study was to investigate the effectiveness of using Memrise application toward the students' phrasal verbs mastery of the first grade at SMAN 1 Gondang Tulungagung. Some studies have conducted related the use of Memrise application, there are: the first, a thesis entitled "Improving Student's Mastery of Irregular Verb by Using Memrise Application at Tenth Gade of MAN Sidoarjo" written by Elly Cholifatur R (2018). This study conducted to increase the students irregular mastery by using Memrise application. The result is significance different score of Irregullar test achieved by the students after they have been taught using Memrise application. The second, entitled "Memrise in Legal English Teaching" written by Aleksandra Luczak (2017). This study, conducted to teach vocabulary, collocation, prepositional phrases, develop the skill paraphrasing and defining legal term of art in plain English to prepare TESOL test. And the students get positively influenced the test result achieved by the students,. The third, entitled "Learning and Reviewing Vocabulary Through Memrise to Improve Students" Vocabulary Achievement" written by Dian Fadhilawati. This study conducted in Islamic Universitas Balitar, the result is students successfully, the students have a good vocabulary achievement after they have been taught by using Memrise.

Based on the previous studies, researchers interested in conducting research using Memrise application as a learning media. The used of Memrise application as a learning medium has a very good result, because it made learning more fun, made the atmosphere more relaxed. By using the application, learning and teaching would be practical because the students would easy to memorize new phrasal verbs creatively and fun. Researchers used a quasi-experimental to determine whether the effective of Memrise application to teach phrasal verbs. The researcher chose SMAN 1 Gondang Tulungagung as the place to conduct the study because appropriate The researcher chose SMAN 1 Gondang Tulungagung as the place to conduct the study because based on the researchers' result of interview with the English teacher there, they stated that the students of SMAN 1 Gondang Tulungagung also have problems in mastering English phrasal verbs. Beside that, SMAN 1 Gondang has an adequate internet connection, and the students also have gadgets that are suitable to used Memrise application.

Based on the descriptive, the researcher interesting to conduct research entitled "The Effectiveness of Memrise Application toward The Students' Phrasal Verbs Mastery of The First Grade at SMAN 1 Gondang Tulungagung".

### **B.** Research Problem

This study followed by question:

1. Is there any significant differences on the students' phrasal verbs mastery with and without being taught by using Memrise application to the first grade at SMAN 1 Gondang Tulungagung?

### C. Objectives of the Research

Based on the formulation of research problem, this study aimed to investigate the effectiveness of using Memrise application on the students' phrasal verbs mastery of the first grade at SMAN 1 Gondang Tulungagung.

### D. Research Hypothesis

A hypothesis is a statement describing relationships among variables that is tentatively assumed to be true. It identified observations to be made to investigate a question (Donald Ary, 2010). This research used experimental research design with quantitative approach, this research needed to formulate hypothesis, and the hypothesis of this research were:

- Alternative hypothesis (Hα): there is significant difference on the students'
  mastery of phrasal verbs before and after taught by using Memrise
  Application.
- Null hypothesis (H<sub>0</sub>): there is no significant difference on the students'
  mastery of phrasal verbs before and after taught by using Memrise
  Application.

### E. Significant of the Study

The researcher hopes that the result of the study will give contribution to:

# a) English Department Students

The researcher hopes that, after the students are taught by Memrise application they will be able to use Phrasal Verbs correctly and the meaning each phrasal verbs. After the students were able to use phrasal verbs in good way, students would get high score in their exam and increase their English achievement. The researcher also hopes that this

application make the students more interested to learning English, also Memrise can be the alternative media to teach English in different content.

### b) For school

From the result of this research, the writer hopes that it can be a consideration tools for school about the use of Memrise application to facilitate students' mastery of phrasal verbs of first grade at SMAN 1 Gondang Tulungagung.

### c) For the teacher

The writer hopes that the teacher can use "Memrise" as an alternative media in teaching phrasal verbs. By using Memrise the teacher also can facilitated teacher to create courses or utilize courses that are created by other users. This application makes teacher easier to teach phrasal verbs, especially for SMAN 1 Gondang Tulungagung.

### d) For the students

The writer hopes that students would mastery of phrasal verbs by using Memrise as an alternative technique, because it can make students interested and more enthusiastic in learning, especially learning grammar.

### e) For the writer and the reader

This research can be evaluation for the writer who frequently used monotonous media and technique when teaching in the classroom and it can be a reference to the next researcher. The researcher hopes that it would build the readers motivation to learn English. For the future researcher, the researcher hopes that Memrise can be the alternative media to teach English in different content.

### F. Scope of Limitation of the Study

The scope of this study is teaching phrasal verbs mastery by using Memrise application. In this study use Memrise application as the media to teach phrasal verbs. Therefore, in this study only conducted the treatment by using Memrise to the experimental group, in order to get the effectiveness in doing research. There were some unavoidable limitations, because of the limit time, the researcher conducted the treatment only three meeting. The subject of this study conducted to the first grade at SMAN 1 Gondang Tulungagung in academic year 2019/2020. The instrument test used to collect the data related to the research problem.

## **G.** Definition of the Key Terms

The definition of key term is given in order to avoid misunderstanding f some words used in the study. Some terms used in this study need to be defined are as follow:

### 1. Memrise

Memrise is an application to learning language, can be accessed by using mobile phone or computer that connected to the internet, this application used drill and practice method. Memrise offers interesting features and memorable for students.

#### 2. Phrasal Verbs

Phrasal verbs is the combination of verbs and preposition or adverb which produces a new meaning. Phrasal verbs are common used in daily conversation and written text. Phrasal verbs is important in learning English. It usually used informal English even in formal English, to express the idea or opinion to communicating.

# 3. Mastery Phrasal Verbs

Mastery of Phrasal Verbs is very important, because phrasal verbs is the common used in everyday spoken and written text. Mastery of phrasal verbs, will greatly support students in understanding the structure, the use and meaning. Good result of mastery of phrasal verbs is very helpful in getting messages of the material in communicating. Conversely, poor mastery of them can cause difficulties when getting messages in communicating. The students' phrasal verbs mastery in this research is focus on meaning phrasal verbs. It is measured by using phrasal verbs test developed by the researcher