

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter the writer will discuss the basic of this research. It consist of background of study, statement of the research problem, objective of study, significance of study, scope and limitations, and definition of key terms.

A. Background of Study

English is a subject that has a lot of skills to be mastered. A student has been getting English lessons since sitting in elementary school. However there are still many of them who have not mastered every skill such as reading, writing, speaking and listening. English Language has four skills and three components. Those are Grammar, Pronunciation and Vocabulary. It can be said that vocabulary is one of the most important aspect, because when a student masters grammar without knowing the meaning of a word it will be in vain. Umasugi at all (2018) Students can describe everything what they think without using grammar, but they can express nothing without vocabulary. The quality of someone's language skill depends on the quality of the vocabulary.

Vocabulary is a core component of language proficiency especially in English and provides much of the basis for how well learners speak, listen, read, and write. Sadewo (2016) Vocabulary is one element of language that should be learned and taught. Without having enough vocabulary, the students will have difficulties to know the meaning of what they listen and read as well as to express their aim in communication. It is known that having limited vocabulary would limit the students in

using the English skills covering listening, writing, speaking, and reading. Even though the students master in those skills but their vocabulary is low, it will disturb or they will not be able to increase their skills in English. It is a reason that vocabulary is important component in English.

One word of vocabulary has several meaning. For example we can see when we use dictionary or Google Translate, we search one word that we need but it can give us a lot of meaning. So we must choose an appropriate word for our sentence. Vocabulary is a list words usually arranged alphabetically and defined, explained or translated into the range of language, the stock of word a person's command the word used in particular. It is impossible that we must know all the meaning of vocabulary because our language is not English. However, as students must understand that one word has around one or two meaning. Lidiasari, at all (2017) Vocabulary is one of the items that have to be mastered first by the students in learning English.

Understanding vocabulary is generally considered as an important part of the learning process of a language or the development of one's abilities in a language that is already mastered. Anuthama (2010) Vocabulary learning is more than the study of individual words. The students are often taught new words as part of certain subjects and many adults consider vocabulary formation to be an interesting and educational activity. If a student has an adequate vocabulary of English and the teachers are attuned to effective strategies for teaching vocabulary, it will automatically support the achievement of four English skills.

The student's achievement in vocabulary can be increased by using several ways. It can use method or strategy. Teaching vocabulary can be done while the teacher teaches about four skills in English. The teacher should have strategy that is used to make the students easier to remember the word. According to Patahuddin, et al (2017) The improvement of students' vocabulary in learning English depends on the teacher's strategy because teaching English in junior high school is not easy, it is different from teaching adults in secondary schools. The teacher should be creative in creating and choosing an appropriate technique, media and activity in classroom or via online. There are a lot of strategies and methods that can be used to make the students memorize and maintain vocabulary. The teacher can use Application, ask the students to watching their favorite movie, reading novel or even listening music to increase students' vocabulary.

Several strategies perhaps would be effective for teachers to provide students vocabulary mastery through reading comprehension, writing or fill-in task. According to Lee and Muncie (2006) showed that a post-reading composition task helped ESL students improve the productive use of higher-level target vocabulary. The teacher must have the innovative strategies that can be employed in teaching vocabulary. Folse (2006) suggested students could improve their retention of new target words more while engaging in multiple fill-in-the blank exercises than while writing one original sentence with each target word.

In this study, the researcher chooses MTsN 8 Tulungagung to conduct the research. This school is located in Sumberdadap Pucanglaban. It can be called that this school is favorite school in that area. Even though MTsN 8 Pucanglaban is located in a village in the mountains, but it can be said that the school is advanced. English is one of a course which is emphasized. The students often follow competitions in other city like speech, telling story and debated. The teacher sometimes asked the students to do free speaking outside the class to build students vocabulary. There are a lot of students take a lessons outside the school to improve their ability. The lessons are about school subject or extracurricular. For mastery in those competitions, the students sure mastery in four skills in English. Certainly if the students have good quality in communication or in speaking, they will have enough vocabulary.

Now the teacher is challenging to find the appropriate strategy to teach student via online. Since March the students have to study at home because of Covid-19. Corona Virus is a virus which is found in Wuhan Chinese in December 2019. Covid-19 attacks respiratory system of humans and animals. Symptoms of people who are affected by the corona virus are influenza, cough, septic throat, fever, respiratory problems and sluggish.

According to Head of the disease unit emerging and zoonosis WHO (World Health Organization) Dr. Maria Vankerkhove, which was quoted by CNBC said Corona virus is transmitted through droplets or sneezing or coughing fluids that enter in the body of another person if they

are in a close position and touching the things that already has a virus in it, then touches mouth, nose and eyes. Therefore, since Covid-19 entered in Indonesia and many residents have been infected with the corona virus, the government has appealed to the community to do physical distance. The government also did lockdown to stop the spread of Covid-19. In addition, the solution which is provided by the government for the prevention of Covid-19 is to eliminate learning activities in schools to be replaced by online systems or online learning. Even the scheduled of national exam was finally abolished.

Initially on March 9 2020 the Minister of Education and Culture issued a circular letter number 3 of 2020 concerning Corona Virus avoidance in education. The point of the letter is to ask for ensuring the availability of hand washing facilities with soap, enforce healthy living behaviors, ensure education units to clean rooms and environments regularly, give permission to the students who are sick to stay at home and remind them to avoid direct physical distance. Until March 15 2020 the President of Republic Indonesia Ir.H. Joko Widodo conveyed an appeal in the press conference at Bogor Palace regarding to stop the face-to-face learning process at school, which was replaced by Online. Ir. H. Joko Widodo also hopes that the teacher should be active to obey the role in making students continue to study at home in order to reduce the spread of Covid-19.

Tulungagung is one of city in east Java that is there several people are infected by Corona virus. The response of the head master of education

authorities in East Java in order to make the education continue to reach the goal of education during Covid-19, he issued the circular letter Number:420/2438.1/101.1/2020 on April 16 2020 about the extension in implementation of educational policies in emergency period to cut off the spread of Corona Virus Disease in East Java by online learning. Based on that circular letter the head master of MTsN 8 Tulungagung Drs. H. Hardiyono, M. Ag made the policies in emergency period in order to spread Corona Virus on April 22 2020. The letter contains about the implementation of learning activities at home for the students via online. It will utilize the E-learning that has been provides by the ministry religion of Republic Indonesia. The letter also contains about graduation police for 9th grade students.

Based on the reason above the researcher want to know what strategies that are used by the teacher to increase and maintain students' vocabulary via online during Covid-19. Here the teacher should think hard to find strategy for increasing students' skills in English and also their vocabulary because the teacher must still teach the students even they cannot face to face. So, the researcher interested in conducting a research entitled **“Teachers’ Strategies in Teaching Vocabulary during Covid-19 Pandemic in MTsN 8 Tulungagung”**

B. Statement of the Research Problem

Base on the background of study above, the research problems are formulated as follows:

1. What are the strategies used by the teacher in teaching vocabulary during Covid-19?
2. How are the students' responses toward the teachers' strategies in teaching vocabulary during Covid-19 Pandemic?

C. Objective of Study

Based on the background of the study above, the purpose of this study are:

1. To describe the strategies those are used by the teacher in teaching vocabulary during Covid-19.
2. To describe the students' responses toward the teachers' strategies in teaching vocabulary during Covid-19 Pandemic

D. Significance of Study

The researcher hopes, it will be useful for the teacher to teach Vocabulary more effective in classroom and also via online. The result of this study will make the English teacher are able to know the strategies to increase and maintain students' vocabulary. For the researcher, the research result hopefully can be references for the next study and the future researcher will get a lot of knowledge about the strategies which can be used to teach vocabulary via online.

E. Scope and Limitation

The research is conducted in MTsN 8 Tulungagung. The study will focus on teacher's strategies in teaching vocabulary during Covid-19 and students' responses toward the strategies. The researcher took an English teacher and the students that good at vocabulary to collect the data. After getting the result the researcher will analyze the result and make

conclusion. The limitation of this study is the researcher could not conduct the investigation directly in the field. Because of Corona virus disease pandemic the researcher did online interview by using Google Form. The researcher could only use interview as the instrument without observation in the classroom. The researcher needed a long time to wait the teachers and students' responses in answering the questions of interview because at that time the school focused on examination.

F. Definition of the Key Terms

In order to give clear definition and as guidance for the readers to understand the whole study, the definition of the key terms are given here.

1. Teaching Strategy

Strategy is a plan, method or series of activities designed to achieve a particular educational goal. Teaching strategy is a learning activity that must be done by teachers and students so that learning objectives can be achieved effectively and efficiently or learning procedures that are used together to produce learning outcomes for students.

2. Corona Virus Disease 2019 (Covid-19)

Corona virus is a type of infectious disease caused by a type of virus: severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus 2 (2 SARS-CoV-2) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS). Corona is a large family of viruses which cause disease in humans and animals.

3. Vocabulary

Vocabulary is a list or collection of words or of words and phrases usually alphabetically arranged and explained or defined: lexicon. In order words Vocabulary is a total number of words that (with rules for Combining them) make up the language.