CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the background of the research, statement of research problem, objectives of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation, definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Research

Learning use social media is currently become new alternative. With social media, peoples easily to connect and share information with others. Through social media, someone easily to create a personal web page. Other function is to dig up information from other page and does not take a long time (Basri: 2017). Including in terms of learning foreign languages, with social media, the students can easily to find many information. They regarding foreign language, because social media does not only contain information form within the country, but users can also access information from aboard.

In Indonesia, English is an important foreign language to learn, but in practice both students and teachers still encounter difficulties during learning (Megawati, 2016). In learning English, there are three important components that must be learned, namely vocabulary, pronunciation and grammar, but vocabulary is the most important thing to learn before knowing pronunciation and grammar. Vocabulary is an important aspect that must be learned at the beginning in learning foreign languages (Brown, 1994: 3).

Vocabulary is the number of words in a language or a list of words that have the meaning (Hornby, 1995). There is another opinion that defines vocabulary as words that come from abroad, which is more than one word consist of two to three words but can express one idea (Ur P, 1998). From that statement we know that learning vocabulary is not easy. Vocabulary has many numbers and variations, vocabulary has a different meaning in each position. From this complexity, it makes students use Twitter as a medium that can be used to learn vocabulary. Kusumarasdyati (2006) states that each individual student has a unique strategy for understanding foreign vocabulary. One of the social media used is twitter. Twitter can be considered as a medium to learning vocabulary.

Twitter is a messaging service that has a unique thing. That is every message or text is no more than 140 characters, so it is very easy to write and read. The message or text is public. There is no need to ask permission from every users to view messages or text posts made by others (O'Reilly, 2011). The statement concludes that twitter can be used by users especially students to learn foreign languages, because every post on twitter is general and public. The students who want to access foreign accounts that provide english learning or vocabulary learning, they do not ask permission from the account owner.

Besides learning media, the most important factor in learning is instilling an interest in self. Slameto (2010: 57) explains that interest is very influential on student learning, if the students learn is not what they want, the students will not learn optimally. If students have an interest in the lesson what they want, students will learn it and easier to understand it. Interest can increase enthusiasm in

learning activities. Interest means someone's condition voluntarily and happy in doing activity (Renninger & Hidi 2016: 1). Thus interest can be interpreted as the starting point of all activity including learning.

Researcher is interested in investigating students' interest in learning vocabulary through Twitter because interest is one of the critical aspects of student learning success. If in the students there is high interest, then the students will be easy to achieve their success. In this case the researcher chose to investigate students' interest especially in the students at fourth semester of English department because, in general the fourth semester already know many social networks, many of them are familiar with twitter, and many of them have the twitter account. The students also familiar with the twitter accounts that can be used as learning media. By looking at the number of users, this is the reason why the researcher are interested in researching how they are interested in learning vocabulary through twitter.

There are several studies related to vocabulary learning through twitter. The first research is from Deddy Apprianto Bandjar (2018) which focuses on the impact of using Twitter on English learning. In this study, researcher found several positive and negative impacts from student perspectives about using Twitter in learning English. One of the positive effects is they gain new knowledge about vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation correctly.

Other related research is from Nindya Juwita Utimadin, Sudarsono, Urai Salam (n.y), which focuses on social media twitter which is used as a medium for learning English as a foreign language. Twitter can be used as a fun medium in

learning foreign language and Twitter can be used outside in the formal classroom. In this study the researchers also concluded that all social media will always influence and support teacher productivity and student achievement with regard to language learning.

Review of Previous studies have focused on the impact of using Twitter on English language learning and Twitter is used as a learning medium. This research, focus on students' interest through twitter because studying interest will provide information to teachers about how much students are interested in learning vocabulary at fourth semester especially in english department of faculty of education and teacher training through twitter. This research will provide a novelty regarding learning about interest, it will know the description of how much the potential of the student success in learning vocabulary and an overview of the success of learning vocabulary. Therefore, the researcher decided to choose the title "The Students' Interest in Learning Vocabulary Through Twitter at The Fourth Semester of English Department of IAIN Tulungagung".

B. Statement of Research Problem

Based on the background of knowledge, the researcher can formulate a research problem :

1. What is the students' interest level in learning vocabulary throughtwitter?

2. What are the types of students' interest in learning vocabulary through twitter?

3. What are the factors that affect the students' interest in learning vocabulary?

4. What type of vocabulary that the students' interest?

C. Objectives of the Research

Based on the research problem above, this study aims to explain :

1. The students' interest level in learning vocabulary through twitter.

2. The types of students' interest in learning vocabulary through twitter.

3. The factors that affect the students' interest in learning vocabulary.

4. The type of vocabulary that the students interest.

D. Significance of the Research

In this study, the researcher hope this research is usefull for:

1. English teacher

    For English teachers, this study can be used to find a new methods or alternatives media used to improve the students' interest in learning vocabulary.

2. Researcher

    For other researchers, this research is expected to be used as a new reference when conducting related research.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Research

The study attemps to develop vocabulary mastery with the scope and limitation of the research being limited to the subject and the object of the research. In this study, researcher only focus on students' interest in learning vocabulary through social media. Researcher specialize in the Twitter application. The object of research focuses on students at fourth semester of English Department of IAIN Tulungagung.

F. Definition of Key Terms

1. Interest

   Interest is a psychological condition of an individual, feeling interested, happy and volunteering in carrying out an activity that has an effect of enhancing their future career.

2. Vocabulary

   Vocabulary is a words. Words that have meaning and each words have different use. The vocabulary can be arranged into sentences to interpret something.

3. Twitter

   Twitter is a social media networking tool to obtain information and communication. Twitter provides information or tweets that use to share knowledge and account for learning foreign language.