

## ABSTRACT

Hata, Dona M., A. Students Registered Number. 12203173142. 2021. *The Effectiveness of Word Search Puzzle towards Students' Vocabulary Mastery of the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students as SMPN 1 Karangrejo in Academic Year 2020/2021.* Sarjana Thesis. English Education Department. Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training. State Islamic Institute (IAIN) Tulungagung. Advisor: Dr. Dwi Astuti Wahyu N., M.Pd,

**Keywords:** Voacbulary Mastery, Word Search Puzzle, Effectiveness

One of language aspect is vocabulary. Vocabulary can be defined as list of words which has meaning. Vocabulary is very important because if someone does not have vocabulary, they cannot convey their thought. However, teaching and learning vocabulary is uneasy. The difficulties such as student's lack motivation, student's limited knowledge in understanding the meaning and pronunciation of the words, student's capability to memorize new words and recall them, and the context that bring little experience for the students to apply vocabularies they already have from school. To learn vocabulary means learner need to not only memorize bunch of new words but also their meaning, form, and how to use them. Mastering vocabulary by students seems to be harder during covid-19 pandemic. Most of schools are closed, forced sudden changes in the way learning activities run. Teachers and students make an adaptation to online learning, where most of class activities turned virtually. According to Hidayat & Noerida (2020), the disadvantage of online learning is that it is unable to build students' learning motivation because of the limitation in two-way communication. However, online learning cannot be avoided. One of ways teacher can do to decrease the boredom among the students is by using interactive learning media. Based on some previous studies, one of effective media is word search puzzle.

The formulation of the research problem is “is there significant difference score in vocabulary, meaning, use, and form of the students; taught by using word search puzzle and those who been taught by using conventional method?” Moreover, the purpose of this study is to know whether word search puzzle is effective or not towards students' vocabulary meaning, use, and form at the eighth grade students of SMPN 1 Karangrejo.

This research used quasi experimental method. The population of this study is all students of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade at SMPN 1 Karangrejo in academic year 2020/2021. The researcher chose this school because it has good reputation in Karangrejo for its quality. Besides that, there is no research by using word search puzzle which has been conducted here before. From the population, the researcher selected two classes as the samples. They are VIII-C with 33 students as experimental class and VIII-D with 33 students as control class. To collect the data, the researcher used multiple choice tests as the instrument of post-test. All of the treatment and test were administered through online platform.

From the statistical computation by using SPSS 24.0, there are some results. In vocabulary form,  $\text{Sig} = 0.005$  and  $\alpha = 0.05$ . It shows that  $H_0$  is rejected because  $\text{Sig} < \alpha$ . In vocabulary meaning,  $\text{Sig} = 0.108$  and  $\alpha = 0.05$ . It revealed that  $H_0$  is accepted since  $\text{Sig} > \alpha$ . In line with the result, in vocabulary use, the  $\text{Sig} = 0.15$ . It means that  $H_0$  is also accepted since  $\text{Sig} > \alpha$ . So, in conclusion, there is significant different score in vocabulary form between students who been taught by using word search puzzle and those who been taught by conventional method. Meanwhile, although students' average scores of vocabulary meaning and vocabulary use in experimental class is higher than in control class, but the difference is not significant. Thus, it can be said that there is no significant different score in vocabulary meaning and use between students who been taught by using word search puzzle and those who been taught by conventional method.

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**Kata kunci:** Penguasaan Kosa Kata, Word Search Puzzle, Efektifitas

One of language aspect is vocabulary. Vocabulary can be defined as list of words which has meaning. Vocabulary is very important because if someone does not have vocabulary, they cannot convey their thought. However, teaching and learning vocabulary isn't easy. The difficulties such as student's lack motivation, student's limited knowledge in understanding the meaning and pronunciation of the words, student's capability to memorize new words and recall them, and the context of environment that bring little experience for the students to apply vocabularies they already have from school.

Salah satu aspek bahasa adalah kosa kata. Kosa kata bisa diartikan sebagai daftar kata yang memiliki arti. Kosa kata itu sangat penting karena jika seseorang tidak punya kosa kata, mereka tidak mampu menyampaikan pemikiranya. Akan tetapi, mengajar dan belajar kosa kata tidaklah mudah. Kesulitan tersebut antara lain karena rendahnya motivasi siswa, terbatasnya pengetahuan siswa dalam memahami arti dan pengucapan kosa kata, ketidakmampuan siswa dalam menghafal kosa kata baru dan mengingatnya kembali, dan kondisi lingkungan yang memberi sedikit kesempatan kepada siswa untuk mengaplikasikan kosa kata yang telah mereka dapat dari sekolah. Mempelajari kosa kata berarti pembelajaran tidak hanya butuh untuk mengingat sekelompok kata-kata baru tetapi juga arti, bentuk, dan cara menggunakan kata tersebut. Penguasaan kosa kata oleh pelajar semakin sulit selama pandemik covid-19. Kebanyakan sekolah diliburkan, Memaksa perubahan yang tiba-tiba terhadap aktifitas pembelajaran yang berlangsung. Guru dan murid melakukan adaptasi terhadap pembelajaran daring, dimana kebanyakan aktivitas di kelas dilakukan secara virtual. Menurut Hidayat & Noerida (2020), kekurangan dari pembelajaran daring adalah ketidakmampuannya untuk membangun motivasi murid dikarenakan komunikasi satu arah. Akan tetapi, pembelajaran darin tidak bisa dihindari. Salah satu cara yang guru bisa lakukan untuk mengurangi kejemuhan diantara para murid adalah dengan menggunakan media pembelajaran yang interaktif. Salah satu media yang efektif menurut beberapa penelitian terdahulu adalah *word search puzzle*.

Rumusan masalah dari penelitian ini adalah: "adakah perbedaan nilai yang signifikan di *vocabulary, meaning, use, and form* siswa; yang diajar dengan *word search puzzle* dan mereka yang diajar menggunakan metode konvensional?" Sesuai dengan hal tersebut, tujuan dari studi ini adalah untuk mengetahui apakah

*word search puzzle* efektif atau tidak terhadap *vocabulary meaning, use, and form* siswa kelas delapan SMPN 1 Karangrejo.

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode *quasi-experimental*. Populasi dari penelitian ini adalah semua murid kelas 8 di SMPN 1 Karanrejo pada tahun ajaran 2020/2021. Peneliti memilih sekolah ini karena memiliki reputasi yang baik pada kualitasnya. Selain itu, belum ada penelitian yang menggunakan variable sama dengan yang dipakai peneliti di sekolah ini sebelumnya. Dari populasi tersebut, peneliti menyeleksi dua kelas sebagai sampel. Mereka adalah VIII-C dengan 33 siswa sebagai kelas eksperimen dan VIII-D dengan 33 siswa sebagai kelas kontrol. Untuk mengumpulkan data, penelitian menggunakan tes berbentuk pilihan ganda sebagai instrumen dari post-test. Semua perlakuan dan tes diberikan melalui *online platform*.

Dari hasil penghitungan statistik dengan menggunakan SPSS 24.0, ada beberapa kesimpulan yang didapatkan. Pada *vocabulary form*,  $\text{Sig} = 0.005$  dan  $\alpha = 0.05$ . Hasil tersebut menunjukkan bahwa  $H_0$  ditolak karena  $\text{Sig} < \alpha$ . Pada *vocabulary meaning*  $\text{Sig} = 0.108$  and  $\alpha = 0.05$ . Hal ini menunjukkan  $H_0$  diterima karena  $\text{Sig} > \alpha$ . Selain itu, di *vocabulary use*,  $\text{Sig} = 0.15$ . Hal ini berarti  $H_0$  juga diterima karena  $\text{Sig} > \alpha$ . Jadi, kesimpulannya ada perbedaan nilai yang signifikan pada *vocabulary form*, diantara murid yang diajar dengan *word search puzzle* dan mereka yang diajar dengan metode konvensional. Akan tetapi, walaupun nilai rata-rata *vocabulary meaning* dan *vocabulary use* siswa di kelas eksperimental lebih tinggi daripada di kelas kontrol, namun perbedaanya tidak signifikan. Oleh sebab itu bisa dikatakan bahwa tidak ada perbedaan nilai yang signifikan pada *vocabulary meaning* dan *use*, diantara murid yang diajar dengan *word search puzzle* dan mereka yang diajar dengan metode konvensional.