

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter the researcher presents some sub-chapters related to this research. Those include the background of the research, research problems, objectives of the research, hypothesis of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research, and also definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Research

Vocabulary is one of the important aspects in learning English, because vocabulary is the most important elements that should be taught for the first in teaching English. By mastering vocabulary the students can be easier to learn and apply four language skills well. Based on Nunan (1991:9), vocabulary is important for the students to support their four language skills. It means that to learning English the students should not have less vocabulary to apply the four language skills. If the students just have a little vocabulary, they will have difficulties in learning and understanding the English. Furthermore, the students feel boring when their do not know the ways to master their vocabulary. They will lose and they are not interested in learning English because they do not know the meaning. So, the most important thing to study English is to learn vocabulary.

English become important and popular language in the world. It is because English as the foreign language in Indonesia, it also become the

dominant language in many field of activity or job and also used as a subject learned at the school. We know that English is not the native language in Indonesia. So, many students often get difficulties in their attempts to understand or to be understood by others in certain aspects in using English. In English there are four integrated skills that have to reach in order the student acquire the target language perfectly. In general, the goal of teaching foreign language to be taught is the students master the four language skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing. Beside that, the language components like vocabulary, structure, pronunciation and spelling are taught to support the four skills. However the most important component of English is vocabulary.

Students who want to develop their English, they should master vocabulary. To master vocabulary is not easy, the students must be memorize many new word in their mind. Based on Muriel (2006:138), vocabulary is the most important level of foreign language knowledge for all learners to develop – wether they are aiming premarily for academic or interpersonal competence. It means that without an extensive vocabulary and any strategies for acquiring vocabulary, students often achieves less than their potential and maybe discouraged from making use of language learning opportunities around them.

In teaching and learning there are many factors that influence the successful of teaching vocabulary. Some of them are the material to teach the students and the method that are used by the teacher. The ability of teacher to

decide what the material and what the method will be used is important. Usually, the students get difficulties in their memorize. They are getting forget about new vocabulary. In this case, the teacher should select suitable material, using appropriate approaches, and using various technique and media. Beside factors in teaching, there are also many factors from students that make their vocabulary mastery is low. They come from internal factors and external factors. The internal factors mean the factors which are from inside of the students themselves such as: motivation, interest, intelligence and etc. The external factors mean factors which are from outside of students that affect their learning process such as: economic background, learning materials, teachers' performance including their teaching methods and etc.

Teaching method has important function to realize goal in teaching and learning process. As a teacher, it is necessary to find teaching media to motivate the students. In teaching a language, English is very particularly complicated. Teaching and learning vocabulary process is not interesting and monotonous, if does not use a media. So, the teaching learning is more interesting if the teacher uses a media. Media is a tool, method, and technique which are used into streamline of communication and interaction between teacher and students in education and teaching process at school (Hamalik, 1989:12). The media will help the students to understand more about what the teacher explains. The teacher need to use teaching media to make it more understandable and comprehensible. From the point of view of the teacher, the media make the teacher easier to transfer their knowledge to the students.

Using media give exterm motivation to the students to study all lessons that they learn, especially in leraning English.

There are many media that can be used for English learning in Junior High School. Flash card is one of media used to English learning especially in mastering of vocabulary. Flash card is a card that has words, numbers, or pictures on it and that is used to help students learn about a subject. The researcher use flash card to help students' problem in memorizing vocabularies. Using flash card can make the situation of the teaching and learning process is more enjoy, the students can understand quickly and they feel interesting to learn vocabularies.

The researcher choose the seventh grade at SMPN 1 Ngantru as site to do the research. Before conducting this research, the researcher interviews English teacher to get information that the students from the seventh grade at SMPN 1 Ngantru got a problem in learning English. The students felt learning English was difficult, because they had less vocabularies. The researcher choosed the seventh grade students because commonly, the seventh grade students less on mastery of vocabulary and vocabulary that needs to be developed. So, the researcher tried to use flash card in teach vocabulary for them.

Based on the description of background above the researcher is interesting conducts a research title *The Effectiveness of Using Flash Card Toward Students' Vocabulary of Seventh Grade at SMPN I Ngantru Tulungagung in the Academic Year of 2015/2016.*

B. Research Problems

The research problems in this research are :

1. How is students' vocabulary score before being taught by using flash card?
2. How is students' vocabulary score after being taught by using flash card?
3. Is there any significant different in vocabulary score of students before and after being taught by using flash card?

C. Objectives of the Research

The purpose of the research based on the research problems above are :

1. To know students' vocabulary score before being taught by using flash card.
2. To know students' vocabulary score after being taught by using flash card.
3. To know any significant different in vocabulary score of students before and after being taught by using flash card.

D. Hypothesis of the Research

The hypothesis of the research are :

Alternative Hypothesis (H_a). The hypothesis states that if t-test score is bigger than t-table, there is any significant difference in vocabulary score of

students before and after being taught using flash card. It means that the flash card as media is accepted.

Null Hypothesis (Ho). The hypothesis states that if t-test score is similar than t-table, there is no any significant difference in vocabulary score of students before and after being taught using flash card. It means that the flash card as media is rejected.

E. Significance of the Research

The researcher hope that the result of this research will give contributions to:

1. The teacher

It can help to the teacher as the easy way in teaching and learning to train students' vocabulary. The use of media by flash card could be a good alternative or variation in teaching vocabulary. This media make the students enjoyed following the lesson. So, it can too to produce the ability in improving students' vocabulary.

2. The students

It can develope and apply students' learning problem in vocabulary. They will find out that learning English is not always difficult to learn. So it will be easier, interesting for students' in learning vocabulary and success in vocabulary mastery.

3. The Writer

It can motivate the writer to be better and more creative in improving teaching English in the future.

4. The future researcher

It can be used as a reference to future researcher if they have same topic. So, the future researcher can make more complete strategy in their study.

F. Scope and Limitation of the Research

Based on the background of the research, this research has scope and limitation. This research discusses on flash card as teaching media to teach students' vocabulary of seventh grade at SMPN 1 Ngantru Tulungagung in the academic year of 2015/2016 and the result will not be capable to generalize to other students in school. Beside, this research is limited to the seventh grade at SMPN 1 Ngantru, Tulungagung.

G. Definition of Key Terms

1. Effectiveness

Effectiveness is usefulness media that the researcher used in this research especially in using flash card to teach students' vocabulary.

2. Vocabulary

Vocabulary is a group of words that must be mastered by the students as a core component of language proficiency in their learning process.

3. Flash Card

Flash card is a card that has words, numbers, or pictures on it and that is used to help students learn about a subject.