

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher presents background of the study, formulation of research problem. It also followed by the purpose of the research, formulation of hypothesis, the significance of the research, scope and limitation for this research, and definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

English consists of four distinct skills: speaking, reading, listening, and writing. There are parts in English, and they are crucial to supporting the language skills performed. Apart from these four skills, there are still four more skills that must be mastered consist of grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and spelling.

Vocabulary is important to understanding English. Jung (cited in Setiawandi, 2006) states that use of vocabulary and development as a major aspect of learning a new language is recognized by researchers and students. Vocabulary is one important aspect of learning a foreign language. Learning a language may be impossible without mastering a vocabulary. Because of the limitations of vocabulary, learners cannot communicate clearly with others. The acquisition of large quantities of vocabulary can help students' read, speak, listen, and write. The more they knew the vocabulary, the better their chances of doing well on the English exam.

Education is divided into two types, formal and informal education. Formal education takes place regularly, stories, and continuously with the

curriculum. Then informal education is a regular education consciously done but do not follow the rules of the fixed, and not use the curriculum.

The English Club is an informal education of teaching and learning activities implemented within a certain period depending on the needs of students. Learning programs can be learned step by step and can be arranged together between mentors and students. Mentors can play a role as tutors or facilitators and can also be educators. English Club is a place for students to use English in a casual situation. Thomas Ewens (2014), states that English Club provides students with an opportunity to practice English in a relaxed, casual environment and meet new people. Thus, the English Club will increase the students' vocabulary. Vocabulary is one of the essential language components in studying English. Without vocabulary anyone will get trouble in speaking, reading, listening and writing. In other words, the first thing that be mastered in learning language, especially English is vocabulary.

Vocabulary is the most important part of learning a foreign language. It is the basis of the language because vocabulary plays a significant role in the communication process. In general, there is no language without vocabulary, because vocabulary is the fundamentals of a language. According to Avril (2006), vocabulary is a central part of language. The more words students know and can use, the more meaning they can communicate in a wide variety of circumstances. There are internal and external factors in achievement vocabulary. Internal factors are intelligence, physic, talent, emotional, and discipline. While, external factors are teachers, parents, friends, family, facility and etc. To improve English vocabulary skill, it could

be attained by either practicing individually or practicing in group. The English Club is an example about practicing English in group to improve vocabulary skill. In addition, they can practice English seriously and enjoy the English. It shows that English has a special place in the teaching of the foreign language at school.

SMKN 1 Bandung provides several extracurricular activities, such as the English Club. The English Club provides a place for students to express their English-related interests, talents, and knowledge. English is a must for them to get ahead of others. However, discipline and commitment are also needed in every activity. Thus, it is important to test whether there is a correlation between the students' frequency in participating the English Club and their vocabulary mastery.

Actually, researchers have previously studied the context of this study. Yustita (2021) has conducted research in the same context, namely "The Effect of Joining the English Course Program to Eleventh Grade Students' English Vocabulary Mastery". However, the difference is in the research methods used and the samples. The research uses a mixed-methods design, namely qualitative and quantitative methods. Previous research was mostly conducted on students who take English courses and those who do not, but this research is interested in the students' frequency in participating English Club, and the sample is limited to students' who only join English Club.

To complement new research to analyze the students' frequency in participating English Club and their vocabulary mastery, this study used questionnaire and tests. This research is interested in the students' frequency

in participating English Club, and the sample is limited to students' who only join English Club.

The English Club is a place for students to gain and share knowledge, thus their proficiency in English provides a great opportunity for researchers to conduct this research. The researcher wants to find a relationship between students' frequency in participating the English Club and their vocabulary mastery. Because discipline is an important factor in achieving the goals of the English Club, based on the background of the study, the researcher was interested in conducting research entitled "The Correlation Between Students' Frequency in Participating English Club and Their Vocabulary Mastery at SMKN 1 Bandung".

B. Formulation of Research Problem

Based on the background description above, the formulation of research problem already created by researcher in this study is presented directly to the following question: "The formulated of the research problem is "Is there any significant correlation between students' frequency in participating English Club and their vocabulary mastery at SMKN 1 Bandung?"

C. Purpose of the Research

The purpose of this study is to find answers to the formulation of the aforementioned problem. So, based on the above formulation problem, the purpose of the study is, "to Find a Significant Correlation Between Students' Frequency in participating English Club and Their Vocabulary Mastery at

SMKN 1 Bandung”.

D. Formulation of Hypotheses

Hypotheses are temporary answers to questions derived from previous studies or theories. There are two hypotheses used in this study, which are as follows:

1. Null Hypotheses (Ho)

There is no significant correlation between students' frequency in participating English Club and their vocabulary mastery at SMKN 1 Bandung.

2. Alternative Hypotheses (Ha)

There is a significant correlation between students' frequency in participating English Club and their vocabulary mastery at SMKN 1 Bandung.

E. Scope and Limitation for this Research

This research focuses on correlational research to find the correlation between students' frequency in participating English Club and their vocabulary mastery at SMKN 1 Bandung, academic year 2023/2024.

F. Significance of the Study

With this research it is expected to provide suggestions for the following:

1. For teachers, this research can be used to help teachers find out students' English proficiency in vocabulary mastery through the English Club.
2. For students', by carrying out this study, research can then be used as motivation for students to learn vocabulary by joining the English Club,

because learning is not only in class.

3. For further researchers, this study is expected to be a reference to future researchers who want to propose a context of research relating to the vocabulary mastery of the student or education in general.

G. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding, confusion, and ambiguity about concepts on this research topic, the explanations and definitions of key terms used in this research will be explained by the researcher:

1. Frequency

According to Harahap (1995:144), frequency is the number of times an event repeats within a given period of time.

2. English Club

The definition of English Club is a forum for students' who join, they have the same goals and interests in English, as well as regular meetings and each member takes part in every activity.

3. Vocabulary Mastery

Timothy Rasinski (2004) stated that vocabulary is knowledge of word meaning. It refers to all words used by a particular person or exists in a particular language. Vocabulary is the collection of words that an individual knows (Linse, 2005).