

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

Nowadays, English has an important role in the world. As everybody knows that English is one of the dominating languages of the world which is having its impact on every field like education, medicine, engineering and business. It is an international language that has become more important in facing globalization. Everyone has become master of English especially the young learners. They have to be ready as the next generation for their better future. So, we cannot avoid that English has an important role. The importance of learning English could be seen from the fact that most scientific books are written in English and the students are supposed to comprehend those books.

English has four skills, they are reading, writing, speaking, and listening. When students want to master these four skills, they need to master one of the components in English that is vocabulary. Nowadays teaching English Learning has become a phenomenon, especially to millennial learners. Vocabulary is a basic component that is very important to be learned when the learners want to learn a foreign language. According to Schmitt and McCarthy (1997:6) vocabulary has an important role in language skills. 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 aims in communication (Kusumaningrum and Cahyono, 2011:127).

Vocabulary is the core component of language proficiency and provides much of the basis for how learners speak, listen, read and write (Richard, 2002:255). Moreover, it is one of the important aspects of learning a foreign language. There are some

reasons that explain why vocabulary is important for learning language. First, the ability to understand the target language depends on the knowledge of vocabulary. Second, vocabulary acquisition is an important aspect to master all language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing (Edge, 1993). Language skills require adequate vocabulary mastery in order for the idea to be informed well.

Vocabulary mastery is the basic unit in learning English for all students who want to understand a reading, conversation, or written English. Furthermore, for Junior High School students the development of vocabulary knowledge must be a priority. Through vocabulary students can understand how words work in written and spoken forms. The students will be able to understand what a particular word means, how to say the words in the foreign language, how to read the words and also how to put them in a paper. Without sufficient vocabulary it is impossible to achieve that commonly, students cannot compose a sentence or phrase in speaking, even writing and reading because they are poor in vocabulary.

Currently the media is very developed and modern. Perhaps, traditional media is no longer found because it has been replaced by digital or online media. However, digital media will reduce students' attention to teachers because they will learn independently without teacher guidance. According to Ramdarshan Bold (2018), Wattpad Application is a platform to share and inspire writers' ideas and connect with other readers or writers.

On the other hand, in teaching vocabulary there are various techniques and methods how to learn and teach the students. The technique in teaching is important because it gives a new sense in the teaching learning process. By using an appropriate technique, it can convey the material and make the students have high motivation, active, enjoy, and understand the lesson in the learning process especially in mastering vocabulary. One of the teaching strategies that were recommended by some researchers for motivating the students to learn English is by using Online Media. There are many kinds of online media that can be used to increase students' vocabulary mastery. Wattpad Application is one of online media that is expected to enhance students to be more active in

English class. This is online media or Application that can make students interest for practicing vocabulary skill. Then it can be access from anywhere and anytime.

Loking at previous research, such as conducted MTs Darul Falah by Dandy Yanuar Dwicahyo (2021), entitled “The Effect of Wattpad on Enhancing Students’ Writing Skill of Narrative Text”. The research used quasi-experimental design for the research. A quasi-experimental design is using two classes. The finding showed that Wattpad Application was effective to improve in writing skill of the students.

Then, according to research by Indah Lestari (2021), entitled “The Use Of Wattpad Strategy To Improve Student’s Reading Skills At Sman 3 Luwu Utara”. The researcher used the pre-experimental method and gave the students pre-test and post-test, which was used to measure and evaluate the pre-test and post-test outcomes. The research concludes that the use of the Wattpad strategy is effective in improving students reading skills.

The most recent study, done in 2023 by Almira Adnan, entitled “Increasing Students’ Reading Skill by Using Wattpad Application in Eighth-Grade Students of SMP Negeri 3 Watampone”. This research focused on pre-experimental method with one group in pre-test and post-test. Based on that analysis, it can be concluded that the using Wattpad Application can greatly increase students’ reading skill.

Based on previous related research above, they focus on students' mastery of writing and reading by using the Wattpad application in learning. The difference with previous research is that using the Wattpad application as a medium for students has an impact in improving students' mastery of writing and reading, while researcher use the Wattpad application to improve students' vocabulary mastery because by knowing the Wattpad application students can more easily understand vocabulary mastery and make it easier for students to know the meaning of sentences. Other previous researchers used CAR, qualitative, quantitative research approaches to improve reading and writing mastery, while researchers used quantitative research approaches. A pre-test and post-test were also carried out to improve students' vocabulary mastery.

In this study, the researcher focuses on the effectiveness of Wattpad Application in teaching vocabulary mastery. In addition, focusing in students' score after being taught by Wattpad Application. Wattpad application can be used as a visual aid for writing or reading information content within the scope of cyberliterary stories (the world of literature), especially for students. This made the author raise this topic to be used as a topic for further research to be explored further using the Wattpad application media. So that it can make students at the Islamic junior high school level have good vocabulary mastery skills. At the same time, the researcher aimed to observe the use of Wattpad Application to increase students' mastery in vocabulary.

MTs Imam Al Ghozali Panjerejo is one of the Islamic based school institutions in Tulungagung. Where this school produces students who excel in academics, non-academic based on modern Islamic boarding schools. The present study is also intended to prove whether the Wattpad Application is also effective to students' score in the context of vocabulary mastery entitled “**The Effectiveness Of Using Wattpad Application On Students' Vocabulary Mastery At The Eight Grade Mts Imam Al Ghozali Panjerejo**”.

B. Formulation of Research Question

Based on the background of the study, the main purpose of this study is to find out the effectiveness of using Wattpad Application on students' vocabulary mastery at grade eight MTs Imam Al Ghozali Panjerejo. The research problem are formulated follow : “Is there any significant different vocabulary mastery of the student' taught by using Wattpad Application?”

C. Purposes of The Research

Based on the focus of the study, the purposes of the study are:

1. To find out the significant difference in scores between vocabulary mastery before and after being taught using Wattpad Application at eight grade MTs Imam Al Ghozali Panjerejo.

D. Research Hypothesis

Hypothesis is not the final answer the researcher have to conduct the research first empirically. Hypothesis in this research are:

- a. Null Hypothesis (Ho): There is no significant difference score in students vocabulary mastery taught by using Wattpad Application at eight grade at MTs Imam Al Ghozali Panjerejo.
- b. Alternative Hypothesis (Ha): There is significant difference score in students vocabulary mastery taught by using Wattpad Application at eight grade at MTs Imam Al Ghozali Panjerejo.

E. Significant of The Research

The result of this study is expected to be useful for :

- a. Teacher

As the information, English teacher about teach student in mastering vocabulary by using Wattpad Application. The English teacher can enrich variation media for teaching vocabulary. English teacher can use the media to give a solution for students especially in vocabulary.
- b. The student

The research can give solution for the students to understand in study English especially in mastering vocabulary. The students can improve their ability about vocabulary by using wattpad application by their teacher in the class. So the students feel interest to learn English lesson than before and they have good perception that English is not difficult.
- c. The other resresearcher

The use of Wattpad Application can help the researcher to identify how to teach vocabulary well. It also gives information to improve creativity in learning process especially in teaching vocabulary.

F. Scope and Limitation of the Research

There are some limitations to avoid misunderstanding about what the researcher has said and in order to make it more detail and focus:

1. The research was done on eight grade students at MTs. Imam AlGhozali Panjerejo
2. The effectiveness of using watsapp application on student' vocabulary mastery is the focus of this research.

G. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding of the concept used in this research, it is necessary for the writer to provide some definitions of the terms used in this research. Those are:

1. Effectiveness

Effectiveness is an attainment from the target which be measured, and can give an expected result. The effectiveness of this research means the significant improvement of students' vocabulary mastery indicated by the significant value ≤ 0.05 .

2. Media

According to Naz and Akbar, "Media are the means for transmitting or delivering messages and in teaching-learning perspective delivering content to the learners, to achieve instruction".

3. Watsapp Application

Watsapp Application is the combination of web and cartoon (comic). It was coined in Korea to refer to web comics launched by Naver in 2014. Comic can be defined as the form of cartoon to express the characters and apply story that have a related with the picture.

4. Vocabulary Mastery

Vocabulary mastery is the ability to understand, recognize, and effectively use a wide range of words in a language. It involves having a comprehensive vocabulary that allows individuals to communicate clearly, comprehend language, and express ideas effectively. It goes beyond knowing word definitions and includes understanding nuances and

appropriate usage. Vocabulary mastery is crucial for academic, professional, and personal success. It is built through reading, exposure to diverse texts, active engagement with new words, and practice in different contexts.