

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes some aspects underlying the topic of research. They are the background of the research, formulation of research problem, research objective, research hypothesis, significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research, and definition of the key terms.

A. Background of The Research

One of the most important international languages is English. English is related to many aspects of human life. In all elementary schools, junior high schools, high schools, and universities in Indonesia, English is taught. Therefore, English is essential for maintaining good relations with other countries and disseminating information, technology, art, and culture (Dahlan, Rina, and Febrianti, 2021). Language skills and language components are inseparable when learning English. This means that to learn English well, one must have the ability to speak effectively as well as an understanding of the interrelated components of language. Learning a language, especially English, involves four basic skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. The components of language can enhance one's abilities. Pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary are some of the components of English that can be taught to students in addition to language skills.

According to Sulastri (2011), Vocabulary is a collection of words. They are not only known as individual words, but also as groups of words that have meaning. Vocabulary is one part of the language system that must be learned. According to Hanifah (2017), vocabulary is a component that connects the four language skills, namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Therefore, if we do not have a proportional English vocabulary, we will not be able to master the four skills, and we will have difficulties in communicating orally and in writing in English (Kristiyana, Susilohadi, and Pudjobroto, 2014, p. 170). Vocabulary is essential for language learning, so teachers should use appropriate approaches and strategies to help students expand their vocabulary to improve their comprehension and language

production skills (Amal and Dima, 2018). The vocabulary discussed is related to the field of Islamic family law.

Islamic Family Law is a major that studies family law based on Islamic principles including marriage law, divorce law, human rights and Islamic family law, inheritance law, and how these laws can be adapted to the development of society and social change. Students of this major also learn about Islamic religious teachings related to the family and their application in daily life. The researcher focused on the vocabulary of marriage, divorce, and proposal. For this major, mastering vocabulary is important to communicate well and to compete in the world of work. In order to master vocabulary well, learning must be interesting in terms of strategies, media, and games. One of the interesting things for students is games. Nurdiana, Asriati and Saiful (2021) state that games are now popular and used in various activities as well as educational media. Games have the potential to improve students' mood, so these fun activities have the potential to organize their brains during the learning process. One of the interesting games that can be used in the teaching and learning process is the Board Race Game.

Board race game is a fun game. This, supported by Nurdina (2021) Board race game is a fun game that has a board as a medium and there are two people or two or more groups to "race" each other according to a set of rules. Board race game is one of the board game developments as a general game that can be played using a board, table, or floor (Kusumawati, 2017). Wiwin, Dida, and Isry (2020) The "Broad Races" game is a game that is often played when learning English and can help sharpen students' vocabulary memory. That is, students should show the advantages of memorizing words, which allows them to reduce the possibility of forgetting words, and is the basis of language constructive exercise. It is often forgotten, and the board racing game will help students understand better. Students memorize more words than before.

To support this research, the authors took a literature review related to the title, namely research conducted by Widya and Muhammad Agus (2019), Nurdiana, St. Asriati, and Saiful (2021), Awalia and Qalby, et al (2020), Wiwin W., Dida J., and Isry Laila S. (2020), and Sahlan Tampubolon et al (2023). Widya conducted a study in 2019 which showed that board competition games can improve students'

vocabulary mastery. The author proposes the use of board competition games as an alternative tool for teaching English language students. Awalia (2020) showed that the Race Board method is effective for improving students' vocabulary. Nurdina, St. Asriati, and Saiful (2021) found that the board racing game significantly affected students' vocabulary acquisition in terms of verbs and adverbs. Sahlan Tampubolon (2023) showed that students' vocabulary level can be influenced by the board race game. According to Wiwin W., Dida J., and Isry Laila S. (2020), Board Races game can be used as an alternative method to teach English vocabulary.

The researcher chose this topic because of the problems that cause students to have difficulty memorizing and lack of interest in learning English. Students find it difficult to learn English because they do not have much vocabulary. They are also not interested in the same learning method every time they learn so it makes them bored. Students need to be encouraged to love English and enjoy the learning process. Therefore, to help improve students' vocabulary, the researcher used a board race game.

The difference between this research and previous research is the level taught. In previous studies, they taught at the junior high school or senior high school level, while in this study they taught at the university level and chose the Islamic family law department. The reason for choosing Islamic family law is because the topic is rarely researched in the context of English language learning. This opens up opportunities for unique and original research. Based on the above statement, the author would like to conduct a study entitled "**The Effectiveness of Board Race Game On 2nd Semester Students' Vocabulary Mastery of Majoring in Islamic Family Law At UIN Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung**".

B. Research Question

Based on knowing the current realities and problems in English language learning, especially in the context of vocabulary mastery, the researcher takes a question that can be formulated as follows "Is there any significantly difference in the vocabulary mastery score of students majoring in Islamic Family Law in the second semester who are taught with and without being taught using the Board Race Game at UIN Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung?"

C. Research Objective

Based on these problems, the purpose of this study is to determine whether the board race game is effective or not to improve the vocabulary mastery of second semester Islamic Family Law students at UIN Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung.

D. Research Hypothesis

The hypothesis of this research is formulated as follows:

1. Alternative Hypothesis (H_a) : There is a significant difference in the vocabulary mastery scores of second semester Islamic Family Law students taught using the board race game and taught using conventional methods at UIN Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung.
2. Null Hypothesis (H_0) : There is a significant difference in the vocabulary mastery scores of second semester Islamic Family Law students taught using the board race game and taught using conventional methods at UIN Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung.

E. Significance of The Research

The results of this study are expected to have a positive impact practically, the results of this study are expected to provide the following benefits:

- a. Teachers can use the findings to improve students' vocabulary acquisition both inside and outside the classroom; and
- b. Students can use the findings to improve their vocabulary acquisition in English learning.
- c. For Islamic family law majors, students can use the acquired vocabulary to communicate effectively with clients, judges, and other legal professionals.

F. Scope and Limitation of the Research

To avoid misunderstanding what is being talked about, this study is more detailed and focused. The following limitations are proposed:

1. The subject of this research is second semester students majoring in Islamic family law at UIN Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung.
2. This study only focuses on the effectiveness of using board race games to improve the vocabulary mastery of second semester students majoring in Islamic family law at UIN Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung.

G. Definition of The Key Terms

The following are some definitions of key terms in the title:

1. **Effectiveness:** In the Cambridge dictionary, effectiveness refers to the ability to succeed and produce expected results. The meaning of effectiveness in this study is that there is a difference in the vocabulary acquisition scores of students taught using the board race game and those taught without the board race game.
2. **Board race games** are fun modified board games or new board games focused on improving vocabulary mastery. Board competition games are one of the evolutions of common board games that can be played with a board, table or floor. The game is a fun way for students to practice their English while enjoying playing competition.
3. **Vocabulary Mastery:** The ability to understand and use words effectively in a particular language. This includes knowledge of the meaning, form, and pronunciation of words, as well as the ability to use them in context.