

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter presented background of the study, formulation of research problem, research objectives, research hypothesis, the significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research, definition of key terms, and the thesis structure.

A. Background of The Study

Vocabulary is the unity of the letters into a word that is formed by a group of user communities. It can also be interpreted as a collection of words that are combined to form a sentence, so that the combined words have meaning¹. Furthermore, Vocabulary is one of the most important parts of language and one of the things that is to be noticed by the linguists². Vocabulary also refers to a list or collection of words that may be used by language speakers³. Meanwhile, according to Nagy and Townsend vocabulary acquisition refers to the process of learning of new words and phrasal, facilitates language comprehension and communication⁴.

¹ Silvi Listia Dewi Muliana, "The Effectiveness of Media Instagram Towards The Students' Vocabulary Mastery," *Journal of English Education and Social Science (JEES)* 3, no. 1 (2023): 6–30.

² Jack Croft Richards, *Curriculum Development in Language Teaching, Curriculum Development in Language Teaching* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001).

³ E. Hatch and Brown. S., *Vocabulary, Semantics, And Langaue Education* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1995).

⁴ William Nagy and Dianna Townsend, "Words as Tools: Learning Academic Vocabulary as Language Acquisition.," *Reading Research Quarterly* 47, no. 1 (2012): 91–108, <https://doi.org/10.1002/RRQ.011>.

In summary, vocabulary is the unity of letters that become words and have meaning taught in a foreign language.

Learning vocabulary has very important advantages, one of them is to master the four language skills of speaking, writing, reading and listening. The second advantage is to help learners' express ideas and understand written and spoken meaning better. The reason is that vocabulary plays an important part in learning a foreign language and acts as a basis for interaction. In addition, it is also one of the most important aspects of mastering English because learners' ability in reading and comprehending a course is relatively decided by their vocabulary. Therefore, vocabulary learning is essential for learners' ability to learn English, especially reading and comprehending lessons, is determined by vocabulary and if a learner has a limited vocabulary, then the ability to communicate will be affected⁵.

On the other hand, many students are bored and confused in English learning. The students usually complain when the teacher asks them to translate, write, and speak in English⁶. They find it is difficult to develop their idea. It happened because they lacked vocabulary. This problem occurs because students have low ability in memorizing vocabulary. Furthermore, the monotonous method of teaching vocabulary and the infrequent use of teaching media make the learning process more difficult for them. The method of teaching vocabulary here means the way the teacher delivers vocabulary material, which in this case is only by giving

⁵ Ahmad Hanan, Neni Yuliani, and Taufik Suadiyatno, "The Role Of Social Media On Students' English Vocabulary Achievement," *JISIP (Jurnal Ilmu Sosial dan Pendidikan)* 7, no. 1 (2023): 732–736.

⁶ Sarma Sirait and Saidatul Hanim, "Improving Students' Vocabulary Achievement by Using Twitter and Instagram Multimedia," *Journal of Classroom Action Research* 1, no. 2 (2022): 1–15.

many new words to memorize without using varied or interactive activities. As a result, students easily forget the words and feel bored during the lesson. This observation is also supported by Barus and Tampubolon's (2022) research, which states that most students feel reluctant to participate in class activities due to their lack of vocabulary⁷.

One of attempts to enhance students' vocabulary mastery is the use of social media for teaching English. Several studies have been conducted on the effectiveness of social media in teaching students' vocabulary achievement. The researcher learned from the previous studies and the differences based on the gaps. The first previous study from Kabilan & Zahar (2016) states that the efficacy of using Facebook to enhance vocabulary knowledge⁸. The results revealed that learners showed better performance in the post-test than in the pre-test. In the second previous study from Alqunayeer (2016) conducted a study to test the efficacy of Twitter⁹. The results showed that the vocabulary performances of students from the experimental group were in an increasing upward trend. In the third from Al-Khazaali et al., (2023), stated that the use of Facebook in an educational environment can be a useful and useful tool for language learning and

⁷ Rina Herawati Barus and Jonris Tampubolon, "Improving Students' Vocabulary Achievement through Anagram," *Journal of Classroom Action Research* 1, no. 1 (2022): 8–15.

⁸ Muhammad Kamarul Kabilan and Tuti Zalina Mohamed Ernes Zahar, "Enhancing Students' Vocabulary Knowledge Using The Facebook Environment," *Indonesian Journal of Applied Linguistics* 5, no. 2 (2016): 217–230, <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/292386774> Enhancing.

⁹ Huda Sulieman Alqunayeer, "The Impact of Teaching through Twitter on Students' Vocabulary Learning: A Case Study of Qassim University," *World Journal of English Language* 6, no. 2 (2016): 1–9, <http://dx.doi.org/10.5430/wjel.v6n2p35>.

teaching¹⁰. Collectively, these studies show that integrating social media into language education can effectively promote vocabulary development among learners. And according to previous research from Fidiani (2025) stated that the effectiveness of utilizing Thread application as a learning medium is significantly in improving modern poetry writing skills¹¹.

Although many studies have proven the effectiveness of using various social media such as Facebook and Twitter in improving students' vocabulary mastery, and on the Threads application has focused on modern poetry writing skills, but there is no research that specifically examines the effectiveness of Threads for vocabulary mastery, particularly using account @englishsheekers.id. Therefore, this study aims to show that the Threads Application on students' vocabulary mastery. The researcher is interested in finding out how Threads application can help English students' in increasing vocabulary mastery. This research will be tested for eleventh grade students' at SMAN 1 Ngunut. Therefore, the researcher took entitled "The Effectiveness of Threads Application as a Learning Media to Improve Students' Vocabulary Mastery for Eleventh Grade at SMAN 1 Ngunut."

¹⁰ Husam Al-Khazaali, Zahra Amirian, and Mohammadtaghi Shahnazari, "The Effect of Using Facebook Vocab-Developer on Iraqi EFL Learners' Vocabulary Development," *Russian Law Journal* XI, no. 7 (2023): 1–13.

¹¹ Hesti Fidiani, "Modern Poetry Writing Skills By Utilizing Media Thread X in 10th Grade Students of SMA Dua May Tangerang Selatan Year 2023/2024" (UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta, 2025).

B. Formulation Research Questions

Based on the background before, the researchers formulate the research question as follows: How is the effectiveness of Threads Application as a visual learning media on students' vocabulary mastery for eleventh grade at SMAN 1 Ngunut?

C. Research Objectives

Based on the research problem above, this research aims is to investigate whether the use of Threads Application is effective as a visual learning media on students' vocabulary mastery for eleventh grade at SMAN 1 Ngunut.

D. Research Hypothesis

The hypothesis is a tentative answer to a variable in which the truth must be tested, based on the previous statement. The researcher has two hypotheses, namely:

1. Null Hypothesis (H_0): There are no significant differences in the score of the student in eleventh grade of SMAN 1 Ngunut before and after being taught using Threads Application.
2. Alternative Hypothesis (H_a) : There are significantly different scores of the students in eleventh grade of SMAN 1 Ngunut before and after being taught using Threads Application.

E. Significance of the Research

The use of the results of this study are as follows:

1. Students

This research is expected to encourage students to master English lessons to feel relaxed when learning English and solve their problems in understanding the meaning of words in sentences. Therefore, the students can use the vocabulary they have learned in communication.

2. Teachers

The results of this study are expected to help teachers in improving student learning achievement, besides that it is also expected to make a good contribution to students so that learning objectives can be achieved properly. Teachers can also easily make their students understand the subject matter.

3. For other researchers

This research can provide guidelines for the next researchers to develop the use of learning methods when there are obstacles in the teaching and learning process.

F. Scope of The Research

This research focuses on the eleventh grade students of SMAN 1 Ngunut. This research is conducted only in two classes, one class experimental group and one class control group. The researcher used Threads Application as a learning

media to improve students' vocabulary mastery. The researcher wanted to provide more emphasis on students' vocabulary achievement by using Threads Application as a learning. The researcher chooses the subject of study based on the needed data until the data is saturated.

G. Definitions of Key Terms

1. Threads Application

Threads is an instant messaging platform developed by Instagram that is specifically designed for interacting with the user's list of close friends. The Threads application was released in July 2023, falling under the category of applications new Vocabulary¹².

2. Learning Media

Learning media is a tools, materials, and resources used to facilitate learning and teaching processes. It encompasses a wide range of physical and digital resources such as books, videos, podcasts, images, interactive software, and online courses¹³.

3. Vocabulary

Vocabulary is a collection of words that are combined to form a sentence, so that the combined words have a meaning¹⁴.

¹² Yanyan Aida Rohman et al., "The Effectiveness of Instagram as a Medium to Develop Vocabulary Competence in Senior High School: A Systematic Literature Review," *Conference on English Language Teaching* 2, no. Celti (2022): 263–275.

¹³ Durratul Hikmah, "Media For Language Teaching and Learning in Digital Era," *International Journal of English Education and Linguistics (IJoEEL)* 1, no. 2 (2019): 36–41.

¹⁴ Muliana, "The Effectiveness of Media Instagram Towards The Students' Vocabulary Mastery."

H. The Thesis Structure

1. Chapter I presents an introduction consisting of the background of the study, formulation of research problem, research objectives, research hypothesis, the significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research, definition of key terms, and the thesis structure.
2. Chapter II presents a review of related literature and previous studies. This chapter explains the theories of the Threads Application to enhance student vocabulary achievement.
3. Chapter III is the research method that deals with the description of the research design, population and sample or subjects, research instrument, validity and reliability testing, data collecting method, and data analysis.
4. Chapter IV presents the research finding. This consists of the description of data, result of normality and homogeneity testing, analysis of the data, and hypothesis testing.
5. Chapter V presents a discussion that provided explanations and reinforcement of the overall results in the study.
6. Chapter VI presents a conclusion that summarizes the findings based on results and data analysis in the previous chapter, the limitation of this research and also suggestions that are addressed to teacher, further researchers, and application developer.