

## **CHAPTER I :INTRODUCTION**

### **The Background**

Vocabulary is a very important aspect of language teaching and learning. It plays an important roles in the four language skills. It gives contribution to the learners to perform or practice their skill to be better. It means that by mastering the vocabulary, learners will be able to produce sentences easily both in spoken or writing. It is impossible for the learners to perform their English well if they have limited vocabulary. Therefore, vocabulary mastery must be the first priority in English language teaching and learning. As alexander (2009, p.1) says that vocabulary is really important because when children and adults improve their vocabulary, their academic and social confidence and competence will be improve. But in fact, some students is still lacking in vocabulary, the main problems that they often encounter is having a very limited time in practicing their vocabulary. This will lead students to having no ability in spelling the English words correctly. In addition, in senior high school teachers often found difficulties in teaching vocabulary because the methodused is incorrect and still very traditional method, which means another source of problem is in the type of method teachers used in the teaching and learning process.

Developing the abilityof students in mastering English cannot be separated from spelling mastery. The reason behind this is vocabulary enrichment starts from spelling words correctly. There are several techniques that can be applied in teaching spelling. One of them is by implementing the method of “Spelling Bee game”. Spelling Bee game is a fun gamethat used to teach students how to spell

the words well or in a correct manner. Based on the previous study done by Dwi (2016) shows that the spelling bee games can be used in teaching vocabulary. This result of research shows that students' vocabulary was improved by using spelling bee games, this method gives the chance for students to exercise their spelling till they memorize the vocabularies. The researcher wanted to see if the same method can be applied in SMP Negeri 1 TelagaBiru, and will it be as successful as the previous study.

The Spelling Bee game is also suitable with the content standard of Indonesian curriculum (BadanStandarNasionalPendidikan, 2006, p.124) that states the component of language such as vocabulary; structure, pronunciation, and spelling have to be taught cohesively with the language skill. According to Merriam-Webster (2011, p.2), the purpose of Spelling Bee game is to help the students improve their spelling, increase their vocabulary, learn concepts, and develop correct English usage.

In this game, students are not only memorizing a word, letter by letter but also students are brave to speak in front of public. Moreover students not only develop their spelling skill but also they are able to practice either in speaking or understanding meanings of words. By applying Spelling Bee game in teaching, indirectly, students spelling might be improved. At least it will raise their self-confidence for speaking practice. In addition, the strength of this game is giving students the chance to exercise their spelling letter by letter, which will lead to increase their vocabulary.

Spelling does not only improve students' pronunciation in speaking but also in reading and writing. The importance of spelling has been questioned in recent years, as word processing programs are equipped with spell checkers, and some educational reformists have suggested that focusing on spelling holds back the creative processes of writing and that student will naturally develop spelling skills through reading.

In order to measure how far Spelling Bee game can influence students' spelling skill and vocabulary, the writer tries to elaborate everything related to the technique of implementing Spelling Bee game and its effect for increasing students' spelling skill and vocabulary mastery.

Researcher have conducted preliminary study at SMP Negeri 1 Telaga Biru for eight grade students. The way how the researcher conduct the preliminary study is through a simple interview with the students. The researcher gathered all the students of eight grade especially class A and asked several question which is build up from students answer. The researcher started out a question as follow ; "Are you interested in learning English? give your reason". From this question all students answer "No" with the reason that they are lack in vocabulary, some students also answered that they also lack of confidence in speaking English which make them afraid to speak up in class, other students also said that they do not know how to pronounce or spell a word. Based on the problems mostly encountered above, the main problem which I want to observe deeper is most of the students are not able to spell English words well and also they do not know the

meaning of the word. So they need a method which they can enjoy learning in classroom and allow them speak in front of the public. In addition, the researcher take Spelling Bee game as a method to help students in learning english to make them enjoy the class and enrich their ability in mastering vocabulary. Thus, the research is entitled “the use of spelling bee game as a technique to develop students vocabulary mastery”.

### **Problem Statement**

Based on the previous explanation, the researcher formulated the research question as follows: “can the use of Spelling Bee Game develop the students Vocabulary or not ?”

### **The Aims of the Research**

Based on the questions of the research above, the aims of the research is to develop the students’ vocabulary mastery by applying Spelling Bee game

### **The Scope of the Research**

This research only focused on vocabulary such as verb, adjective and noun, because correlated with the school syllabus and helpful to stimulate students memories about vocabularies.

### **Significance of the Research**

This research has some folds of significance, they are:

Theoretically:

- This research can be the reference for another English teacher in choosing method of learning vocabulary
- For the students, it can be the chance in measuring their level ability in English learning

#### Practically

- This research can be an activity that develop the students' ability or mastery of students' vocabulary
- For the teacher, this research can be a chance to develop their competence in teaching vocabulary