

Chapter I

Introduction

This chapter presents the prevalent explanation of this current research, i.e., to explain the importance of English vocabulary in learning English, the issues regarding to learning and teaching English and it is explained in several headings of this chapter, such as : basic consideration, research question, the objective of study, the significances of study and the scope of study.

Basic Consideration

Vocabulary is one of the primary elements in every languages. It is proved that, vocabulary become the focal point in understanding a language. In other words, learning vocabulary is a necessity, the reason is because vocabulary notable become an aspect in building a language and helps everyone to communicate each other because communication is the essential need for human being. Vocabulary can be defined as the set of words which is understandable by the people who used it.

According to Penny (1991, p. 60) who explained that, *“vocabulary is the words that the teachers taught to the students who study languages or foreign language”*. There is also an opinion from Thornbury (2002, p. 144) who defined that, *“vocabulary can not be taught, but vocabulary should be presented, or included, explained and then experienced”*.

Vocabulary is not to be learned by ourself, furthermore it has to be learned by some instructions exactly by the teachers, because by instructions it will be easy for

students in understanding kinds of vocabulary , then how to use it in their daily. Teaching vocabulary is the most crucial things in teaching language. Teaching English vocabulary is have to be taught briefly; thus, the students will be easier in learning English later. Besides, they can get a basic knowledge of vocabulary that they can utilize in the next steps, in this case learning English.

In teaching English vocabulary, sometimes the teachers feel difficult to make their students understand , it is because students is complicated in comprehending a new word that they are not learn before. Thus, it needs a great attention both teachers and students who learn English . In addition, the teacher have to find an appropriate method to teach English vocabulary and to wish how many vocabulary that students can memorize and understand. There are some key of principles in teaching vocabulary, as Schmitt (1991, p. 146) divided several principles of teaching vocabulary, the first is set a large sight of vocabulary, the second is integrated new words with previous words, then provide a number of encounters with a word, promotes deep level of processing, facilitate imaging, make new word “real” by connecting them to the student’s word in some way, use variety techniques and the last is encourage independent learning strategies.

In addition, learning and teaching English vocabulary is obligate to do by the teachers. Lack of vocabulary become an aspect which is make a person difficult in understanding a language and the basic skills of a language namely reading, writing, listening and speaking, According to S.H Burton (1982, p. 98) “ *an adversity in using English language obviously and properly is we have a*

deficiencies in vocabulary knowledge". In addition we have to learning the critical parts in all of the language which called by vocabulary.

Any issues regarding to learning and teaching English is the fact that the students feel hard in understanding the explanation from the teachers while they are teaching, it is because they did not understand what the teacher delivered to them, because they often use English in the class, or even there is a word that they did not get before. Therefore, it is become a factor which is influence the students' interest in learning English. Nowadays, in indonesia learning English to young learners or in elementary age have been removed by the government caused by the canged of the curriculum, it is believed that they can not getting knowledge about English since early, and when they are in the next step or in junior high school or even in a college they will be feel hard in learning English as well.

To decrease any difficulties in learning English, the teachers will use any kind of approaches to make a learning process more delight and fun, this will be create a good atmosphere in the classroom and to make the students enjoy with the learning. Nowadays, there are also places that built by the government or even a person that become the places to give a chance to the students an extra lesson of English or called by English course. Thus, it is can give a chance to the students who have not learning English to increase their knowledge about English, especially English vocabulary. So that, the students will be esier in learning English in their school or even to use it in case to communicate with other person.

In Addition, this research will be examined one of learning activities in pakem method namely Word Competition. It is believed that, Word Competition is a kind of Scrable word Game. According to Oxford Advance dictionary (1985), “ *scrable is a board game in which players try to create words from letters printed on small plastic blocks and connect them to words that have been already place on the board*”.

Moreover, the word competition game refers to a game that requires the students to compete each other either in groups or pairs in order to arrange many different kind of words in one word which is wrote by the teacher on the blackboard, e.g., the word ‘Carpet’ the students can arrange several words from it word such as : car, pet, cat, rat, and etc. In addition, the reason why this study use word competition because it is a game that will increased students’ interest in learning English.

The first data of this reserach that indicated a result of learning vocabulary is from the sample of the students’ vocabulary score from MTs Kaidipang in Bolaang Mongondow Utara, in this sample of data there are 26 students in second grade of Junior High School, and there is 15 students from 26 students which is get score under the standard score in this case the standard score is 70, the score is come from their assignment. From the data above this study cocluded that more than a half of the sample that get a low score actually vocabulary score.

In addition, from the explanation above, the reason why the researcher choose MTs Kaidipang as the place of this research, because this school is interesting to observe, according to the sample of data that the researcher get. Thus, the other reason of conducting this research, is because this study is emphasizes the important aspects of the language that is vocabulary , the researcher concern about the fact that students

are really hard in study English because of the lack of vocabulary, then to bring a new innovation in learning activity especially dedicated to the teachers so the teachers will be able to create a fun learning to the students .Therefore, the researcher expected that once students who felt hard in use English will be able to speak English to the others without feeling inferior.

In addition, the researcher wanted to conducted this research, because the researcher is curious with word competition and it is interesting to observe, because word competition is only focus on vocabulary. The researcher believed that this game can develop the students' English vocabulary, then it can be use by the teachers in teaching English. For those reason, several studies have been done to observe how to increase English vocabulary by using game, but on the contrary various studies such as Andi ,2011; Maryam et.al, 2013) have different research objectives, only concern to some samples and different in the application of the game. In fact, this study more focus on words finding and delight because it is include with a competition to motivate the students in learning English. Hence, from the explanation above, the researcher want to conduct a research entitled “Developing students' vocabulary by using word competition game”

Research Question

The research question of this research is :

Can word competition develop significantly students' English vocabulary?

Objective of Study

An objective of research is actually important to help the researcher to know what the purpose of conducted the reserach. Thus, The objective of this research is :

to investigate whether word competition can develop significantly students' English vocabulary.

Significances of Study

The significances in this research, are to increase and improve students' vocabulary knowledge through word competition game, to motivate students in learning vocabulary by word competition, then to bring an innovation in learning activity especially in learning English.

The Scope of Study

The scope of this study is dealing with the students' ability in mastering vocabulary in adjective, noun and verb classes. The word competition game refers to the game which is dividing the students into small groups and then compete each other in order to find out words in one word by arrange the letter from the word itself.