

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Background of the Study

Vocabulary is important to be taught in schools, especially English vocabulary. Among the main four skills of English, vocabulary become important because without of it the student was had lack of words source and causes misunderstanding. Without vocabulary, the four skills of English (Speaking, Writing, Reading and Listening) becomes hard to learn because the student cannot understand anything.

There are four skills in teaching and learning English: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Those skills are relate to each other and cannot be independent; therefore, learners need to master all of the four skills. This is support by Uma and Ponnambala (2001) who state that mastering language skills will determine the students' communicative competence in the target language. The students need to learn four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

First, listening, when people learn a new language, they hear it for the first time. Learning vocabulary is very important because if we listen to people talking, we have to be able to know the meaning. In English there are the terms homonym and homophone.

1. Homonyms are words with the same pronunciation or writing, but have different meanings. example:

watch (*Jam tangan*) / watch (*menonton*),

type (*jenis*) / type (*mengetik*).

2. While homophones are words with the same sound but different writing and meaning. Example:

to pray (*berdoa*) / prey (*mangsa*)

to buy (*membeli*) / bye (*selamattinggal*)

too (*juga*) / two (*dua*) / to (*ke*).

Second, speaking, when we are going to convey an idea or a concept then we need a vocabulary set that we can choose to convey it. It is often happens that someone mistakes when speaking because of the use of the wrong word. Example my body is not delicious. incorrect usage of the word "delicious". The correct sentences is I'm not feeling well. That is why it is so important to learn vocabulary

Third, reading, they speak the speaking language symbolically in the print media. In English there are many words that are pronounce same but have different meanings, so it is important for us to learn English. For example: see-sea, to-two, and ect.

Fourth, writing, they reproduce these symbols on paper. The main factor influencing writing is vocabulary. The students' inability to choose the right vocabulary resulting in the students failing to write. The role of vocabulary in improving writing skills is very large. An example of using the wrong vocabulary in writing: We plant to go?

Those four skills are supported by mastering vocabulary. It is one of the language components that have an important role to support the four basic language skills. In other words, the base of every language is vocabulary. For junior high school students, vocabulary is significant and should be mastered as well as grammatical rules to build better communication according to their level of education.

Vocabulary is very important in order to make it easier for people to express their opinions and ideas in their communication with other people. Having limited vocabulary, students will find many difficulties in mastering language skills. Pieter A, 1991 states, "The fact that vocabulary is the component of language and there is no language that exists without words. In order to form a correct sentence requires some vocabulary. Therefore, to be able to form a correct and complete sentence we must have a lot of vocabulary. According to Richards (2002:55) Vocabulary is the core component of language proficiency and provides much of the basis for how well learners speak, listen, read and write. According to Flower and Michael (1989:5) states learning vocabulary is a very important part of learning English, if you make a grammar mistake, it may be wrong, but very often people will understand you anyway.

From observation the researcher found that most students have difficulty distinguishing the form of words grammatically. Furthermore, learning English vocabulary is tedious. Because teachers use the reminder method to force the student to remember every word without getting excited. From this case the learning process becomes obstructed. In order to solve the problem it is good to find an appropriate technique in teaching vocabulary.

Techniques are needed to improve students' vocabulary. According to Arsyad (2011:162) "well-designed game program can motivate students and improve their knowledge and ability". It indicates that some techniques like playing games in teaching vocabulary such as role play, card board game, puzzle, and wall card will grow the student

excitement about learning English itself. In this case the researcher proposes simile games to improve student vocabulary mastery.

A simile games is a games that phrase that makes a description clearer or more vivid by saying that one thing is similar to another thing. Example: "He's as strong as an ox." This means that he is a very strong man (using the word "ox" helps you imagine just how strong he is). The simile games can help students to learn or revise this type of simile. The main idea of this game is that the grid is populating with semantically-related words. Learning English and being master of vocabulary turns into was that more interactive, fun and serious.

Based on the assumptions above the researcher interested in doing research entitles **"The Effect of Using Simile Games to increase Students' Vocabulary Mastery"**.

1.2. The Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study, the problem of this research was :
wasthere any significance effect of using simile games to increase students' vocabulary mastery?

1.3. The Objective of the Study

Based on the problem of the study, the objective of thisstudy wasfocus on the effect of using simile games to increase students' vocabulary mastery.

1.4. The Scope and Limitation of the Study

There are many techniques that can be using for the purpose of increasing students' vocabulary. In this research the researcherwas focused on the use of Simile games on

students' achievement in vocabulary mastery. Besides that, the researcher limited the study at SMP Swasta BPI Paluh Kurau in eighth grade.

1.5. The Significance of The Study

The significance of this research theoretically and practically as follows:

1. For the students

Students was improved their vocabulary mastery by using Simile games technique.

2. For teachers

The teachers was known what the students need to improve on students' vocabulary mastery and Teacher was able to use this technique to improve Students' vocabulary mastery.

3. For researcher

This study was used for another type or can be reference to another researcher.