

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher describes about the background of the research, statement of the problem, objective of the research, significance of the research, scope of the research and operational definition.

1.1 Background of the Research

One of important skills to learn English in early age is vocabulary. According to Harmer (1991) "Vocabulary is the basic part and a key element to learn any language". Students need to master vocabulary in learning English. In fact, it is not easy to teach English in elementary level compared to teaching teenagers or adult learners. During the observation in SDN 2 Wergu Wetan Kudus in Academic Year 2019/2020, the researcher found that the problem for young learner to learn English is recalling vocabulary. Students get difficult to recalling vocabulary and understand the meaning. It is because there is too much new vocabulary which has different form and sound from their mother tongue. Based on the problem, the researcher found that to stimulated students in learning vocabulary, the teacher needed a media.

According Halliwell (1992:3) states that "Children have ready imagination, they frequently learn indirectly rather than directly, their instinct is for fun, playing, interacting and talking". The teacher needs variation to teach students more enthusiasm in learning process. Flashcard is one of simple and clear media to get the students attention. Flashcard is a kind of media that uses a picture, word, and instruction. Suyanto (2007:103) said that showing an interesting picture is one of the easiest ways to elicit a language sample. It means that flashcard can make children more able to learn English vocabulary in the class.

In the previous research Neneng (2014) with titled "The Effectiveness of using Flashcard in Teaching Vocabulary" shows that the use of flashcard is

effective in improving students' vocabulary. It means that the use of flashcard is an appropriate media for teaching vocabulary in primary level.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher is interested to conduct a research about, "The Use of Flashcards in Teaching Vocabulary at Fifth Grade Students' of SDN 2 Wergu Wetan Kudus in Academic Year 2019/2020".

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Considering the background of the research, the problem of the research could be formulated as follow: Is there any significant difference between students' vocabulary mastery of the fifth grade students of SDN 2 Wergu Wetan Kudus in Academic Year 2019/2020 before and after being taught by using Flashcard?

1.3 Objective of the Research

Based on the of the problem above, the objective of the research is:

To know whether there is a significant difference between students' vocabulary mastery of the fifth grade students of SDN 2 Wergu Wetan Kudus in Academic Year 2019/2020 before and after being taught by using Flashcard.

1.4 Significance of the Research

There are two kinds of advantages, theoretical and practical. The expected results of the study both theoretical and practical are:

1. Theoretical Significance

- a. The results of the research can be used as input in English teaching learning process, especially in teaching vocabulary.
- b. The result of the research can be used as the reference for those who want to conduct a research in English-learning process, especially in teaching vocabulary.

2. Practical Significance

The researcher hopes that the result of this research will be useful for teachers or readers, in order that they can use in the teaching and learning process. Also, to make the students be able in studying English, especially for young learners.

1.5 Scope of the Research

The subject of the research is the 5th grade students of SDN 2 Wergu Wetan Kudus in Academic Year 2019/2020. The researcher will use flashcard as a media. The material that the researcher used is food & drink and time, it is in the form of vocabulary.

1.6 Operational Definition

The definition uses in this research are:

- a. Vocabulary is the words in a language or a special set of words you are trying to learn.
- b. Flashcard is essentially a note card with a question on one side and the corresponding answer on the other side.
- c. The fifth grade students of SDN 2 Wergu Wetan Kudus in academic year 2019/2020 are those who are currently registered at fifth grade students.