

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The writer explains about 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

Vocabulary is the main necessary thing for the students in learning a language. It plays a big role for the students' success in mastering English. Ummah (2018, p.2) said that "vocabulary is also a central to language teaching and importance to a language learner". It means that vocabulary is very useful for the teaching process, but also it is much needed for the students as the language user.

Hence, to master English well, the students are demanded to enrich their vocabulary because it becomes the basic thing before they learn the four English skills namely listening, speaking, reading and writing. It means that without grammar, the students' still can express their feeling through English, but if they lack of vocabulary, they can't express their feeling freely. That's why the eighth grade students of MTs Sunan Kalijogo Cluwak Pati in 2018/2019 academic year have to be competent in mastering vocabulary.

In this case, most of the students especially in MTs Sunan Kalijogo Cluwak Pati still face some problems in mastering vocabulary. For example, the students get difficult to remember the meaning of the words in recount text which make them give up easily to learn English and also feel difficult to remember new words in it. That's why they don't like English because they consider that English is boring. So, it can make them difficult to understand the content of recount text because they lack of vocabulary. Sometimes they tend to be silent because they afraid of making mistakes during the learning process.

Moreover, the writer tries to look for an appropriate strategy to overcome the students of MTs Sunan Kalijogo Cluwak Pati problems. She decides to use Mnemonics strategy especially in Mnemonics Keyword for teaching English

vocabulary. Celce & Murcia (2001, p.291) stated that “Mnemonics helps to link a word form and its meaning and consolidate a link age in a memory”. It means that Mnemonics has a role to connect vocabulary and its meaning by looking for its keyword and relation, so it can be memorized by the students easily. Moreover, based on the role of this strategy, hopefully the students are able to recall new vocabularies that they find in recount text and also they are able to remember its meaning by looking for the keyword which has the same pronunciation with the original words in applying Mnemonics Keyword.

Hence, by applying Mnemonics Keyword as the strategy of this research, it has purpose to find out whether there is any significant difference between the vocabulary mastery of the eighth grade students of Mts. Sunan Kalijogo Cluwak Pati in 2018/2019 academic year before and after being taught by using Mnemonics.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the research, the writer formulates the statement of the problem:

Is there any significant difference between the vocabulary mastery of the eighth grade students of MTs Sunan Kalijogo Cluwak Pati in 2018/2019 academic year before and after being taught by using Mnemonics?

1.3. Objective of the Research

Based on the statement of the problem above, the objective of the research is: “to find out whether there is any significant difference between the vocabulary mastery of the eighth grade students of MTs Sunan Kalijogo Cluwak Pati in 2018/2019 academic year before and after being taught by using Mnemonics”

1.4. Significance of the Research

1. Theoretically

This research gives information that Mnemonics includes in one of the strategy that is very beneficial for teaching and learning process because it has role to improve vocabulary mastery by using keyword in remembering the words and its meaning through easy way.

2. Practically

The writer hopes that this research can be beneficial for:

a. The teachers

This research can help the teacher in using new strategy in English learning process. By using Mnemonics Keyword, the teacher can help the students to improve their English vocabulary easily and to create an interesting English class.

b. The students

By using this strategy, hopefully the students can improve and remember the meaning of new vocabulary easily because it provides an easy way to master vocabulary.

c. The readers

By reading this research, hopefully the readers get new knowledge that Mnemonics is very useful for teaching English vocabulary and developing English learning process.

1.5. Scope of the Research

The writer limits the research in order to make it focus on the specific problem to get detail information. The limitation will be explained by the writer as follow:

The writer uses Mnemonics as the strategy for this research especially in Mnemonics Keyword. It is a strategy because it includes in a way that can be implemented by the teacher to overcome the students' problem in remembering vocabulary and its meaning. She focuses on the vocabulary mastery of the eighth grade students of MTs Sunan Kalijogo Cluwak Pati 2018/2019 academic year in recount text in the part of verb and adjective.

1.6. Operational Definition

The writer gives brief definition of the theories to make the research clearer.

The operational definitions are:

a. Vocabulary Mastery

Vocabulary mastery is the ability to recognize the words in recount text and know its meaning based on the context in written form.

b. Mnemonics

Mnemonics is a memory strategy that is used by the teacher to help the students in remembering vocabulary and its meaning easily by using keyword which has the same pronunciation with original word.

c. The eighth grade students of MTs Sunan Kalijogo Cluwak Pati

It refers to the students who study at the eighth grade of MTs Sunan Kalijogo Cluwak Pati in 2018/2019 academic year.

