

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

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

1.1 Background of The Research

English is an international language. In short, English is learned in many countries around the world, and many people use it for international communication and as a key to technology, science, and knowledge. Therefore, English become an important thing to learn.

There are four skills in English language: listening, reading, writing and speaking. Vocabulary is one of the most important aspects besides the four basic skills. This is a basic aspect of an effective communication. Lacks of vocabulary of students can affect in expressing opinions. It means, they have difficulty to convey ideas. Vocabulary should be understood to support those skills in English because if the students know a lot of vocabularies, it will be easier for students to master English language.

Students are expected to fluent or have a good vocabulary. Meanwhile based on the interview with the teacher, the researcher found that the students vocabulary mastery is low. the students did not get the information clearly because the students hard to identify noun, adjective, verb and do not know the vocabulary to mention their opinion or idea and feel stressful because of their lack in vocabulary. “Others still can understand ungrammatical formulation sentence in the occasional of conveying ideas, but the wrong use of vocabulary leads miss communication and misinterpretation” (Andi & Arafah, 2017).

A good vocabulary knowledge can encourage the students to use English Language in social communication or academic writing. Vocabulary is a must for someone who want to understand a conversation or English text. But many students have difficulties to communicate in English or even understand an English text. The

factors may cause by various problem. it may the less learning media, the less motivation and the limited vocabulary knowledge, and the most important factor that may affect a student's vocabulary mastery is the strategy or technique that the teacher uses in the learning process.

Learning vocabulary can be done in various ways and techniques, including the comic strips, word jumble, scrabble and photo display. In this case, the researchers used the comic strips as a media, because comic strips make the students more fun and imaginative. Students served an illustration picture and the interesting stories with rich of new vocabularies inside. In addition, they can apply in real life.

There is study relate to the topic about the comic strips showed the significant difference result. First, in a study conducted by (Martages et al., 2017) with the title "The Effect of Using Comic Strips on The Eight Grade Students' Narrative Writing Achievement at SMP Negeri 5 Jember" found out that there was a significant effect of using comic strips on the eight students' narrative students writing achievement.

Considering the statement above, the researcher is interested to conduct a research entitled "The Effectiveness of Comic Strips as a Media to Teach Vocabulary Mastery at Seventh Grade Students of MTs Tahassus Welahan Jepara".

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the study above, the researcher formulates the statement of the problem as follow "Is there any significant difference in vocabulary mastery of seventh grade students of MTs Tahassus Welahan Jepara before and after taught by using the comic strips?"

1.3 Objective of the Research

Based on the statement above, the researcher formulates the objective of the research is to find out whether there is a significant difference in vocabulary mastery of seventh grade students of MTs Tahassus Welahan Jepara before and after taught by using the comic strips.

1.4 The Significance of the Research

The result of this study is expected to be useful information for students, teachers, and the reader theoretically and practically. In theory, it was expected that this research showed the empirical evidence for learning method using the comic strip can improve student's vocabulary mastery. Practically, there is valuable information and was expected gave contribution for teachers, students and schools. So, the significances of this research were as follows:

1. The students

The result of this study gives an input to the students to improve the vocabulary mastery using the comic strip.

2. The teacher

The result of this study is useful for English teachers at Junior High School to get information about teaching media using the comic strip to student vocabulary mastery.

3. The readers

The result of this study for the readers is to enrich their knowledge about the vocabulary mastery with interesting and enjoyable media.

1.5 Scope of the Research

This researcher has been focused on using the comic strips as a media to teach vocabulary mastery for the seventh grade students of MTs Tahassus Welahan Jepara. Researcher specified this study on vocabulary that focuses on class words or part of speech. These are verb, noun, and adjectives. The specifications specially were about identifying the meaning of words.

1.6 Operational Definition

To avoid misunderstanding regarding the term of this research, there are several terminologies that the researcher feels necessary to be explained. The terminologies are as follows.

1. Vocabulary mastery is the total numbers of words in English Language that student knows or uses. The researcher focuses on verb, noun, and adjectives.

2. the comic strips are sequence of pictures that tell a story or jokes. A comic strip can be described as "a series of pictures inside boxes that tell a story" (Liu, 2004).
3. The seventh grade students of MTs Tahassus Welahan Jepara is the students who are studying in MTs Tahassus Welahan Jepara in 2021/2022 academic year.

