

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter discusses the background of the research, the statement of the problem, the objective of the research, the significance of the research, the scope of the research, and the operational definition.

### **1.1 Background of the Research**

In this digitalization era, the utilization of language in communication with others is widespread. Language is the main element in communication, and it transfers information from one location to another. We may exchange information, ideas, views, requests, commands, threats, gratitude, promises, declarations, sentiments, and other things through language (Wen, 2014). Nowadays, English is an international language used by people around the world. However, in Indonesia, English is a foreign language that is taught at various levels of education, from kindergarten to higher levels. Four skills can help students develop communicative competence in both written and spoken language, namely speaking, reading, listening, and writing (Setiawan, 2020).

Mastering grammar and vocabulary is needed for students who are learning a foreign language. If they do not pay attention to these two aspects, they might have some problems in learning the language. (Wilkins, 1972) stated that without grammar, little meaning can be conveyed; without vocabulary, nothing can be conveyed. So, one of the most important things in learning English is knowing as much vocabulary as possible to use; this aims to make it easy to communicate with other people. According to (Alqahtani, 2015), it is common to view vocabulary knowledge as an essential skill for second-language learners since limited vocabulary in a second language makes communication challenging. Therefore, the most crucial aspect of learning English is expanding your vocabulary, as vocabulary is a collection of words that plays a significant role in both written and spoken communication.

Unfortunately, if learning occurs, it can indicate students who don't seem to understand the material because of their limited vocabulary. According to the researcher's teaching experience during the PLP II program of second-grade students in SMA PGRI 1 Pati, the researcher found that students have difficulties learning vocabulary. First, they have trouble using words and find it difficult to memorize the meaning. Second, the students do not know how to pronounce and how to spell the words. The researcher also found that they got bored and they were only given monotonous homework. This problem is caused by the teaching and learning techniques used to write on the whiteboard and by asking the students to learn only based on LKS (student's worksheet). This means that in the learning process, there is still not much use of media or techniques as a tool for teaching and learning activities in the class. (Rasuan, 2017) said that "without an extensive vocabulary and strategies for acquiring new vocabulary, learners often achieve less than their potential". Therefore, the researcher wants to know the effectiveness of using Word Wall as teaching media to teach students vocabulary mastery of class XI-8 at SMA PGRI 1 Pati in the academic year 2023/2024.

Using technology to teach English has several advantages, one of them is that it can involve students in different ways. Word wall is one kind of visual teaching aids or tools that can be used by the teacher in teaching vocabulary in the classroom (Maindoka, 2022). Word Wall is considered an effective medium for teaching vocabulary because there is as much interesting learning material.

There is some previous research that shows the effectiveness of using Wordwall to teach students vocabulary mastery. The previous research was conducted by (Bandjarjani, 2023). The results show that the use of Wordwall is effective in teaching students vocabulary mastery. The purpose of this research, which employed a quasi-experimental design with a quantitative methodology, was to determine how utilizing Word Walls to teach vocabulary affected students' vocabulary attainment. Tenth-grade students from a public senior high school in West Surabaya made up the population, and 66 individuals were used as study samples in a cluster random sampling method.

The difference between this research and the previous research is that this research used a pre-experimental research design with one group pre-test and post-test, while the previous research used a quasi-experimental research design. In this study, the population was eleventh-grade students of SMA PGRI 1 Pati. The sample was 36 students in eleventh grade.

Thus, based on the explanation above, the researcher conducted research entitled “Teaching Vocabulary by Using Word Wall Media for Eleventh-Grade Students of SMA PGRI 1 Pati”.

### **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Based on the background of the study, the statement of the research problems to be discussed in this research is:

“Is there any significant difference in the student vocabulary mastery of eleventh-grade students at SMA PGRI 1 Pati in the academic year 2023/2024 before and after being taught by using Word Wall?”

### **1.3 The objective of the Research**

Based on the statement of the problem above, this research aims to find out the significant difference in the student's vocabulary mastery of eleventh-grade students at SMA PGRI 1 Pati in the academic year 2023/2024 before and after being taught by using Word Wall.

### **1.4 Significance of the Research**

By conducting this research, the writer expects that this study will be beneficial to the English teaching and learning process as follows:

a. The teacher

The researcher hopes that from this study the teacher can gain benefits and experiences to use media, strategies, or methods in learning vocabulary, especially by using Word Wall to develop students' vocabulary in learning English.

b. The students

Students are expected to become more interested in improving their vocabulary mastery by using technology as a learning medium.

c. The other researchers

Hopefully, the result of this study can be used as a reference for any other researcher so they can get some information if they are about to conduct similar research in the future.

### **1.5 Scope of the Research**

This study will focus on the effectiveness of using Word Wall media to teach students vocabulary mastery in the eleventh grade of SMA PGRI 1 Pati in the academic year 2023/2024. The researcher will provide a pre-test and post-test to gather data before and after utilizing Word Wall as a learning media in the English class. In this research, the writer will focus on procedure text as the material.

### **1.6 Operational Definition**

To prevent confusion, the researcher defines a few essential phrases that were used in the study. These terms are as follows:

1. Word Wall

Word Wall is a mobile English learning media with many features that can help students develop their communicative skills, including writing, reading, listening, and speaking skills.

2. Vocabulary Mastery

Vocabulary mastery is the ability to recognize and understand the words in procedure text and know their meaning in the context of written form.

3. Eleventh-grade students of SMA PGRI 1 Pati

It refers to the students who are studying English subject at the eleventh grade of SMA PGRI 1 Pati in the academic year 2023/2024.