

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

To master English language, students need a lot of vocabulary. Because, vocabulary is very important in English language, in communication vocabulary is a part of sentence. The students need vocabulary to expand their knowledge in English communication. The student usually find as difficult to memorize, apply or improve their vocabulary. There are some reasons why the students face difficulty in mastering the vocabulary of English language. One of the reason is the problem in teaching and learning process.

Vocabulary is a composite of words that used by the speakers in certain language. Vocabulary needs to be improved because vocabulary is the total number of words which makes up a language. Actually, the people have many words will be very easier in communicate with the other people. Hatch & Brown (1995) say that vocabulary refers to a list or set of words of a particular language or a list set of words that individual speakers of language might use. Commonly, students cannot compose a sentence or phrase in speaking even writing and reading because the students are poor in vocabulary. Most of the students are lazy to memorize and increase a vocabulary. The students are lazy causes of some teacher cannot motivate them because lack teaching games. The teachers just explain the material without any games, so the students are very bored in receive the materials. Vocabulary is important for the students of senior high school, in which having much vocabulary can help students in masterin. English is an important language because when we go

Abroad or when we meet some foreign people at least we must use English or be familiar with some words of English. It is not only as the direct global language also as the technology language terms of many gadgets or electronics. Almost all the aspects of life requires people to use English or master in English. Education, health, occupation and communication are some of the examples why people should master in English.

According to J. Ongkosaputra in his book that "Layaknya seorang bayi umur 18 bulan, mereka mulai mengenal gambar atau bentuk benda dan mendengarkan suara tentang nama benda tersebut. Dia masih belum dapat mengucapkan tetapi dia dapat mengerti benda tersebut. Misalnya kata duduk "duduk", karna dia sering mendengarkan kata ini maka pada waktu mulai mengerti, dia akan melakukan gerakan "duduk" meskipun dia belum bisa bicara. Jadi kunci belajar bahasa Inggris yang mudah, cepat dan efektif adalah membaca dan menghafalkan kosa kata (vocabulary) yang sering dipakai lalu menggunakannya dalam bentuk lain."¹

The English vocabulary is used in all of skill, such as : speaking, writing, reading, and listening. To master these skills, the students have to know and to understand deeply about the vocabulary. It is strengthen by a statement of McCarthy and O'Dell², as follow:

You already know hundreds of English words, but to speak and write in normal situation, you need at least 1-2.000 words.

¹J. Ongkosaputra. *4 Langkah menguasai English Vocabulary Edisi 2000 kata* (Jakarta: Wahyu Media ,2008), p. iii.

²McCarthy and O'Dell, *English Vocabulary in Use* (Elementary Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000), p. 4.

The importance of vocabulary in teaching a foreign language is clearly stated by Allen as follows: vocabulary is an important factor in teaching words, sound system, structure and other essential areas of language learning.³

Many kinds of media can be used in teaching vocabulary, one of them is blindfold game. The blindfold game is a game of free movement and exploration of a virtual space that allows simple interaction with key elements and assets, which ends up being quite a challenge. The game stimulates a realistic sound setting, allowing players to make sense of the sound-driven experience. The teacher can use many media in teaching English but here the writer attempts to teach them by using games. The benefits of using games in the teaching and learning process are that students will get rid of their boredom from learning through monotonous textbooks and the style of memorizing in teaching vocabularies, and also they can enjoy learning English with the same goal but in a fun way which is by contributing in such interesting activities set by the teachers. The writer believed that to solve students' lack of vocabularies, they should be taught by using various techniques of vocabulary learning. The teachers must build the interest of students to learn English by using varieties of games. For instance, the teachers use game in teaching learning because the students like to play. A game which is used by the teachers can make students enjoy in learning. The teacher must use the appropriate game method in teaching learning process that can make students easy to acquire the new vocabulary.

To enable students master vocabulary easily, some possible ways should be applied and one of them is teaching vocabulary by using game. Some students in high school tend to learn through playing because playing can increase their

³French Allen, Virginia. *Techniques in Teaching Vocabulary* (Oxford University Press: 1983), p. 149.

motivation and also make the situation fun. Games are chosen by the researcher because games are fun for the students to learn. By using games, the students can give appropriate and enthusiastic responses in class. The most important thing is that games improve the student's motivation and by playing games, because with game they want to listen to the teacher or to their friends.

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The Blindfold is one of the media that can improve students' vocabulary. Blindfold game are practical exercise in verbal communication that used blindfold in the games. This game used to teach directions, numbers, and making instructions. Besides, this game can bring the students that they need impel team members into working together more closely and blindfold can make some team building activities more memorable and wearing blindfold can be fun. So that the students can be more interested and enjoy in English learning process.

Students often find difficulties in using a foreign language because they lack of vocabularies and they often forget easily new vocabulary after they get the meaning from dictionary or a list of vocabulary. Sometime in speaking classes, students cannot speak fluently because they lack of vocabulary. They say only a few

sentences because they cannot find the appropriate vocabulary to be used in expressing their ideas. As well as the eight grade students at MTs DDI Lil Banat, some students are afraid or ashamed to use English in communicate because they lack of vocabulary and they have making it difficult for them to communicate.

Based on the reason above, the researcher interested to research the matter because according to researcher, when student learn a foreign language the most difficult aspect is the mastery and retention of its vocabulary and the reason why researcher choose game as media in learning because researcher want all of students be able to participate in the learning procces and enjoy in English learning procces.

1.2 Problem Statement

Based on the background of the study above, the problem statements are presented as follow:

1. How is the students' vocabulary mastery before and after using Blindfold Game at the Eight grade of MTs DDI-Lil Banat Parepare?
2. Is the Blindfold Game able to improve Students' Vocabulary mastery at the Eight grade of MTs DDI Lil-Banat Parepare??".

1.3 Objective of the Research

The objective of the research are:

1. To find out the implemention of blindfold game media to improve students' vocabulary mastery at MTs DDI Lil Banat Parepare
2. To find out whether or not the use of blindfold game media can improve students' vocabulary mastery at MTs DDI Lil-Banat Parepare.

1.4 Significance of the Research

The significance of the research is expended to be piece of useful contribution to:

1. English Teacher: It is used to improve the teacher to practice words using blindfold game media in teaching vocabulary
2. Students: To give motivation and improve the students' interest to learn English, especially in learning vocabulary
3. Other Researcher: It can be used as an information or reference for teaching English, especially for the effectiveness in teaching vocabulary, and it may guide, help and encourage the students in improve their achievement.

