

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter present and discusses background of the research, the statement of the research, objectives of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research.

### 1.1 Background of the Research

Vocabulary is an important part of learning a foreign language. In order to communicate, interact, convey ideas and convey information to listeners, a language must have a significant vocabulary. Anyone can understand speaking, reading, listening and writing if they have a wide vocabulary. Students with a strong English vocabulary can more easily complete schoolwork and acquire English more effectively. The more vocabulary you have, the more control you have to improve your English. Nothing is passed without a vocabulary check. If new students learn grammar without learning vocabulary, they will not be able to express their ideas and thoughts. English has a special role in the teaching of foreign languages in language education in schools.

It is the foundation of English taught from primary school to university. English is a compulsory subject of non-formal education, and the English content is offered according to the needs of the educational level and pedagogical character of the student during the learning process. Vocabulary acquisition is one of the learning materials of the English language. One of the most important parts of learning a foreign language is vocabulary, which is the basis for students to master English language subjects. Dictionary control is affected. Dictionary control affects students' thinking and creativity during the learning process. As a result, word control can determine the quality of a student's language, the more vocabulary they have, the better their language skills.

The purpose of language skills is for a person to be able to communicate with others. The value of vocabulary learning in terms of improving and developing students' language and communication. Vocabulary is a necessary skill to master the four

language skills - listening, speaking, reading and writing. Vocabulary mastery can help students acquire four language skills that are expected to benefit students in the future.

To communicate well, students must have a wide vocabulary. As Thornbury (2002: 16) as cited in Wardani (2015) stated that, without grammar very little can be conveyed, without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed. As vocabulary is an important part of language, it can be seen in all language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Vocabulary review is very important for students learning English as a foreign language. Therefore, all learners of English or a certain language should know the words. Vocabulary mastery can support them when they speak, when they interact with people, when they can write and translate the meanings of words, when they define the English language. If they do not know the meaning of the words, they cannot speak, write or translate anything in English. It can be said that students made progress in English, vocabulary check.

In short, a large vocabulary significantly affects almost every aspect of a language. Despite this, the vocabulary of many technical school students is very limited. The problem was found to be that most students lacked vocabulary. They found it difficult to use English as a target language. Of course, optimal learning requires both motivation and strategy.

According to Burton (1985) as cited in Wardani (2015) says that vocabulary is one of the components of the English language, defined as the total number of words in the language. Large vocabularies help us express our thoughts precisely, vividly and without repetition in the composition.

According to Nation, P. (1990: 22) as cited in Wardani (2015) says that Vocabulary is very important for the success of understanding languages, speaking better or writing well; it is assumed that students need to increase their vocabulary by around 1000 words a year. Vocabulary is a very important thing, because it can list the words used in business, the vocabulary of the language user and the technical or symbolic system that works as a means of expression. Vocabulary also includes words that they know in some languages. Vocabulary usually grows and develops with age and is a useful and basic tool for communication and information provision. Learning

vocabulary is one of the first steps in learning a second language, but the last step of vocabulary is never reached. Acquiring new vocabulary is a continuous process, whether in the mother tongue or in another language. Many methods can help to acquire new vocabulary. Therefore, teaching vocabulary plays an important role in successful English communication.

Teaching vocabulary is one of the key elements in achieving all four language skills. Similarly, Jordan (1997: 19) as cited in Wardani (2015) says that teaching vocabulary is such an important task in teaching English because vocabulary acquisition is related to the whole of language learning and affects all four language skills. Vocabulary control is the most important thing in learning fluent English. If we have a lot of vocabulary, we can improve our English. Vocabulary development is very important in all language learning, not only because it has a close relationship with the intellectual maturity of students, but also because it greatly improves students' knowledge of the four languages.

Based on the research done in the fourth grade of MI Tarbiyatul Banin wal Banat, the researcher found problem dealing with their weak vocabulary mastery. Things that can cause students' vocabulary mastery to be weak, namely: the lack of students interest on the English subjects, so students are not interested in improving their vocabulary.

One tool that can be used to increase students' interest in english subject is short stories. A short story is one of the literary works that can be used as a material for learning English. Short stories are also one of the most effective materials for teaching students about other cultures. Through the short story, students learn new words with real uses in different forms.

The short story was chosen by the researcher because Stories have always played significant role in children growth. Story not only help in stimulating children imagination and understanding the world but also developing children language ability. By using short stories, students' can interested to learn new vocabulary.

The researcher specified a short story that is taught in school. The researcher chose a dailyactivity because students can learn about other activity students. Another

advantage of using short stories is that they can make students more independent. The student can read and try to understand the meaning of the context. This strategy can also be developed for independent student learning.

## **1.2 The Statement of The Research Problem**

### **1.2.1 Identification of The Problem**

Based on the background and reason above, the problem are the students' fourth grade is students weak vocabulary mastery. Things that can cause students' vocabulary mastery to be weak, namely: lack of student interest in English subjects, so students are not interested in increasing their vocabulary mastery.

### **1.2.2 Research Question**

Based on the formulation mention above, the research question is :

1. How to teach vocabulary by using short stories to make students' interested?
2. Can be short stories improve vocabulary mastery?

## **1.3 Objective of the Research**

This research is intended to :

1. To find out the process of teaching vocabulary by using short stories to make students' interested
2. To find out the whether short stories can be successful in improving students' vocabulary mastery or not.

## **1.4 Significance of the Research**

After researcher finished this study, the researcher hope the result of this study is expected to give a contribution to the teaching and learning process in Vocabulary mastery especially Short stories.

1. For the English Teacher

The researcher hopes that this research can improve the teacher ability to help students' in teaching vocabulary in the class. Besides, the English teacher is able to use the interesting media to improve the students' vocabulary mastery by using short stories. Therefore, teacher can know, the using of short stories to improve the students' vocabulary mastery including its strength and weaknesses.

2. For the Researcher

- a. This research hopefully can be a good reference for the researcher to improve students' vocabulary by using Short Stories.
- b. The researcher gets valuable experiences which can be used for doing a better action research in the future.

3. For the Student

This research can be used to help students' learn vocabulary mastery. It means, that students' can practice to using short stories. It is expected that this study can pump up the students' motivation to study vocabulary, make them loving to learn themselves and improve their vocabulary mastery.

### **1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Problem**

In the research, the researcher limits the problem of the research to make it more understandable. Furthermore, this study focuses on the Improving Vocabulary Mastery by using Short Stories in Fourth grade students'. Accordingly, the setting chosen for this research is MI Tarbiyatul Banin wal Banat Trucuk Bojonegoro. Students' of elementary school consist of six levels. They are students of the one grade, two grade, third grade, fourth grade, fifth grade, sixth grade. This research chosen the Fourth grade of MI Tarbiyatul Banin wal Banat Trucuk Bojonegoro in academic year 2022/2023. This research conduct in two class. And each class consist 20 partisipant. So the total of partisipant are 40 partisipant. The research also is limited only on students' elementary school vocabulary mastery by using short stories.

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