A. Vocabulary

1. The Definition of Vocabulary

Learning English is very complex for students of Junior High School. The students still have low motivation that can impact their vocabulary mastery. According to Shukla (2012:66), states that vocabulary should be placed in the centre of language teaching as it plays an important role in creating understanding of language through what a students hears, sees, and reads in the classroom.

Kamil and Hiebert (2005:3) explains that vocabulary is a set of oral and print words which are mastered by someone in which those are used in the productive and receptive skills.

Based on the description above, it can be concluded that vocabulary is words that can improve someone’s language in communicating for others.

2. The Importance of Vocabulary

Rivers and Nunan (1991:117) write that vocabulary is essential for successful study of the second language. Without an extensive vocabulary, students will be enabling to use language communicatively.

Vocabulary has important role in making up language. It is one of the basic elements and that is the reason why no language exists without
word. Alemi and Tayebi (2012:8), vocabulary is the basic component of language proficiency which provides the basis for learners’ performance in the both productive and receptive skills of language.

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that vocabulary becomes an important thing in learning English as it is the first basic thing to create a good communication: to speak, write, read, or listen in English. Those must use the vocabulary in order to master it well.

3. The Learning Vocabulary

Teaching is helping the students to learn, to do something, and to create good situation in learning which make the students are enjoy in studying the lesson and also give the instruction that causing students understand. Therefore, it is important for an English teacher to know the ways of learning vocabulary. Brown and Payne in Hatch (1995:357) states that there are some ways that can help learners in learning and mastering vocabulary. They are as follow:

a. Reading dictionary

When someone has a trouble in knowing the meaning of word, dictionary can be used effectively if someone is aware of word limitation and consult the only to find a quick definition.

b. Using notebook

The learners use notebook in keeping the new vocabulary when finding a new word in the text and do not understand what it means.
Learning is needed a good ways to make the teaching learning process enjoyed especially about vocabulary. Rubin in vocabulary Expansion (1982:6) gives five suggestions on how to study vocabulary, those are:

a. Choose a best time in studying;
b. Try to find a good place or make it enjoy in studying;
c. Use drill way which make it easy in remembering the vocabulary;
d. When the entire exercises are completed, go over other words. In addition, take a few minutes to review the previous exercise;
e. Try in daily activity, both in writing work or speaking;

Based on the previous explanation, it can be concluded that using differences of ways in studying vocabulary can develop students’ vocabulary.

4. The Aspect of English Vocabulary

Vocabulary is one of the basic components of language and no language exists without words. Failure of a person to communicate with foreigners is due to the weakness in knowing the vocabulary. According to Lado in Mardianawati (2012:10-15) there are some problems in learning vocabulary items, such as:

a. Meaning aspect

It is reasonable that Indonesian learners find it difficult to master the meaning English word. Sometimes the meaning of a word chance
because of its function in sentence, whether it is a noun of a verb. So, a word may be have more than one meaning.

b. Spelling aspect

Learning spelling is very important because it can improve the learners to master language skills, especially reading and writing. In learning English vocabulary, most of Indonesian learners have some spelling problems. For example, the letter (I), is not always pronounced /I/. So, an English teacher should keep students’ pronunciation and spell English word correctly.

c. Pronunciation aspect

Many students want to be able to speak English well with understandable pronunciation so that the students can communicate without hindrances. Good pronunciation make receiver easier in understanding. The following aspects which cause problems is pronunciation: similar sound in the languages which have different variants, sequences of sound in one word, classification of sound.

d. Word Classes

Word classes are categories of word. Word class is an important feature in semantic feature analysis. In each of the following sets of words, one word does not belong. For example: nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions are word classes. The clarification of the words of a language in this way is dependent on their function in communication.
e. Word Use

Word use is how a word, phrase, or concept is used in a language.

Lexicographers gather samples of written or spoken instances where a word is used and analyze them to determine patterns of regional or social usage as well as meaning. Word use may also involve grammar and thus be the subject of profound analysis.

5. The Teaching of Vocabulary

Teaching is helping students to learn, how to do something, how to create enjoying learning situation which make students invite to learn, giving instruction that causing students understand, etc. According to Cranmer (1986:59), teaching vocabulary is important as teaching structure and look at a range of activities which are designed to teach and practice word.

According to Cranmer (1986:59), teaching vocabulary is important as teaching structure and look at a range of activities which are designed to teach and practice word on their various uses as follow:

a. Using realia

One way of teaching vocabulary is by taking real object to the classroom or using the ones the teacher has in it. Example: chair, table, board, etc.
b. Mime, Action, and Gesture

   It is impossible to explain the meaning of word and grammar use
   of relies in picture. Actions like running, walking, or smoking are
easier to explain by acting the word.

c. Showing contrast

   It is to explain the meaning of words by showing an opposite word.

   Example: fast x slow; fat x thin; tall x short; etc.

d. Using enumeration

   Words can be explained by enumerating or listing various items.

   Example: vegetables = broccoli, tomato, cucumber, etc.

e. Giving explanation

   The teacher uses this method to explain the meaning of vocabulary
   items that are very difficult. This vocabulary can be explained by
   teacher if students are difficult and the vocabulary is limited in
   dictionary. Therefore, teacher should explain more about the meaning
   of the vocabulary.

f. Translating

   It is easy and quick way to present the meaning of word.

   Translation is possible to take it a bit too easy students by
discouraging them for interacting with words.

g. Game

   It is a technique of teaching and learning process that can help and
encourages many learners to sustain their interest work. Game also
helps the teacher to create context in which the language is useful and meaningful.

h. Showing the picture

Picture is interesting media that are used to improve students’ vocabulary. It means that picture can be used as teaching media especially when there are used to illustrate the meaning of the words. Picture can be used to explain the meaning of vocabulary item. Picture can be all pictures, chart magazine, board drawing, wall picture, flashcard, and other non-technical visual representation.

Based on description above, actually teaching vocabulary for students have many ways. Teacher should know how to improve the students in mastering vocabulary and what is the appropriate technique to be used. Teacher cannot teach just once because the students need to practice continuously through knowing the words which have been made by students.

B. Media

1. The Concept of Media

In etymology, media comes from the Latin, which is the plural form of the word "medium" which means the middle, intermediate, or introduction. According to Asyhar (2012:5), the media is a tool or device that serves as an intermediary in a process of communication between the communicator with the communicant.
The use of media is very important in learning process, as well as a learning tool, media can also increase a person's ability to understand the problem and provide the means to the communicator and the communicant to resolve the issue.

2. The Function of Media

Asyhar (2012:27-40) said there are some functions of the media:

a. Media as a source of learning
   Through the media, the students got the message and information to create new knowledge to the students.

b. Semantic function
   Learn the meaning of a sign, a foreign language, and symbols, through the dictionary, glossary, or sources.

c. Manipulative function
   The ability of media to bring back an object / event in various ways, according to the conditions, circumstances, objectives and targets.

d. Fixative function
   Regarding the ability of a media to trap, store, display return an object or event that happened a long time.

e. Distributive function
   Use the materials, objects or events, can be followed by students in large numbers and in a very wide range.
f. Psychological function

Can be as attention, affective, cognitive, imaginative, and motivation.

g. Function of socio-cultural

The use of media in learning to cope the socio-cultural barriers between students.

Based on the description above, media has a very important function in learning process. Therefore, the use of media in learning process is needed to assist students in improving learning ability.

3. The Choice of Media

Media is a tool in learning process. Media also has a varian types; each type has a character of their own. In order to assist students in improving the students’ capabilities, then teachers have to choose a good and appropriate media in learning process.

There are several considerations which might influence one’s choice of media (Asyhar, 2012:81-82):

a. Media is clear and tidy.

b. Media must be clean and attractive.

c. Media is matching to the target.

d. Media must be relevant to the topic being taught.

e. Media must be accordance with the purpose of learning.

f. Media is practical, flexible, and resistant.

g. Media must be good quality.
h. The size corresponds to the learning environment.

Based on the explanation above, the teacher should choose the appropriate media to help the students in teaching learning process. The media is used by the teacher in explaining the subject of material and enhancing the quality of it.

4. Kinds of Media

According to Sudjana (2005:4), there are some kinds of graphic media:

a. Draft/Blue Print

A combination from graphic media and picture that is planed for visualization the connection between main facts or main ideas and logic.

b. Diagram

Description that is simplified that planed to show the relationship on both side, especially in the meaning of lines and symbols.

c. Graphic

Graphic is visual description from numeral data and to show the qualitative data.

d. Poster

Poster is simplified illustration picture in big size, planned to attract someone in main idea, fact, and action.
e. Cartoon

Cartoon is the picture description of human being, idea, or situation that is planned to persuade the civil opinion.

f. Flashcard

Flashcard is that used as a learning aid, one writes a question on a card an answer overleaf.

C. Flashcard

1. Definition of Flashcard

Based on the explanation before flashcard is part of a set of cards on which are written items to be studied (Amalia and Zainudin:2012). Flashcard usually made of square in the form of paper like a photograph, and it contains images which teachers can take it from magazines, newspapers or books.

Learning activities will be very interesting if the media used is picture, because it is colorfull. Illustrated media can also make students continue to remember what the students are learning.

2. Advantages and Disadvantages of Using Flashcard

The reason of the use flashcard is because of its advantages. According to Komachali and Khodaeza (2012) the advantages of using flashcard are:

a. Facilitating the students to pronounce new vocabulary repeatedly;

b. Making the vocabulary taught by the teacher more memorable;
c. Helping the teacher to create students’ interest and attention;
d. Facilitating the students to get involve in the class work; and
e. Making the students become autonomous learners.

Those advantages will make the students are easier in learning vocabulary.

While having advantages, flashcard also has disadvantages, those are:
a. Sometimes it is difficult to find card which is suitable with the material will be taught;
b. It is not easy for the teacher to get or make flashcard which contains numerous informations of the word will be taught; and
c. Some flashcard are expensive.

3. Making Flashcard

Flashcard is a set of cards that is used as a medium for teacher learning. The size of the flashcard is varied, depending on the needs. Flashcard usually made of thick paper, so it is not easily damaged. Flashcard form usually like the photo shows the image on the front and writing on the back.

It is very easy to make flashcards. With thick paper materials, pencils, and markers, flashcards can be made easily. Teachers can make by drawing something on the front line with vocabulary that will be used and write the meaning of the vocabulary in this part of the back. Now flashcard can be found in bookstores or stationery stores that facilitate the teacher to use it directly without having to make it first. The form of a
ready-made flashcard tends better because the paper used is paper with plastic coated.

Easy ways to make flashcard will be easy to be used. By using flashcards in the learning process, especially learning vocabulary, students are expected to be motivated to learn English.

4. Teaching Vocabulary Using Flashcard

There are some procedures of teaching vocabulary using flashcard as follow:

a. First
   Teacher tells students to make some groups then gives flashcards.
   This is done to make students understand about vocabulary in it.

b. Second
   Teacher gives some questions related to the pictures given. These pictures are related to the material. For example, “What is your ambition?” if the material is about Profession.

c. Third
   Teacher gives worksheet to analyze by students.

d. Fourth
   Teacher asks students to come forward after analyzing then present the result.

e. Fifth
   Teacher and students evaluate the material that has been learnt.
D. Relevant Researches

One strategy for learning vocabulary is the use of flashcards. A flashcard is a cardboard consisting of a word, a sentence, or a simple picture on it. It is supported by the researches which applied flashcard as teaching and learning students vocabulary. The present study was conducted to investigate the effect of using vocabulary flashcard on Iranian pre-university students’ vocabulary knowledge. The participants of the study comprised 50 female learners. They were randomly assigned into two homogeneous groups each consisting of 25 learners. The control group received the traditional treatment while the experimental group received the vocabulary flashcard treatment. Hence, it was concluded that the contribution of flashcard in teaching vocabulary to students led to a higher level of vocabulary improvement. (Maryam Eslahcar Komachali;2012)

Furthermore, Amalia (2012) states that flashcard is part of a set of cards on which are written items to be studied. The information which is of greater importance can be easily stored on the flashcard as its primary purpose is to store the information for the easy of the people. The researcher concludes that the flashcard is suitable to use in teaching learning process in improving the students in vocabulary in English word. From the data, it can be concluded that teaching vocabulary by using flashcard helps the students to improve their achievement.
Based on the research above, used flashcard make teacher easier in teaching vocabulary. The result shows that its media gives positive effect to the students in studying vocabulary.

E. Basic Assumption

Vocabulary is one of the language components that is difficult for the learners to understand. The case is that the learners feel bored and uninterested in learning vocabulary since the learners have to memorize and pronounce so many words and also learn the material through lecturing method of teaching from an English teacher. Thus, it can use a good media to create a fun way in delivering the material.

Good media will provide a fun way for the learners in learning vocabulary. It provides an easy way to be played, colorful, competitive and engages the learners in joining teaching and learning process. Moreover, the learners will be more motivated to do vocabulary activities because of an easy media and fun way which applied in teaching and learning process. As the result, the learners’ vocabulary mastery of experimental class will be better than control class by using flashcard as a good media.

Flashcard is an exciting media that can be used in process of learning, especially learning English vocabulary because the flashcard provides colorful design, contain images and meanings. Flashcard shape is like a picture in which images that are not only in monotonous writing, but also in varying according to the image and vocabulary provided in it. Besides easy to
make, flashcard also has a vari an colors with images according to the vocabulary, so it is easy to remember. It can be concluded that the weakness can be solved through learning vocabulary flashcard media.

F. Hypothesis

Based on the basic assumption above, the hypothesis of the study is that flashcard is effective for enhancing students’ vocabulary mastery.