

## CHAPTER II

### LITERATURE RIVIEW

#### A. Vocabulary

##### 1. Definition of Vocabulary

Vocabulary is one of the language aspects which should be learnt. Learning vocabulary is important because to be able to communicate with other we have to know vocabulary first. Vocabulary is the tool we use to think, to express ideas and feelings, and to learn about the world (Vossoughi, 2009:1).

Vocabulary itself always exists in every language. A language emerges first as words, both historically, and in term of the way people learn the first and any subsequent languages (Thornbury, 2007:1). This means that there is no language which can be used to communicate if there is no vocabulary.

Vocabulary is a list of words, usually in alphabetical order and with explanations of their meanings (Wu, 2009:5). According to Nunan (2005:130) vocabulary development is an important aspect of language development. It is one of the basic components of language, there is not any language exist without words. Without an extensive vocabulary; one will be unable to use the language communicatively. Having a limited vocabulary is also a barrier that prevents students from learning a foreign language. If the students do not know how to improve their vocabulary,

they will get troubles in learning other language skills and for the result they will hate the lesson and then gradually lost interest in learning.

Related to that idea, vocabulary is very important in teaching and learning a language. As the first steps in learning a language, vocabulary mastery should be done before a student learn others elements and skills.

In short, vocabulary is a list of words, usually in alphabetical order and with explanation of their meaning and vocabulary development is an important aspect of language development. The lack of vocabulary often brings many troubles for English learners. To speak, write, read or listen in English, vocabulary cannot be avoid and have to be mastered more every day.

## **2. The Important of Vocabulary**

Generally, vocabulary is the essential aspect in learning English because the lack of vocabulary often brings any troubles for the learners. In learning language, having a good mastery of vocabulary is really needed. The vocabulary mastery cannot be denied in learning English, not only learners' speaking skills only, but also their reading and writing as well, because vocabulary is one of the most essential aspect to improve the learners' English mastery of vocabulary that can also be developed naturally by their experience during life according to their need and education. Sometimes, someone who has lack of vocabulary will have less creativity in making good communication. Furthermore, the more

vocabulary is mastered, the bigger possibility that someone can skillfully use the language.

Vocabulary is important for successful second language and it is important to learn for comprehensible communication, without vocabulary the structures and functions unable to be used (Bintz, 2011:44). It means that the development of a rich vocabulary is an important aspect in learning a second language.

Language skill depends on competency of vocabulary (Tarigan, 1984:82). Thus the more vocabulary is mastered, the bigger possibility that someone could skill fully use the language. Moreover, vocabulary has an important role in making up language.

Related to the explanation above, vocabulary becomes an essential aspect in learning English, why? Because vocabulary is the first basic essential aspect in learning English and no language exists without it and words are signs or symbols for ideas (Napa,1991: 6-7. The more words are learnt, the more ideas should be had, and so it will be more effective to communicate the ideas. When dealing in the social life especially in the school, students need to master vocabulary to express their idea or ask for certain information. If they have many of vocabulary, they will be able in expressing their idea in oral or written. We can't deny that vocabulary is one of the essential aspects in learning English. In short, vocabulary is very crucial in communication.

### 3. The Aspect of Vocabulary

In learning vocabulary, there are some aspects that should be learnt by the learners. According to Lado as cited in Mardianawati (2012:11), there are several ways that the learner can learn English vocabulary such as:

#### a. Meaning

In learning foreign language, learners should know the meaning of the word. Knowing the meaning of the word, it will make easier for the learner to use it for written or oral communication.

#### b. Spelling

In learning vocabulary, spelling is very important since it can help in reading activity. It can tighten the connection between sounds and letters. In learning English vocabulary, learners cannot spell the word well because some words that have different from what is written, for example the letter (I) is not always pronounced /I/. Thus the English teacher should guide students to pronounce and spell English words correctly.

#### c. Pronunciation

Pronunciation is the way to say words or letters. Pronunciation is difficult to learn because there is no connection between word spelling and pronunciation. Some words have only one pronunciation and sometime a word has two pronunciations or more than two pronunciations.

d. Word classes

Word classes are categories of words such as nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives. Word class is an important feature in semantic analysis.

e. Word use

Word use is how a word, phrase, or concept is used in a language. Lexicographers gather samples of written or spoken instance where a word is used and analysed them to determine patterns of regional or social usage as well as meaning.

#### **4. Types of Vocabulary**

Vocabulary can be divided into two types. They are receptive vocabulary and productive vocabulary or passive and active vocabulary (Hatch & Brown, 1995:370).

- a. Receptive vocabulary is “words that the students recognizes, and understand when they occur in context, but which they cannot produce correctly”.
- b. Productive vocabulary is “words which the students understands the meaning, can pronounce correctly, and use the contraction in speaking and writing”.

#### **5. Teaching Vocabulary**

One of the problems of vocabulary teaching is how to select an appropriate word, (Harmer, 1991:154). As an English teacher, when

teaches vocabulary, we have to select suitable words to be taught. The words should be in the line with the level of the students and the topic. In the other hand, we may also select media and methods to be applied in the class.

The process of teaching vocabulary has important role, especially when the teacher gives some materials to the students. There is the influence of language learning theories, or approaches, classroom exercise, and activities for teaching vocabulary.

Teaching vocabulary is important in teaching structure, and there are many ways to teach vocabulary such as:

1) Using Realia

Realia means the use of real object that can be seen by the students. The teacher gives such as a real thing in the classroom, so the word can be easily explained.

2) Showing the Picture

Picture is indispensable media for the language teaching, since they can be used in so many ways. They can be wall picture, blackboard, drawing, charts, flashcard, and tables of statistics.

3) Mimic, Action, and Gestures

Frequently, it is difficult or even possible to explain the meaning of words using the reality or picture. In this matter, teacher can choose mime action or gesture.

#### 4) Contrast

Sometimes, visual element (realia, picture, etc) may not be sufficient to explain the meaning of word. In this case contrasting the meaning can be used. The word “full” is better understood in the context of “empty”, “big” in the context of “small”, etc.

#### 5) Enumeration

When the teacher find difficulty to explain word, the teacher can enumerate a word. For example, when the teacher want to teach the word “flower”, he can enumerate the word “flower” like rose, jasmine, and orchid. So, the word “flower” will be clearly understood.

#### 6) Word Association

In teaching new vocabulary, a teacher mentions the things connected words. For example, the words: table, students, teacher, and withboard, for he word “classroom”, and the words: seller, buyer, vegetables, fruits, fish, and meal for the word “market”.

#### 7) Explanation and Definition

In this technique, teacher gives example or definition of a word. Probably, it will be better to give such explanation as the information about when the item can be used, or what it used for.

Illustration: teacher wants to explain the word “bed”

The teacher explains: it is the thing where we can sleep.

#### 8) Translation

When there is no other ways to explain a word teacher sometimes has to translate the word into student's language. Example, when the teacher wants to teach the word "nice", the teacher cannot express it by using gesture, mime, action or picture. Therefore, the teacher can directly translate the word "nice" into "bagus".

#### 9) Cartoon

Cartoon is a media, which are easy to understand, in education field, cartoons also have power to attract the students' attention. By the cartoon will interest stay longer in the students mind, and it also impressive.

#### 10) Game

Game is defined as "an organized activity that usually has the following properties: a particular task or objective, a set of rules, competition between players, and communication between players by spoken or written language". Game also help to encourages many learners to sustain their interest and their work.

From several explanation above, it can be conclude that teaching English vocabulary in the beginning level needs a suitable technique. The teacher needs to choose the appropriate ones which make the students easy to understand the material and enjoy their study. One of the technique

which can make students easy to understand and enjoy the learning of vocabulary is game.

## **6. Learning Vocabulary**

Learning is the process, by which information is obtained, stored, retrieved, and used (Rubin, 2013: 2). The meaning of 'use' is interactional communication and vocabulary practice. There are five essential steps in learning vocabulary (Hatch and Brown, 1995: 372):

### **1) Having sources for encountering new words**

The first essential step for vocabulary learning is encountering new words, that is, having a source for words. The students' strategy here includes learning new words by reading books, reading newspaper and magazine (Hatch and Brown, 1995: 373).

In this case, the source of new words is form books or text that the students follow the reading class. In the text, there are a lot of new words that can be learnt by them.

### **2) Getting the word form**

The second step essential to vocabulary learning appears to be the getting of a clear image – visual or auditory or both of the form of the vocabulary item. The importance of having clear image of the 'form' of a word become apparent when the students think about what happens they try to retrieve words (Hatch and Brown, 1995: 378).

By reading the text, the students can get the word form easily because the text provides the spelling of the words. Besides that, the

students can get the clear auditory (pronunciation) of the words because read the text and the teacher correct their pronunciation while the students get mistake.

### 3) Getting the word meaning

By reading the text, the students can get the word meaning easily that just reading the vocabulary list. It is because the meaning of vocabulary can be seen through the correlation among the other vocabulary in the text. Besides that, the teacher facilities the students in getting the word meaning through visual technique and verbal technique that have been mentioned before.

### 4) Making a strong memory connection between the form and the meaning of the words

In order to remember the vocabulary that has been required before, the consolidating word form and meaning in memory is needed (Hatch and Brown, 1995: 387). In this step, the students do the exercises in order to make strong memory connection between the form and the meaning of the words (Hatch and Brown, 1995: 373).

The last step in learning words is using the words. By using the words, the students seems having a mild guarantee that words and meanings will not fade from memory once they are learned (Hatch and Brown, 1995: 390). Use of the word may simply be a form of hypothesis testing, allowing learners to see if the knowledge gained in the other steps is correct (Hatch and Brown, 1995: 390).

## **B. Domino Game**

### **1. Definition of Domino Game**

Domino is a very useful, easy and entertaining game to practice any set of vocabulary. This game can be played in groups or in pairs, it has the necessary aspect of competition and forces the learners easily to learn the vocabulary, store it in memory and recall it (lebedova, 2011). It can be applied in opening stage (warm up), presentation (delivering the material in interesting way) and what is more, the domino can be used as a warm-up of the next lesson to revise the vocabulary.

#### **1. Warm up**

Show the learners the domino cards to enable them to become familiar with the pictures, to understand how the cards are designed and eventually explain some of the problematic ones, e.g. then ask the learners whether they know the game rules and let a learner to explain them to others.

#### **2. Follow up**

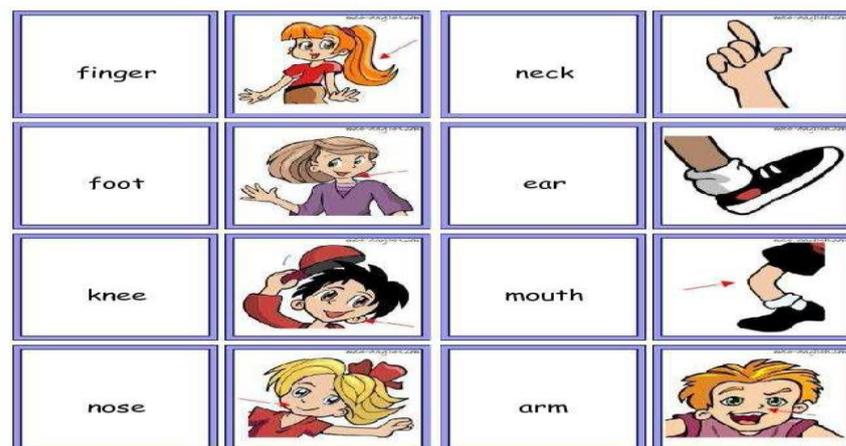
- As soon as the learners are familiar with the game, they can play it alone with the teacher's observation.
- At the end of every particular game, they are supposed to pronounce the whole line of words chorally.

## 2. Possible Modification

As mentioned above, the domino could be played in the whole class group, in small groups or in pairs. This requires preparing appropriate number of the domino cards sets. Not only pictures and words may be used for domino. Other variations are: collocations (verb + noun, adjective + noun etc.), singulars and plurals (esp. those irregular ones), split sentences, pronunciation minimal pairs (e.g. bag x back) etc.

FIGURE 1

Example of Domino



### **C. Teaching vocabulary by using Domino Game**

#### **a. Steps of teaching**

1. Teacher asks the students to work in group consist of 3-4 students.
2. Teacher distributes domino cards to each group.
3. Teacher asks the students to play the domino game in three rounds (in period with the limitation time).
4. One of the members shakes the card and distributes the card for all members, until none of the card left.
5. The student who got start card will have the first chance to play the game and put the card with the START mark on the table.
6. The student having the match of the card put on the table should pair it with the proper one.
7. Then the student who is able to match the card should continue the game by putting one of his/ her cards on the table.
8. Steps 6 and 7 are repeated until none of the cards left, and until all the members of the group understand all the words in the cards.

#### **D. Basic Assumption**

In learning vocabulary, the essential problem faced by the students was how to remember the vocabulary that has been acquired before or it can be said that the vocabulary has to be recycled. By recycling the vocabulary, it would help students to memorize the vocabulary longer. Having long term memory about the vocabulary made them easily to retrieve it when they need it.

Based on the explanation previously, vocabulary is one of language components, which is very crucial in learning English as a Foreign Language. Mastering English vocabulary itself is difficult. Attractive and various teaching technique is required to improve the student's vocabulary mastery. One of the learning techniques is Domino Game. The use of Domino Game would make the students easy to learn vocabulary, to store it in memory and recall it. When students were interested in doing the lesson they would be easier to understand the material. In short, Domino Game made students cooperate with their team work in improving their vocabulary mastery easily.