

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

In learning English, students have to get great number of words to be applied in communication. Vocabulary is important to be learned because when the teacher teaches all the English skills, automatically the students have to learn vocabulary by the teacher (John and Mario, 2004: 18). When they get the English skills, it underlines the importance of vocabulary to be learnt.

Learning vocabulary is important because in order to be able to speak, write, and listen the language accurately, the students have to use the appropriate words to express their ideas so vocabulary can support their language skill. Wilkinsas cited in Thornbury (2002:13) said that without grammar very little can be conveyed, and without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed. It means that students can say the language with little grammar, but it will be difficult for them to speak or write something without through vocabulary. By mastering vocabulary, the students will be able to produce so many sentences. Therefore, vocabulary mastery must be the first priority in English language teaching and learning.

In learning vocabulary, there are some aspects of that should be learnt by students. As stated by Brown (2011: 83) there are some aspects of vocabulary: the first is word meaning, it includes definition, synonyms and antonyms. The second is word form; it's including pronunciation and spelling. The third is the word use, where the students also need to know how a word, phrase, or concept is used in a language.

But there were many problems faced by students in learning vocabulary, it makes the students could not master the English learning. The first problem is understanding

about the meaning of words. Most of students have found difficulties in understanding the meaning of word because the words have not been known specifically so it makes the lesson hard to be understood well. The second problem is the difficulty in differentiating the English word's spelling. The students have found some similar words and sounds in English, so that it might make the students feel confused. The third problem is the usage of the words. The students tend to forget some words that have been learned before. it means that they could not memorize the new words well.

Vocabulary can be mastered through the process of teaching and learning in the class. In this case, the teacher should pay attention about the level of the students, materials, media, method and techniques. In order to retain new vocabulary longer, the students' vocabulary has to be recycled. Recycle vocabulary means that the students use the vocabulary again and again or retrieve it. One of the techniques that can be used for recycling vocabulary is Pictionary game. Pictionary game is assumed as media that can be used in teaching and learning vocabulary.

Pictionary is a combination between picture and dictionary. Pictionary game is a game of drawing and guessing pictures (Talak-Kiryk, 2010: 25). In this game, the teacher will provide a picture along with it is word based on the class of word: adjective, noun, verb and adverb. This game is played in teams. One student from each team becomes an artist to draw picture based on the vocabulary list given by the teacher and other members have to guess the picture correctly. The artist is the only one able to see the vocabulary list written on the card. In playing it, students have to compete with other teams. Working as a team and competing with other teams makes the students interest in following the teaching and learning process because they will not feel worry since they work in team.

Based on the explanation above, this study is intended to find out the effectiveness of the Pictionary game in teaching vocabulary at first grade students of SMP Muhamadiyah 1 Purbalingga in academic year 2015/2016

B. Reason for Choosing the Topic

1. Vocabulary is very important in learning English. In order to be able to speak, write, and listen the language accurately, the students have to use the appropriate words to express their ideas so vocabulary can support their language skill.
2. Pictionary game is a technique in learning English vocabulary to recycle words given before. It is an interesting way to learn English vocabulary because it is a kind of game. By using Pictionary game, the students are expected to understand the vocabulary easily.

C. Problem of the Research

The problem of this research is “Is Pictionary game effective for teaching vocabulary at first grade students of SMP Muhamadiyah 1 Purbalingga in academic year 2015/2016?”

D. Aim of the Research

Based on the problem mentioned before, the aim of the study is to examine the effectiveness of Pictionary game for teaching vocabulary at seven grade students of SMP Muhamadiyah 1 Purbalingga in academic year 2015/2016.

E. Clarification of Term

The title of this research is “Teaching vocabulary using Pictionary game”. To avoid any possible misunderstanding, the terms are clarified as follows:

1. Teaching

Teaching is showing or helping someone to learn how to do something, giving instructions, guiding in the study of something, providing with knowledge, causing to know or understand (Brown, 2000: 7).

2. Vocabulary

Vocabulary is group of words which the language have and gives meaning if we use the language (Suyanto, 2007: 43).

3. Pictionary Game

Pictionary game is a game in which students draw pictures as clues to the vocabulary word for team members to correctly identify the term (June Preszler, 2006: 16).

F. Contribution of the Study

1. For Teachers

The result of this research as input as variation technique for teacher to apply this game in teaching English. It means that the teacher can use Pictionary game for teaching English vocabulary.

2. For Students

This research can give some experience in learning vocabulary through Pictionary game and is expected to help the students to solve the problem in memorizing vocabulary through Pictionary game.

3. For Other Researcher

This research is expected to be used as a reference in conducting the research for obtaining better result.

