

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Vocabulary

1. Definition of Vocabulary

Learning English is not something new for university students. They often speak and write in English, but they do not have lot of vocabulary. They have limited vocabulary, whereas it is very important in learning a language.

Rivers in Nunan (1983 : 125) writes that vocabulary is essential for supporting the study of the second language. It means that vocabulary is the key of success of someone in learning English as second language. Vocabulary becomes an important thing in learning English, because vocabulary is the first basic important thing in learning English.

Besides that, Hornby (1994 : 1425) says that vocabulary is the total number of words that make up a language. Moreover, Pei (1981 : 1434) wrote that vocabulary is all the words of language a list of words, often phrases, usually arranged alphabetically, and defined or translated. From those two definitions of vocabulary above, we may conclude that vocabulary is the words or phrases that are arranged alphabetically which make up a language.

Every language needs sentence, and every sentence needs vocabulary especially English. When the learners speak, write, or listen in English they can not avoid the vocabulary. Because of that the learners have to master it well. If the learners have limited vocabulary, they will get trouble in speaking

or building a good communication. So, the learners can not deny that vocabulary is one of the important things to communicate in English.

2. Types of Vocabulary

Richard and Joana in Rini (2000 : 6) said that there are three types of vocabularies. Those are:

- a. General Vocabulary, which consist of everyday words widely acknowledge meaning in common usage.

Example: table, house, etc

- b. Special Vocabulary, it is made up words from everybody's general vocabulary which is taken on specialized meanings when adapted to particular content area.

Example: shop keeper, hand fruit, etc

- c. Technical Vocabulary, in which consist of words that have usage and application only in particular subject matter field.

Example: chlorophyll, stethoscope, etc

While Marshall (2010 : 1) stated that there are four different types of vocabularies. Those types are:

- a. Speaking vocabulary

It is all of the words a person can use through speech. This is a very powerful vocabulary type, because through this vocabulary, someone can

influence other people. For example: when the president speaks in front of many people.

b. Writing vocabulary

It is all of the words a person can use when they are writing. By having a good writing and ability in arranging the words, someone also can influence many people by using their writing. For example: a poem written by professional writer.

A lot of times, both writing and speaking vocabularies are combined and they can compliment each other very well.

c. Listening vocabulary

It is all of the words a person can recognize through listening (e.g listening music or radio).

When people are often listening to something with L2, it will make them easy in understanding others who utilize speaking vocabularies. Listening plays a significant role in the overall growth of vocabulary since one can encounter new words from several different sources simply through hearing or listening.

d. Reading vocabulary

It is all of the words a person can recognize by reading something. This is very important for understanding content produced by those who frequently use writing vocabularies. It means that reading and writing vocabulary have a big correlation, a good writing is readable for many people. By reading, people are able to encounter new words.

From those types of vocabulary above, it can be concluded that there are several types of vocabulary that always used in daily activity, such as reading, listening, writing and speaking. Vocabularies that are used in daily activities consist from common vocabularies to unfamiliar vocabularies.

3. Learning Vocabulary

Learning vocabulary is a very important part of learning a language. The more words one know, the more one will be able to understand what is heard and read, and the better one will be able to say what he or she want to when speaking or writing.

According to Pavur (2009 : 1), there are some points in learning vocabulary. Those points can help the students in learning vocabulary. The points are:

- a. It is often helpful to have some kind of *hook* to help the students to retrieve the word or meaning that they want to remember.

When the students feel that they can not find the meaning of the word, they may try to look for another word which has correlation with the word. For example word *bucket*. If they do not know the meaning of this word, try to find the function of the word like *a water places*

- b. Practicing in recalling the words.

For example when the students learn word *bubble*, try to always say this word anywhere and anytime. By doing this, the students will easier in remember the word.

- c. Hear, see and understand the words repeatedly in its various forms.

Always hear and see the new words will make the students familiar with the words. Try to always repeat this words but in different form. For example word *high*, this word belongs to adjective form. Try to change this word into adverb form, so it will become *higher*.

Once the students have chosen which words to learn, they have to decide how they are going to learn them. According to Lado (1972 : 1) there are several ways that the students can learn English words. Those ways are:

1. Dictionary

Dictionary can help the students in learning vocabulary. By using dictionary, the students can find the meaning or the synonym of the words, so they will understand the words easily. It is better for the students to have two dictionaries, one large and one small because it can help the students effectively when the students find the difficulties.

2. Notebook

One of the most effective ways to control the students' learning of few words is to keep a vocabulary notebook. The students may write the words with their translation or definition, so when they arrive at home they may look for the meaning by seeing the notebook.

3. Study words with families

It can be called as the easiest way to learn vocabulary. Each time the learner has difficulties in learning vocabulary, ask the family correlate with the words, such as the meaning or the synonym of the words.

B. Learning Strategies

1. Definition of Learning Strategies

In order to learn something, the students need strategies to make them easier in learning vocabulary. Learning strategies are one of the ways for the learners to learn second language or foreign language. Learners have different characteristic in learning new language, that's why every learner needs their own learning strategy. Those learning strategies can help them in studying foreign or second language.

Nunan (1991 : 158) says that learning strategies are the mental processes which learners employ to learn and use the target language. Moreover, Oxford in Nunan (1990 : 11) stated that learning strategies refer to "... characteristics we want to stimulate in students to enable them to become more proficient language learners. In this case, we are not talking about preferred ways of doing things, but rather looking at the characteristics of tasks that second language learners must do and purposely teaching students the behaviors that will help them to be successful learners.

From those definitions, it can be concluded that learning strategies are the mental processes that consist of specific actions, behavior, steps, or technique so that learners can improve their progress in apprehending, internalizing, and using the second language that can make the students become a successful learners.

C. Vocabulary Learning Strategies

1. The Nature of Vocabulary Learning Strategies

According to Channarong (2011 : 80) vocabulary learning strategies have been defined as any set of techniques or learning behaviors, which science-oriented students reported using in order to discover the meaning, and to retain the knowledge of newly-learned words.

Based on the research done by the university students in Thailand, they found some strategies to explore vocabulary learning. The findings of the research show that three different emergent categories have been reported which include:

- 1) The strategies to discover the meaning of new vocabulary items
- 2) The strategies to retain the knowledge of newly-learned vocabulary items
- 3) The strategies to enhance their learning vocabulary items or to expand their knowledge of vocabulary

2. Strategies in Learning Vocabulary

Based on Nation in Ghazal (1997 : 84), vocabulary learning strategies are one part of language learning strategies which in turn are part of general learning strategies. The students need training in vocabulary learning strategies they need most. Research has shown that many learners do use more strategies to learn vocabulary especially when compared to such integrated tasks such as listening and speaking. But they are mostly inclined to use basic vocabulary learning strategies (Schmitt in Ghazal, 1997 : 84).

Learning vocabulary can be in many ways. According to Schmitt in Ghazal (1997 : 86), learning strategies is distinguished into two groups in general. The first group is to determine the meaning of new words when encounter for the first time. The second group is to consolidate meaning when encounter again.

Moreover, Schimtt also discover another ways to learn vocabulary. It is divided into five (5) strategies such as social, determination, memory, cognitive and metacognitive. The strategies can be shown from the table below.

Table 2.1
Schmitt: Five Strategies in Learning Vocabulary

Learning Strategies	Definition of Strategies	Example
1. Social Strategy	Asking someone for help with the unknown words	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ask classmate for meaning b. Ask lecturer for synonym of new word c. Ask lecturer for a sentence including the new word d. Discuss the meaning in a group e. Interact with native speaker
2. Determination Strategy	Try to discover the meaning by guessing it	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Analyze any available picture b. Guess from textual context c. Use bilingual dictionary

3. Memory Strategy	Relating the words with some previously learned knowledge by using some form of imagery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. Analyze part of speech e. Make a word lists a. Write new vocabulary from lesson b. Say new word aloud c. Use new words in sentences d. Study the spelling of words e. Make an image of word's meaning
4. Cognitive Strategy	Similar to memory strategy but are not focused on manipulate mental processing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Written repetition b. Make a vocabulary notebook c. Verbal repetition d. Use the vocabulary in a sentence e. Listen to tape of word lists
5. Metacognitive Strategy	Strategy used by the learners to control or evaluate their own learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Find the new words from English media b. Testing oneself with words tests c. Skip or pass new word d. Continue study over time e. Use the words in a dialogue

From the table above, it can be seen that in learning vocabulary there are some strategies that can be used by the students. In fact, the strategies above are only some strategies that can be applied by the students to learn vocabulary.

Actually, the students can use various strategies to help them in learning vocabulary and they do not have to use the strategies mentioned above. The students have their own strategies.