CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

Language is universal all normal human beings in community need it. English is very important as a tool of an international communication. The components of language are grammars, pronunciation, spelling and the most important one is vocabulary. In line with that, Abebe and Davidson (2012: 525) also state that having good knowledge of vocabulary is mandotary in order to understand or convey message in communication and to pursue and succed in one's learning.

Vocabulary is one of the major problem confronted by which learning English as foreign language because they have to face unfamiliar or unknown words, text, and so forth. Therefore, students often feel uncomfortable and insecure in class, which is inevitability affect their ability to learn. As a result, media can help the students feel comfort and want to learn more.

Actually, there are many media which can be choosen by the teacher to help the students to memorize the vocabulary taught in long term memory. One of the media is vocabulary flash card. Flash card is a printed media in the form of cardboard of a picture and a word with its translation in which it is used to show teaching material.

It is believed that when students play games, they relax and have fun. Since the students know that they are playing games and want to

communicate efficiently they do not worry about making mistakes. When students are free from worry and stress, they can improve their influence and natural speaking styles. Next, students learn without realizing that they are learning.

Based on the pre observation and interview with the English teacher of SMP Negeri 1 Kalimanah, it was found that the student lack vocabulary because the vocabulary taught by the teacher still difficult to be remembered by them. Moreover, the students are less motivated to learn vocabulary because it is established in their mind that learning vocabulary is hard and boring activity. Therefore, the skills of English are difficult to be mastered by them.

According to Kamachali and Khodareza (2012), flash card is useful to drill new words, help teacher to create student's interest, attention and facilitate the students to get involve within the laerning process and be autonomous learners.

Therefore, this research was conducted with the tittle " *The Effectiveness of Flash Cards for Teaching Vocabulary at SMP N 1 Kalimanah Academic year 2014/2015".*

B. Reason for Choosing the Topic

There are two reasons for choosing the topic as follow

1. The students are difficult to remember the meaning of the vocabulary taught by the teacher.

2. Flash Card is one of media which can help the students to memorize the vocabulary given by the teacher in long term memory.

C. Problem of the Research

The problem of this research is stated by the question " is Flash Card effective to teach the students's vocabulary at the eight grade students of SMP N 1 Kalimanah?

D. The Aims of the Research

The aim of the reasearch is to know the effectiveness of flash card to teach student's vocabulary.

E. Clarification of the Key Terms

The clarification of the terms based on the title " The Effectiveness of Flash Cards for Teaching Vocabulary" are as follow :

1. Effectiveness

Effectiveness is comparison between degrees of goal of attainment with previous arranged planning, or the comparison of the real result with planned of result(Mulyasa, 2010 : 173).

2. Teaching

According to Hornby, teaching is work of a teacher (1974: 886).

3. Flash Card

Flash card is a printed media in the form of cardboard consisting of a picture and a word with its translation in which it is used to show teaching material in quick time.

4. Vocabulary

The set of words likely to be used by students when constructing new sentences (Anisa, 2009: 169).

F. Contribution of the Reserach

By doing this research, it is expected that the result of this research will bring contribution both for the teacher and for the students.

1. For teacher

   a. Give an alternative media of teaching English vocabulary to their students.The result of the research will be useful for the teacher in teaching English. It also can be a new experience in teaching vocabulary by using flash card.

2. For student

   a. It is hoped that the students motivation in learning English will increase.

   b. This research can motivate the student to be more interested in learning English especially in learning vocabulary.