CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the background of the study, problem of the study, objective of the study, hypothesis, significance of the study, scope and limitation as well as definition of the key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Vocabulary is central to language and critical importance to typical language learner. Without a sufficient vocabulary, one cannot communicate effectively or express his or her ideas in both oral and written form. Often, teaching vocabulary is a way which is considered as one of the most important strategies of any educational context in English language.

Focus on teaching vocabulary has a lot of attention from the learners, because it is supposed to not only consist of teaching specific words but also aims at providing learners with media necessary to speed up their vocabulary mastery. However, to remember new words is not easy. Words are slippery things. The learners have to fix the meaning of the words in their minds and use the word creatively in context for themselves'.

There are many media that can be taught in teaching vocabulary. Teachers should know which the appropiate media that used in teaching vocabulary to the students based on the condition of the students in the class. Not all the media can be taught to the students; it depends on the condition of the students. Optimally, the teachers make use of many media to teach and develop their student knowledge of vocabulary by helping them in building a great deal of

words. Two of the alternative media to teach vocabulary are flashcard and word list.

Sitompul's study discovered that teaching with flashcards help learners to acquire words more effectively than word list.[1] It is proved that the learners can memorize the words easily, be more motivated and interested to learn vocabulary. The different is that the present study employs ANCOVA and using quasi experimental research. While, the previous study employs T-test and using true experimental research.[2]

In addition, other researcher indicates that working with flash cards help learners acquiring vocabulary more effectively than word list.[3] It can be seen that flash card have a variety of purpose during the history of language teaching. The example is to help improving word recognition if they are poor readers. Another is to teach students with completing drills in the learning of foreign language. So, flashcard can be used to positively facilitate teaching and learning vocabulary to be studied. While, the present study indicates that flashcard help students can understand the material easily and it can be an interesting way in learning English especially vocabulary.

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[1] Elsa Yusrika Sitompul, "Teaching Vocabulary Using Flashcard and Word List", *Journal of English and Education*, 1 (June, 2013), 52-58.

[2] Sinaei, Manizhe and Jafar Asadi, The Impact of Two Instructional Techniques on EFL University Learner's Academic Vocabulary Knowledge: Flashcard Versus Word List. *International Journal of Language Learning and Applied Linguistics World*, 6 (4), (2014), 156-167.

[3] Komachali and Khodareza, "The Effect of Using Vocabulary Flashcard on Iranian Pre-University Student's Vocabulary Knowledge", *International Education Studies*, 3 (June, 2012), 134-147.

According to Komachali and Khodareza, flashcard is cardboard consisting of a word, a sentence, or a simple picture on it. [4] Similar to Arsyad Azhar states that Flashcard is small cards that have picture, word, text or symbol for individual to study a particular topic or describe something.[5]

As we know that we often meet new words by flashcard. Word list and flashcard can be used to initial exposure to a word, but most learners continue to use them to educational process. By employing the methods, the researcher hopes that the students of MAN 1 Kediri can improve their vocabulary. So, this study focuses on investigating of using flashcard and word list method in teaching vocabulary mastery. The title of this study is "The Effectiveness of Using Flashcard Versus Word List in Teaching Vocabulary to The Eleventh Grade Students of MAN 1 Kediri".

B. Statement of the Problem

Regarding to the background of the study, the problems are formulated as follows: "Is the use of flashcard more effective than the use of word list in teaching vocabulary to the eleventh grade students of MAN 1 Kediri?"

C. Objective of the Study

The purpose of this study is to investigate whether the use of flashcard is more effective than word list in teaching vocabulary.

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[4] Ibid., 137.
[5] Arsyad Azhar, *Media Pembelajaran*, (Jakarta: PT Raja Grafindo Persada, 2002) P.110.

D. Hypothesis

The hypothesis this study is expressed as follow: The use of flashcard is more effective than the use of word list in teaching vocabulary to the eleventh grade students of MAN 1 Kediri.

E. Significance of the Study

It is expected that this result of this will be useful for the student, teacher and the next researcher.

1. For the student

   The use of flashcard versus word list improved student's vocabulary mastery. And it gives motivation for them to learn English well.

2. For the teacher

   Flashcard is an alternative media in teaching vocabulary and flashcard also make classroom situation more interesting. So, they will be understand easily.

3. For the next researcher

   This research may be used as a reference to understand more about the media of teaching vocabulary.

F. Scope and Limitation

This study focus on investigating the effectiveness of using flashcard versus word list in teaching vocabulary. This is limited to the eleventh grade students of MAN 1 Kediri in academic year 2016/2017.

G. Definition of the Key Terms

To read and understand this study clearly, the reseacher makes the definition of the key term. It is to avoid misunderstanding and misconception for the reader. The reseacher defines as follows:

1. Flashcard

Flashcard is a media of teaching vocabulary that focus on word power (noun, verb, adverb, and adjective) in brances form. Flashcard is usually made by color, picture with many variations form to classify the word. Flashcard is an invaluable way of introducing and revising vocabulary. The purpose of this media is to present and revise vocabulary, and to help children relate word to imagine.

2. Word list

Word list is a sheet of paper on which the students write the second language words along with their first language equivalent.

3. Vocabulary

Vocabulary is one of the most important aspect for foreign language learners to acquire since it is critical in conveying the meaning of a message. Vocabulary is defined as gathering all apprehended word by person or all word which can be possible used by that person to arrange new sentence. The practice of other language skills which has been proved not enough to ensure vocabulary expansion.