

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes about the background of the study, statement of the problems, objective of the study, significance of the study, limitation of the study and definition of the key terms.

A. Background of the Study

English is one of the international language and important in our life. English is one of the languages that can represent for us to communicate with all of people over the world and also can add our perspective. So, English is very important to learn. As a foreign language, English is difficult to learn especially in Indonesia, since there are differences between English and Indonesia language. Therefore, it needs a full seriousness to learn the language and it also need good skills in order to make English as familiar as possible.

The researcher realizes that teaching a foreign language is not easy. English as subject at school is still considered to be frightening one. As a subject, it will be never interesting for the students. That is way teacher should manage English never becomes interesting subject forever for the student if the teacher is always monotone in his teaching, so the English teacher must be responsible how to make the students interested in English as their subject and how to make English interesting for the students.

On the other hand, an English teacher is supposed to apply all the

techniques in the process of teaching because every class has its own different characteristic. So, an English teacher must master "Class Management" includes approach model, method and strategy of teaching and learning. Teacher plays an important role in the class because the success of teaching and learning process depends on her.

English has four basic skills they are listening, speaking, reading and writing. To master the four basic skills, the students have to learn some important such as grammar points, vocabulary and pronunciation. One of important component in studying English is vocabulary. It plays very important role in developing a language skill. Vocabulary is one of the keys to be successful in mastering English. Mastering a large amount of vocabulary is very important for the students to study English easily, without mastering vocabulary they will get trouble in developing their language skills.

Learning English vocabulary in Junior high school is to make students fun in learning English. There are many problems arise during teaching learning process because English is a foreign language and the students seldom use it outside class to study or practice about it. One of them is that the students are less motivated and difficult to understand English. The other problems maybe the techniques or method used to present the material are not suitable with the students. These problems make the students' lack of motivation in learning English. This condition makes the class noisy and bored. So, the teacher has also to be creative in making the student interested in learning and understanding English easily.

To improving vocabulary is not easy for students of junior high school. They cannot remember word by word quickly and easily because they have to think slowly to know the words that they want. The children often find difficult to remember the vocabulary because they can attach the meaningful experience to the vocabulary. So that the teacher should have new techniques and material which can stick on their memory in order to improve the students' vocabulary.

One technique for teaching English vocabulary is by using games. Games are the stuff of life in the primary classroom as well as providing stimulation, variety, interest and motivation. It can help to promote positive attitudes toward learning English. It also encourages active participation children's confidence.¹ Games can be used as one of the educational techniques in teaching and learning process of English. Through games, vocabulary can be practiced and emphasized. In other word, the students can get reinforcement as well as attention to vocabulary. In short, games can break the tension and help the students to avoid boredom in learning English.

There are many strategies vocabulary one of those that can be used by the teacher to make the students interest is using board game in teaching learning process. Board game can be defined as something or an instrument that is used to attract students' motivation to follow the teaching and learning process because board game can make the students more focus in learning, because they do not feel that they are forced to learn. They also enable learners to acquire new experiences within a foreign language which are not always possible during a

¹ Carol Read, *500 Activity for the Primary Classroom* (New York: Macmillan Publishing Company, 2001), 150

typical lesson. Board game can be method that will give many advantages for teacher and the students either. Board Games which introduced to the students is Snakes and Ladders game.

Based on the explanation above, the writer tries to implement about "IMPROVING THE FIRST GRADE STUDENTS' VOCABULARY ACHIEVEMENT USING BOARD GAME AT SMPN 3 NGLEGOK".

B. Statement of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, the problem of the research is formulated as follows: "How can the Board Game improve the first grade students' vocabulary achievement at SMPN 3 Nglegok?"

C. Objective of the Study

In line with the research problem mentioned above, the objective of this research is to improve the ability in vocabulary for the first grade students of SMPN 3 Nglegok by using Board Game.

D. Significance of the Study

The result of the study is expected to be any use of theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the result of the study is expected to contribute to improve the vocabulary the student. Practically, this study is expected to give contribution to:

1. For the students,

The result of the study is expected to be able to give support to the students to study hard and develop their competence in English study

especially in vocabulary. They have to know how to study English vocabularies enjoy and easily because they have to improve it well.

2. The teacher

To be information in teaching learning activities, especially in English class it can add the teacher's knowledge in teaching English so the teacher will be more creative in making the student more interested in learning and understanding English easily, especially in vocabulary.

3. The institution

The study can be used as one of the input of the school to get the good methods in teaching learning English.

E. Limitation of the Study

This study will be focused on the implementation of the teaching of vocabulary using Board Game to improving the students' vocabulary achievement. Board Games which introduced to the students is Snakes and ladders. The subject of this study is limited to the first grade students of SMPN 3 Nglegok Blitar. The researcher limits the study in teaching vocabulary only, because vocabulary play important role for students to study English especially for junior high schools. Students where they must some vocabulary as basic ability to get understanding in English lesson.

F. Definition of the Key Terms

In the definition of the key terms, the researcher will define the key term that related to this thesis, they are vocabulary, improve and board game:

1. Vocabulary

Vocabulary is the total number of words in language which an individual knows and those words are used as vehicle of the language to express ones though. In this research, the researcher used the vocabulary that students have taught and will be taught at English class.

2. Media

Media is means of expressing message and information. Hamalik (1986: 23) states that: media is a tool or method and technique used to make the communication and interaction between the teacher and the student in teaching learning process to be more effective. Based on the definition above, it can be concluded that the media relates to technique, method in teaching and learning process.

3. Board Game

Board game can be defined as something or an instrument that is used to attract students' motivation to follow the teaching and learning process because board game can make the students more focus in learning, because they do not feel that they are forced to learn. They will be enthusiastic in memorizing new words. Board game can be method that will give many advantages for teacher and the students either. In this study the writer used is Snakes and Ladder Game to conduct.