

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

It presents the background of the study, the problem of the study, the objective of the study, the hypothesis of the study, the significance of the study, the Scope and Limitation of the study, the definition of the key terms.

A. Background of the study

Learning a language is not something new for people who have been interested in it since a long time ago. It is caused by the main function of language that is for communication.¹ In the learning process, one of the important parts in creating and understanding the language is vocabulary mastery. People cannot express their opinion and ideas in English without knowing their vocabulary. Low vocabulary mastery also makes them unable to express the opinion properly. This statement appropriate with the Al-Qur'an, Allah said:

وَعَلَّمَ آدَمَ الْأَسْمَاءَ كُلَّهَا ثُمَّ عَرَضَهُمْ عَلَى الْمَلَائِكَةِ فَقَالَ أَنْبِئُونِي بِأَسْمَاءِ
هَٰؤُلَاءِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ ﴿٣١﴾

¹Depdiknas, *Kurikulum 2004 Standar Kompetensi Mata Pelajaran Bahasa Inggris*, (Jakarta: Depdiknas, 2004), 9.

And He taught Adam all the names of everything, then He showed them to the angels and said: "Tell Me the names of these if you are truthful (Al Baqarah: 31)²

In the Surah above, Allah shows us that we should learn vocabulary enable we can create our language skill. We can choose appropriate words in spoken or written language. A good vocabulary is a vital part of effective language communication.

Language is the most important thing in communication, especially, English language. It is one of the foreign languages that have been used widely in the world. English language used as an international language to make communication easy with people in the world. In Indonesia, it needs long process to understand and communicate by English language. It is unfamiliar language for them. But they should be able to communicate in English language because it is their second language or international language.

Because of this, education is very important factor in human life. It means that people can reach adulthood until they can develop their lives, potential, competence and so on. In connection, with that statement, we need to pay attention to know more about some components of education as motivation to get purpose. The components are objective, method, material, media, and evaluation.³ All of those components which can be done in

²Muhammad M. Khan and Muhammad Tagi -ud-Din Al-Hilali , *The Qur'an*, (English: Curzon Press Ltd, 1981), 3.

³Arif Armai, *Pengantar Ilmu dan Metodologi Pendidikan Islam* (Jakarta: Ciputar Press, 2002), 29.

teaching learning process is a system pervaded kinds of components, each of that has independent relation in order to achieve the objective of teaching and learning process.

Based on the statement above, a teacher is demanded to pay close attention to choose and apply the method in teaching and learning process. Arney states that it is not successful if in that process, there is no use of method, because the method places is the most second important position after the group of objective from some learning components.⁴

Vocabulary is the fundamental component of communication. Vocabulary words carry with them the ability to effectively communicate. Developing this very basic tool will open up opportunities in other avenues of life.⁵ Vocabularies are very useful in listening, reading, speaking and writing because all of people use some vocabularies to deliver the information to another. So, when we do not have much vocabulary we could not understand the information.

Vocabulary is important for students. It is more important than grammar for communication purposes, particularly in the early stages when students are motivated to learn the basic words they need to get by in the language.⁶ So teacher as the conductor and also motivator must give more attention for the students. Because to master English subject, they should master vocabulary first as the base matter.

⁴Ibid, 98.

⁵<http://www.vocabulary.co.il/vocabulary-words-html/retrieved>, accessed on November 28, 2013.

⁶ Roger Gower, Diane Philips, Steve Walters, *Teaching Practice* (Thailand: Macmillan Education, 1995), 142.

The students must learn about the new word that they do not understand before. It is very difficult for all of them to master English. They need more time to be familiar and communicative in the English language. The meaning is the students should study hard to master it. One of the way is they should be taught to find and use context clues for learning new vocabulary words. Learning vocabulary means not learning about the word only but also learning about the pronunciation and also the written of the word because pronunciation is important to give the clear meaning of the word.

And about the best method in activity of learning and teaching is combination of teacher-centered and student centered. It means that not only the teacher dominates the activity of learning and teaching process, but some activities from the teacher and students that has feedback in educative situation in order to get specific objective.

Teaching English is difficult if the students do not know the meaning of words. It shows on the first grade students of Junior High School of MTsN Purwoasri. When the researcher tries to do observation, there is an obstacle that can disturb the students' learning process. In fact, the students' difficulties are in understanding English text and conversation meaning.

Many ways to motivate the students always committed to overcome the deviancy. The examples are by watching TV, listening to the music, reading newspaper, and magazine. But in here, the researcher wants to try to use English Poetry to motivate students. It is collection of poems. Usually, in

poem, there are many figures of speech. Because of this, it makes the poem more interesting than others. However it is still failed if there is no balance between the student and the teacher. So, the researcher tries to explain the importance of having an extensive vocabulary by knowing lots words through English Poetry.

Based on the explanation above the writer becomes interested in writing a thesis about the application of using English Poetry in teaching vocabulary, especially for the first grade students of MTsN Purwoasri. Therefore, this study entitled **“The Effectiveness of Using English Poetry on the Improvement of Vocabulary Mastery of the Students of MTsN Purwoasri.”**

B. The Problem of the Study

Based on the background above, it is necessary to do a study on process of the teaching vocabulary at MTsN Purwoasri. The statement of the problem of this study is: “Is using English Poetry effective on the improvement of vocabulary mastery of the students of MTsN Purwoasri?”

C. The Objective of the Study

Based on the problem stated above, the general purpose of this study is to know whether using English Poetry is effective or not on the improvement of vocabulary mastery of the students of MTsN Purwoasri.

D. The Hypothesis of the Study

A hypothesis is a tentative explanation for certain behaviors, phenomena or events that have occurred or will occur.⁷ Based on the research, this research wants to know the effectiveness of using English Poetry in improving students' vocabulary mastery. Then the researcher builds the hypothesis to make the purpose of this study clear. The researcher's hypothesis is:

The alternative Hypothesis 1(Ha): Using of English Poetry on the improvement of vocabulary mastery of the students of MTsN Purwoasri is effective.

E. The Significance of the Study

The result of this study is expected to give positive contribution for school, teacher, students and researcher. So they can use it as guidance for better teaching learning process.

1. For the School

The result of this study for the school is giving information about the teaching learning process using of English Poetry in learning variation to improve students' vocabulary.

2. For the Teacher

It is hoped as the material of evaluation for the teacher to improve the students' vocabulary and as the best method of English teaching in vocabulary for the students.

⁷ Gay L.R. *Educational Research: Competencies for Analysis and Application* (New York: Macmillan Publishing Company.1987), 66

3. For the Students

The result for the students is as an effort to improve their vocabulary. And this strategy is hopefully help to minimize the students' difficulties faced in vocabulary.

4. For the Researcher

The researcher knows the effectiveness of using of English Poetry in teaching vocabulary and get good knowledge in teaching vocabulary especially for Junior High School students. Moreover, the researcher also hopes to contribute the result of this observation to improve the quality of education in that school.

F. The Scope and Limitation of the Study

The subject of this study is limited for the first grade students of MTsN Purwoasri because the students have familiar with the English Vocabulary and the researcher wants to develop students' vocabulary mastery by using English Poetry so that they can be motivated to study harder in the second grade.

In this research, the researcher just limits in Vocabulary by using English Poetry. According to researcher, it is an attractive strategy through English Poetry. It is proper to be applied in improving the students' vocabulary. The researcher is sure that all of the students who are taught by using English Poetry in teaching vocabulary show their interest in learning English. Their interest because of English Poetry, they find symbolic

meaning that they do not know before. And English Poetry consists of figure of speech that makes them feel interest because of its beautiful words.

G. The Definition of the Key Terms

Definition is intended to avoid the ambiguity in perception of some terms used in this study. In the definition of Key Terms, the researcher will define the key term that related to this thesis; they are:

1. Effectiveness

Effectiveness is producing the result that is wanted or intended (coming into use).⁸ In another word, effectiveness is the good result or successful that wants to be gotten from the specific way.

2. English Poetry

Poetry is a collection of poems.⁹ It consists of stanzas. And it is description from poet to express his feeling or idea. It can be called rooted in music because related with sound and rhythm. In poetry, we can find denotative meaning; we understood the dictionary meanings of these words. And also connotative meaning, it means that it used the symbols and figures of speech (metaphors, similes, personification, symbolism and analogies).¹⁰

The object of poetry is confessedly to act upon the emotions; and there in is poetry sufficiently distinguished from what Words worth affirms to be its logical opposite; namely, not prose but matter of fact,

⁸ *Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary* third edition (London: Oxford University Press, 2000), 138.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 330.

¹⁰ Pat Salmon, *How To Analyze A Poem.pdf*

or science. The one addresses itself to the belief; the other, to the feelings. The one does its work by convincing or persuading; the other, by moving. The one acts by presenting a proposition to the understanding; the other, by offering interesting objects of contemplation to the sensibilities.¹¹

3. Vocabulary

Vocabulary is the total number of words in language that an individual know and those words are used as vehicle of the language to express one's thought. Vocabulary is word as units that were part of grammatical patterns. In that sense, a word could be an element which can stand alone as an utterance, it cannot be divided into two or more part similarity characterized.¹²

4. MTsN Purwoasri

Geographical position of MTsN Purwoasri located in Warrior countryside road; street of Boyolali, district of Purwoasri. MTsN Purwoasri abut on west side with countryside of Purwoasri, part of east side abut on countryside of Wonotengah, upstate abut on countryside of Pandan Sari, and south abut on countryside of Mranggen. It has built in 1967 (PGAN 6 tahun).

History of PGAN 6 year, MTsN Purwoasri has built under the shade of maisonette of pesantren by KH. Badrus Sholeh Arif (alm).

¹¹ John Stuart Mill, *What is Poetry.pdf*

¹² Robert Lado, *Language Teaching* (New Delhi:Tata MC Grow-Hillpublishingco.Ltd, 1964), 182.