

## CHAPTER II

### LITERATURE REVIEW

In this chapter presents the review of related literature. It is discussed about vocabulary, reading, magoosh application and previous study.

#### **A. Vocabulary**

##### **1. Definition of Vocabulary**

Vocabulary is a crucial aspect in developing and honing English skills such as speaking, reading, writing, and listening, which can encourage students to translate word phrases. The pupil should master vocabulary when learning a language; else, they would have a tough time mustering language. As a result, the researcher would explain bits of vital terminology that can be used to make a constructive contribution.

There are some definitions of vocabulary stated by some linguists in order to know more about the description of what exactly vocabulary is. According to Nikijuluw (2020), important for students because vocabulary knowledge, as one of the four language skills, plays an important among the four language skills. Vocabulary contributes to students to perform their skills better. It is impossible for students to perform their English appropriately, if their vocabulary is very poor, by having too limited vocabulary, the students find it difficult to master the language skills, because a good vocabulary is very important to understand and communicate. Vocabulary is necessary to express meaning and in using receptive listening and reading and productive speaking

and writing skills. In addition, vocabulary is the knowledge of words and their meanings.

Vocabulary is a set of words used in compiling a sentence and has meaning. In learning a language, the first step is to learn and try to master the vocabulary as much as possible. Vocabulary is also referred to as a collection of all words, which the person may use when composing a new sentence. The more vocabulary the better the English language skills. This means that in English teaching, vocabulary affects the quality of students' English skills. So, students keep improving their vocabulary to achieve a smooth learning process and get better English result (Manda et al., 2022).

From the explanation above, the author knows that vocabulary is an important part of language learning. Even if the grammar is good or perfect, we will not be able to communicate our meaning and ideas without a wide vocabulary. Therefore, students should master vocabulary better and better.

## **2. Teaching Vocabulary**

Obviously, teaching vocabulary entails more than simply presenting new terms. Furthermore, he claims that vocabulary instruction is a component of language instruction. This means that when a teacher teaches language to his or her pupils, he or she should be aware of the students' qualities so that appropriate tactics or methods can be adopted. Methods for making kids joyful and engaged in vocabulary study. The use of words in the classroom. This will help. This will help them increase their vocabulary and English language skills in general. Vocabulary teaching is a difficult task. The major goal that students aspire to

attain in vocabulary acquisition is their ability to recall words at will, which is essentially their ability to recall words as requested and recognize them in spoken and written form (Fetria, 2016).

One of the most discussed aspects of teaching English as a foreign language is vocabulary instruction. Problems for teachers inevitably develop during the teaching and learning process. They are limited in how they can instruct their students in order to achieve satisfactory results. Teachers must plan ahead of time and determine the best strategy to use with kids. A skilled instructor must prepare himself with a variety of current and cutting-edge tactics. Teachers must be able to master the content so that students can understand it, as well as keep students motivated and pleased in the classroom teaching and learning process. Teachers should note that vocabulary teaching is something new and different from the students' mother tongue. They should also take into account that teaching English to young learners is different from adults. Teachers should know the characteristics of their learners. They moreover need to prepare good techniques and appropriate materials in order to achieve the goal of language teaching.

### **3. Strategies in Teaching Vocabulary**

According to Yulianti (2018), Teachers must use certain tactics while teaching English vocabulary to pupils learning English as a foreign language. It is because the kids do not use English in their daily activities, despite the notion that utilizing a language all the time is the greatest way to acquire it. The strategy or approach used to teach vocabulary is the method used by educators or teachers to maximize students' understanding and achievement in the

language teaching learning process, strategies to teach English vocabulary as follows:

1. Label everything in your classroom

Teacher can ask students to label everything existed in the classroom.

For example, label something that students bring in the bag.

2. Speak to your students with rich vocabulary

Take full advantage of classroom time by using rich vocabulary in your everyday instruction and interactions with your students.

3. Pre-teach key vocabulary

Be intentional about teaching vocabulary to your students by pre-selecting key words from the text you are about to read.

4. Use text with rich vocabulary and images

Choose high interest reading material with rich vocabulary and images.

Attractive images in text are powerful in communicating the meaning of words.

5. Play vocabulary games

Allow students many opportunities to practice new vocabulary through games and classroom activities.

6. Seize teachable moments

Impromptu teachable moments are priceless learning opportunities.

They come unannounced but are timely opportunities to teach new vocabulary

7. Use vocabulary application

By using vocabulary applications, it will create interest in learning vocabulary and students can easily understand vocabulary.

#### **4. Important Vocabulary in Reading Comprehension**

Without extensive knowledge and mastery of vocabulary, students will not get the broad meaning of reading as well. In this case, the lack of knowledge of certain vocabulary will lead to gaps in interpreting the meaning of reading, mastery of reading meaning is the core of reading learning and students can only understand the meaning or meaning of a reading through mastery of vocabulary (Santosa, 2017). The positive relationship obtained between vocabulary acquisition and persuasive reading ability provides another alternative to improve reading ability in particular and English learning achievement in general. One of the alternatives is to provide vocabulary learning as early as possible and gradually, both through informal situations and through formal situations. Providing learning as early as possible is very important to produce Indonesian people who are proficient in English. Vocabulary mastery is one of the important factors that support reading comprehension activities. A person will not understand the content of reading well without mastering vocabulary (Krey, 2016).

### **B. Reading**

#### **1. Definition of Reading**

Reading is the cycle explaining and building up the significance of the understanding entry, Reading is a very important skill in mastering a language. Reading skills are used in all subjects at school, when students learn to read, so

they can understand what they read and get information about subjects that help develop students' skills. Reading is the process of explaining and developing meaning from the text read, reading is an activity to obtain meaning or understand the written text. The purpose of reading is to teach students how to understand various genres of text to expand their literacy knowledge and experience. Actually, there are still many students who have difficulty in mastering reading skills. Students cannot determine the main idea of the text, provide information, understand the text, understand the content, and so on. This shows that students cannot understand the content of the text and their reading skills are not optimal. translate to English (Mukrimaa et al., 2018). Reading is one of the important skills to be mastered, because students will get a lot of information from various sources. Reading is a very complex process, therefore reading is something that must be taught and learned, reading is also called the practice of using and understanding text to create meaning, besides that reading is not only an activity to understand but also to respond and assess what we read. (Gina, 2020).

## **2. Principles of Reading**

According to Hizriani (2018), There are four key principles for developing:

### **a. Cultivation of the Sense of Discourse**

Writings that are free from grammatical restrictions and are able to fully express the extent of a concept are referred to as discourse. So, when teaching a text, a teacher can try to make the whole story come alive for the students; similarly, when teaching a word, it needs to be in

a context. When instructing kids on fruit, teachers can show them pictures of a fruit market or store and ask them what they see and enjoy about it. After finishing the reading, students are asked to work in pairs to develop a discourse about buying fruits using a sample dialogue that the teachers have provided. Students will comprehend that the language they learned in class has practical applications! It can also be expressed in a wide variety of ways, including as a word, a phrase, a single sentence, a sense group, an essay, or a book. Teachers must describe how children initially start talking. As long as the language can transmit information, students are encouraged to utilize it successfully. Therefore, in order to increase students' reading skills and spark their interest in learning English, teachers are obliged to teach words, sentences, or texts in real-world situations.

b. Cultivation of Good Reading Habits

Primary pupils are in the early yet crucial stages of learning English, when developing a solid reading habit will help them later on. New terms are inevitably encountered while reading, but they cannot be looked up at any time. Students can look up the words in a dictionary once teachers have told them whether they can infer the meaning from the text or not. Once students understand the words' meanings, they can write them down in a vocabulary notebook for future reference. This can simultaneously help them expand their vocabulary. With practice, develop the habit of gathering words. As an illustration, it is a good idea to ask kids to write down the terms for rooms such as the bedroom,

bathroom, sitting room, study, and kitchen in a notebook so that they may review and feel accomplished after writing down a lot of words. Additionally, a lot of pupils do not read regularly after school, in part because of a variety of factors include a lack of teacher guidance, adequate reading resources, and reading level. As a result, it should be suggested that students read outside of class and that they use reading skills.

c. The Penetration of Culture

Learning English cannot be divorced from introducing culture because language is rich with the distinctive culture of a nation. Students' attention can be piqued and their comprehension of important cultural concepts can improve as they read. In English-speaking nations, there are many different facets of culture and customs, including their capital cities, significant holidays, and symbols. Students will be more eager to accept and understand the texts if teachers introduce these ideas via images and video clips.

d. Integrity of Comprehensive Abilities

One of the key objectives of the Curriculum Standards, which include hearing, reading, writing, and speaking, is to develop students' all-around English proficiency. Instead of only teaching reading, a reading class should include other abilities while keeping reading as the main focus. Teachers must create more practical assignments and exercises to increase students' enthusiasm in reading and learning English on subjects relevant to their interests, lives, and daily activities.



However, the first phase should center on boosting their enthusiasm for learning English and confidence in speaking it. When introducing a song, teachers can translate the song's words into a passage, which students are then asked to complete while listening to the song. Or, after reading a letter's text, students are urged to send an email. Reading skills will be improved together with the other skills taught if teachers are given the training to create exercises in this manner.

### **3. Kind of Reading**

There are two different kinds of reading. They are extensive reading and intensive reading (Seventilova, 2022).

#### **a. Extensive Reading**

Extensive reading is a reading activity or method in which students are asked to choose reading materials that are by their wishes and abilities of students, extensive reading is a technique in teaching reading which is defined as a situation where students read a lot of materials at their level. The extensive reading method helps students overcome difficulties in learning English such as improving vocabulary mastered, increasing students speaking skills, and reading interest (Semino, 2022).

Extensive Reading is a strategy in reading instruction defined as a situation in which students read a lot of material in a new language according to the students' ability level, reading for general comprehension, overall meaning, and information at the same time with pleasure. Extensive Reading is implemented by the following procedure: First, the concept of Extensive Reading is introduced to students, what it is, its benefits, and how

to implement it. Second, a copy of the story from the story collection is given to all experimental students to read along with the teacher for the students, Third, providing books for the students. And finally, the teacher takes time to test the students' understanding (Rafikah Alfiani, 2020).

b. Intensive Reading

Intensive Reading, also known as close reading, is the practice of reading attentively and prioritizing short sentences. Vocabulary practice and general discussion are techniques in intensive reading. The selection of the right text is very important to achieve optimal results. Usually, in intensive reading, students focus on short texts with direct guidance from the teacher. Aiming to improve vocabulary and grammatical comprehension as well as reading comprehension skills like identifying the main idea and understanding the relationships between texts, intensive reading is meant to assist pupils comprehend the text's content in detail. In other words, intensive reading seeks to completely comprehend the author's logical justifications, symbolic techniques, stances, and viewpoints. Reading speed and comprehension levels of intensive reading are highly correlated. It goes without saying that reading speed will decrease as reading comprehension depth increases (Taembo, 2023)

#### **4. The Difficulties of Reading**

Factor difficulties that faced by students divided into external and internal. Internal factor includes physics, intellectual and psychological. While external factors include family and school environments. Reading problems are referred to as reading difficulties, and they might make it harder to complete classroom

reading assignments on time. This indicates that children have trouble understanding the text due to reading difficulties. Their academic performance may be negatively impacted by this issue, particularly in terms of their reading skills. Additionally, one's comprehension of something can be gauged by their ability to respond to questions that are connected to it, and their level of difficulty can be seen by the errors they make when attempting the questions. The fundamental inquiries on a reading test concern the main idea, locating references, deciphering challenging terms, and drawing conclusions from the text. Character names from the text cannot be answered in a literal comprehension question. (Septia et al., 2022)

Numerous scholars have undertaken studies on students' reading challenges, determined that in terms of literal comprehension, the students were unable to respond to inquiries concerning the names of characters in a text. They were rated as low level in both forms of understanding because they were unable to respond to queries about word meaning in inferential comprehension. The kids, however, are at the greatest level of critical comprehension, called intermediate. They were unable to respond to true-false questions based on a text (Prihatini, 2020).

## **5. The Level of Reading**

According to Gillet (2018), Level of reading ability is the independent level, the instructional level, the frustration level, the listening level.

### **a. The Independent Level**

This level of difficulty the student can read text easily, without help. Comprehension of what is read is generally excellent, and silent reading at this level is rapid because almost all the words are recognized and understood at sight. The student has to stop rarely and analyze a new word. Oral reading is generally fluent, and occasional divergences from the written text rarely interfere with comprehension.

b. The Instructional Level

Although not particularly simple at this level, the material is nevertheless cozy. The learner is faced with challenges in this area and will gain the most from education. Although comprehension is strong, several concepts require clarification. Even though it is typically slower than at the independent level, the silent reading rate is quick. Although some word analysis is required, the majority of the words are understood at first glance. Oral reading is generally easy and accurate, and differences from written text that arise when reading usually make sense in the context and do not result in the meaning being lost.

c. The Frustration Level

This level the material is too difficult in vocabulary or concepts to be read successfully. Comprehension is poor, with major ideas forgotten or misunderstood. Both oral and silent reading is usually slow and labored, with frequent stops to analyze unknown words. Oral reading divergences are frequent and often cause the reader to lose the sense of what was read. Because of this difficulty, it is frustrating for students to attempt read such

material for sustained periods, and their efforts often fail. This level is to be avoided in instruction.

d. The Listening Level

The student's current potential for reading improvement can be estimated from their listening level. The majority of readers who have not yet reached their reading potential and are still honing their reading abilities can listen to and comprehend literature that is read aloud to them even though they are unable to read it themselves. The hearing level is typically greater than the reading level required for education. The listening level gives us a clue as to how far their reading is likely to have progressed as of late.

**6. The Steps to Improve Reading Comprehension for Students**

According to Nuraini (2019), Understanding of the reading material is deemed proficient when one accomplishes the following:

a. Understand Text Structure

Recognize how texts are organized (e.g., cause and effect, comparison, contrast) to understand the main ideas effectively.

b. Activate Prior Knowledge

Relate what you're reading to what you already know. Making connections helps in understanding new information.

c. Preview the Material

Look at headings, subheadings, and any highlighted or bolded text before reading. This gives you an overview of the content.

d. Visualize the Content

Create mental images of the information. Visualization aids in understanding and retaining the material.

e. Active Reading

Engage with the text by asking questions, making predictions, or connecting the material to personal experiences.

f. Visualize the Content

Create mental images of the information. Visualization aids in understanding and retaining the material.

g. Expanding Vocabulary

Learn new words regularly and understand their meanings. Use a dictionary to aid in comprehension. Additionally, you can utilize online applications to enhance your vocabulary, thus improving reading comprehension, as an example, some online applications that can enhance vocabulary for reading comprehension are *ibuild.app*, *duolingo*, *busuu*, *Magoosh*, etc.

### **C. Magoosh Application**

#### **1. Definition Magoosh Application**

According to Marlina (2022), The Magoosh application is used by the researcher as the study's approach. English applications and media for learners that can make them easier. These apps are available for both iOS and Android users. Magoosh is an online learning platform that provides preparation for standardized tests, primarily exams used for admission to colleges or universities in the United States, such as the GRE (Graduate Record Examination), GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test), SAT

(Scholastic Assessment Test), and TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language). The Magoosh application offers various learning materials, practice questions, practice exams, and other learning resources to assist users in preparing for and improving their test scores. Furthermore, Magoosh also offers lessons and specific exercises to build vocabulary, grammar, and specific skills required for particular exams. The application is frequently used by students, college students, and professionals aiming to enhance their performance in standardized tests and achieve their educational goals. With interactive features and diverse learning materials, Magoosh facilitates self-paced and effective learning. Magoosh also allows game players to choose the level of difficulty and select the vocabulary for different public exams, including TOEIC, TOEFL, GMAT, SAT, GRE, etc.

This application includes audio pronunciation for each of the 1200 GRE vocabulary terms carefully selected by an expert teacher. For each word, definitions and examples are provided. There are sections for basic, intermediate, and advanced vocabulary. Additionally, completing each level unlocks access to more challenging levels with a broader range of vocabulary and grammar. Spaced repetition, a proven memory technique, will be used to repeat words you are not familiar with until you master them. This application has been used by millions of students and teachers as instructional media in learning. This research has not been conducted before, but there are many related studies to extend this research. "With a specific focus on vocabulary development for English to students, the Magoosh application can greatly assist students in simplifying and memorizing vocabulary (Anna W, 2021).

## **1. The Advantages and Disadvantages of Magoosh Application**

The purpose of using the Magoosh app for vocabulary in reading is to help readers improve reading comprehension by expanding and strengthening their vocabulary in English. This will help them deal with more complex texts and understand the content better while reading (Syamsuddin, 2018).

According to Syamsudin, the advantages and disadvantages of using the Magoosh application for vocabulary learning in students are:

- a. Advantages of using the Magoosh application to improve vocabulary comprehension:
  1. Access to High-Quality GRE Vocabulary. The Magoosh app gives you access to GRE vocabulary that has been carefully picked by qualified tutors. This allows users to broaden their vocabulary using words typically seen on GRE exams.
  2. Audio Pronunciation. The software provides audio pronunciation for each word, supporting users in knowing how to pronounce the words.
  3. Definitions and Examples. Each term is accompanied by definitions and sample phrases, assisting users in understanding the meaning of words in context.
  4. Vocabulary Levels. The application divides vocabulary into basic, intermediate, and advanced levels, allowing users to select the level that best suits their comprehension.



5. Spaced Repetition. The use of spaced repetition techniques aids users in remembering unfamiliar words.
  6. Magoosh has been utilized as instructional medium by millions of students and teachers, proving its proven effectiveness.
- b. Advantages of using the Magoosh application to improve vocabulary comprehension:
1. Cost. Some features and levels of the Magoosh application may come with a fee or subscription, so it is not always free.
  2. Dependency on the App. Excessive reliance on the application without diversifying learning sources can lead to dependence on technology.
  3. Internet Connection. The application may require a stable internet connection, so users need internet access to utilize it.
  4. Not Suitable for All Skill Levels. Magoosh may be more suitable for those preparing for the GRE exam or with a relatively high level of English proficiency. It may not be ideal for beginners in learning English.

#### **D. Previous Studies**

Previous research is an attempt by researchers to find comparisons and then to find new inspiration for further research. In this section, researchers include various previous research results related to the research to be carried out, then make a summary, either published or unpublished research. The following are previous studies that are still related to the theme that the author studies.

First, a previous study with the title "The Use of Magoosh and Knudge.me Application to Enhance EFL College Students' Vocabularies at English Department FBS UNP," written by (Adrianti, 2022). The research discovered that by using the Magoosh Application in class, students' vocabulary at English Department FBS Universitas Negeri Padang in the year-2021 students might be enhanced. The data collected from the students was evaluated by the researcher using two tests. The data set included pre-and post-test results. These results indicated that this approach was helpful in increasing students' vocabulary. Because the students had a comparison before and after the treatment, the use of the Magoosh Application could increase the students' vocabulary. The students had a lack of vocabulary before the treatment, and the students' vocabulary increased after the treatment by using the Magoosh Application. It can be concluded that it was effective as instructional media. The t-test result indicated that the significance value (2-tailed) was 0.001 ( $p < 0.05$ ). In conclusion, the test results showed a substantial difference. The data analysis shows that the tests were higher in the final test. It can be concluded that using the Magoosh application can enhance students' vocabulary. This research shows the way to enhance students' mastery of vocabulary. Here are several suggestions for projected improvements in students' vocabulary mastery. The implementation of the Magoosh app is usually recommended to be an exciting technique in coaching gaining knowledge of methods to inspire the students in vocabulary. The professor should provide extra vocabulary support to the students so that they do not have any difficulties when undertaking further exercises. The lecturer must be innovative in order to

provide new media and methods for learning about the system. The students were required to exercise greater vocabulary through the usage of the Magoosh app, so their capability in vocabulary advanced properly. The students have to seek advice from the challenges they are having with vocabulary. The students must be brave to explicit their concepts and proportion approximately their opinion.

Second, a previous study with the title “Survey on TOEFL android apps for higher education” written by (Syamsuddin, 2018). Magoosh TOEFL is an android application that provides various lessons for those who want to improve TOEFL score It covers all four sections of the test (reading, listening, speaking, and writing). Students may track their progress as they study. 4.2.1 Magoosh TOEFL Magoosh TOEFL is an android application that provides various lessons for those who want to improve TOEFL score. It covers all four sections of the test (reading, listening, speaking, and writing). Students may track their progress as they study. To help students understand the section, it also provides more than 100 animated video lessons in approximately 10 hours. The speed of these videos can be adjust for easier listening. In addition there are over 40 lessons in grammar section with detailed review. Detailed explanation of every question type is well given. Finally, student may perform full TOEFL exam, by trying more than 250 TOEFL practice. The findings of this study state that learning using magoosh vocabulary application can enrich vocabulary, but when compared to not using magoosh vocabulary application, magoosh application has better learning and retention performance of new words. This study showed that magoosh vocabulary application users retained

5.06% more words compared to non-users. The app works as a catalyst in augmenting the learning process. Moreover, the multimedia tool helps in better retention which is better than traditional vocabulary learning tools.

Third, a previous study with the title “Effect of Digital Application on Low Frequensi Vocabulary Retention By Graduate Students” written by (Ahmed, 2021). This study aimed to investigate digital and paper magoosh in learning new vocabulary and remembering learned vocabulary items after a certain period of time. The results of this study indicate that learning with both digital magoosh can enrich vocabulary, but compared to those who use paper flashcards, the performance of learning and memorizing new words of digital magoosh users is Better digital. This study showed that people using digital magoosh remembered 5.06% more words than people using paper cards. This study predicts that repeated visualization (multiple exposure) of low-frequency words can aid in learning and retention at least for a short period of time. This research has pedagogical implications for learners, teachers, curriculum designers, and most importantly, material developers. Further work can be done by focusing on the `timing and retention rate' of learned items (other than vocabulary) in multimedia models and digital formats.

Fourth, a previous study with the title “Human-Centered Design of GRE Preparation Applications for Non-Native English Speakers.” written by (Matthew, 2020). Magoosh Vocabulary App is a primary barrier to entry into US graduate programs for non-native English speakers. The goal of this study is to develop a Magoosh Vocabulary App preparation mobile phone application for non-native English speakers through the human-centered design cycle. We

conducted a Cognitive Task Analysis and Knowledge Audit for the Magoosh Vocabulary App to identify the most difficult tasks while using the app. We proposed features to help with the most difficult tasks and implemented the most promising feature through iterative prototyping taking into account user feedback. Usability testing for the most recent prototype demonstrates the need for a Magoosh Vocabulary App preparation app targeted at non-native English speakers. Results show that the additional functionality added in the prototype shows promise for assisting non-native English speakers in studying for the Magoosh Vocabulary App.

Fiveth, a previous study with the title “The Effect of Gamification on Developing EFL Learners' Vocabulary Learning in Flipped Classes” (Ceraghi, 2023) written by The results of this study can be useful for EFL instructors and teachers for giving them insights on how to employ flipped approach for teaching receptive vocabulary. Furthermore, they will be informed about how to integrate flipped approach with gamification in their own classes. The deployment of mobile games in flipped classes will assist the teachers to keep the issues such as limited amount of class time and lack of interest at a minimum level. In addition, the students will be afforded an opportunity to learn by themselves, enjoy learning, and practice more. Instructors, teaching in junior high schools, high schools, academies, universities and also private institutions, can benefit this innovative combined strategy. Not only instructors, but also EFL learners, seeking out new ways of learning, can use Vocabulary Builder by Magoosh game application to develop their vocabulary size. The findings can be beneficiary for these digital natives to search for other

game-based applications and use their mobile phones beyond the purpose of pure entertainment, but learning receptive vocabulary entertainingly. The obtained results can also be useful for syllabus and curriculum designers to stimulate innovation in designing the textbooks. At the end, the results of the research can be advantageous to policy makers and managers to employ the procedure of the research in the process of teaching and learning L2.