

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

In this chapter, it is important to describe the review of related literatures that could be the foundation of this study and in order to give a relevant knowledge in the field. This chapter discusses about the definition of theory of vocabulary, definition of vocabulary, the important of mastering vocabulary, the teaching of vocabulary, and the principle of vocabulary, definition of memory challenge, advantages and disadvantages of memory challenge.

#### **A. Vocabulary**

Vocabulary is one of significant language elements of learning at any level. In mastering vocabulary, there are some important aspects, such as: theory of vocabulary, definition of vocabulary, the importance of vocabulary, the teaching of vocabulary, technique for creating interest, and the principle of teaching vocabulary.

##### **1. Theory of Vocabulary**

Vocabulary is one of language elements which important in English. Vocabulary is the main element for people, especially the students, in the process of learning, mastering and using language. Vocabulary is set of words in English that used to express our ideas, feeling and information to the others. Vocabulary is the knowledge of meanings of words. We must master vocabulary to be able using

language. In learning vocabulary we have to know the meaning of words itself and can use it in sentences. Vocabulary is one of the major problems uncouneted by teaching of English as a foreign language. Vocabulary is foundation or a basic of a language.<sup>2</sup>

Vocabulary that word come in at least two forms, oral and print. Knowledge of words also comes in at least two forms, receptive that which we can understand or recognize and productive the vocabulary we use when we write or speak. Oral vocabulary is the set of words for which we know the meanings when we speak or read orally. Print vocabulary consists of those words for which the meaning is known when we write or read silently. Productive vocabulary is the set of words that an individual can use when writing or speaking. They are words that are well-known, familiar, and used frequently. Conversely, receptive, or recognition, vocabulary is set of words for which an individual can assign meanings when listening or reading.

We use vocabularies to express our ideas, feeling, motivation and information to the people clearly. Vocabulary is each one of English subject at school that learnt by students. In this study vocabulary means the students ability in mastering any kind of words or stock such as: noun, verb, adjective, adverb, and others in teaching and learning process and the students know how to use in a particular way and regularly in their daily life.

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<sup>2</sup>Hiebert, Elfrieda H and Kamil, Michael L. 2005. *Teaching and Learning Vocabulary*, Bringing Research to Practice. London: Lawrence Erlbaum Sociates.

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that vocabulary is knowledge the meaning of words which come in at least difference form to know the meaning of words when listening, speaking, reading and writing, vocabulary is used to express ideas, feeling, motivation and information to the people clearly, and it each one of English subject at school that learnt by students.

## **2. Definition of Vocabulary**

Vocabulary is part of a language that underlies the understanding of the language itself. Vocabulary is more than list of target language words. Vocabulary is part of the language system. In addition, the quality of learner's vocabulary influences the four language skills. Moreover proposed that vocabulary is an important part of language proficiency and grant much of the basis for how well learners listen, speak, read, and write.<sup>3</sup> He said that learners can achieve less than their potential without an extensive vocabulary and strategies for acquiring new words.

Furthermore, Vocabulary means a large collection of items. He adds that learning vocabulary is important because it enriches someone's knowledge of words. And defines vocabulary as knowledge, the knowledge of a word not only implies a definition, but also how that

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<sup>3</sup> David Nunan, *Language Teaching Methodology*, New York: Prentice Hall, 1991.

word fits into the world. Vocabulary knowledge is not something that can over the course of a lifetime.<sup>4</sup>

Mc Whorter says that vocabulary means the ability to recognize individual words and to associate the other word, vocabulary is the competence or skill in recognizing words and its meaning.<sup>5</sup> Words are symbol, groups of letter that stand for, or represent, either a physical object or an idea. Recognizing words means knowing its meaning or idea and how they are formed by a combination of letters.

From these definitions, vocabulary is part of language system that people used to communicate which consists of a large collection of items. Vocabulary is knowledge of how the words fit into the world.

### **3. The Importance of Mastering Vocabulary**

As we know vocabulary is foundation or a basic of a language. Vocabulary is knowledge of word meanings. We cannot improve our English without mastering vocabulary. Words mastery is not only to support the for skills namely: listening skill, speaking skill, reading skill, and also writing skill, but also the existence of words mastery is very crucial in learning English as a foreign language. Students with poor mastery of vocabulary cannot communicate in the target language

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<sup>4</sup> Thornbury, S. 2002. *How to teach vocabulary*. UK: Pearson Education Ltd.

<sup>5</sup> Katherine T Mc Worther, *College Reading and Study Skill*, (Glenview Illions Boston: Niagara Country Community College), 1980, 311.

well; consequently they will not be able to infer any ideas transmitted to them.<sup>6</sup>

In learning English as a foreign language, vocabulary as one of the aspects of foreign language components is seemed to be the big problem. If the learner's vocabularies are poor, they will be difficult in expressing their ideas, feeling, opinion, and they will not be able to grasp any expression addresses to them, and also they will be difficult to comprehend words that heard or content of reading.

Vocabulary that without grammar very little can be conveyed, without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed. This is how the linguist summed up the importance of vocabulary learning, his view is echoed in this advice to students from a recent course book. If you spend most of your time studying grammar, your English will not improve very much. You will see most improvement if you learn more words and expression. You can say very little with grammar, but you can say almost anything with words.<sup>7</sup>

Based on the fact, it can be concluded that vocabulary is the most important in studying English. Mastering vocabulary make the learners be easy to understand the meaning of words when they listen, speak, read and write in English.

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<sup>6</sup> Rasinski, Timothy., Padak, Nancy., Newton, Rick M and Newton, Evangeline. 2008. *Greek & Latin Roots Keys to building Vocabulary*. United States: Shell Education.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid*, 15.

#### 4. The Teaching of Vocabulary

Vocabulary teaching, as Furneaux (1999: 367) states, deals with “the selection and presentation of word (lexis) for learners to understand the concepts of unfamiliar words, gain the greater number of words, and use words successfully for communicative purposes.”<sup>8</sup>

Vocabulary is the foundation of a language. You cannot advance speaking English or another language until the fundamentals of vocabulary are mastered. There are many methods for committing vocabulary to memory. Some strategies are more fun. However, going through the different phases of learning and teaching vocabulary can ensure mastery of both the words as well as the language.

Vocabulary development is an important aspect of language development and the research that has been conducted in recent years is very exciting. A variety of studies have proven that appropriate vocabulary instruction benefits language students, especially school age learners. According to Mc Keown (2003) it is important to use both formal and informal vocabulary instruction that engagers students cognitive skills and gives opportunities for the learners to actually use the words.

Learners need to acquire vocabulary learning strategies in order to discover the meaning of new words. The strategies should be useful within the classroom as well as when learners are in situation where

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<sup>8</sup> Bambang Yudi Lahyono dan Utami Widiati, *The Teaching of English As a Foreign Languages in Indonesia*, (Malang: State University of Malang Press, 2011), 107.

they in counter new and unfamiliar words on their own. The strategies should also help children acquire new vocabulary words that they hear and see.

### **5. Technique for Creating Interest**

Without interest, students will not pay attention to the teaching. We can add challenge and interest to the teaching by:

- a. Making it difficult for the learners to get the form of the word.
- b. Making it difficult for the learners to get the meaning of the word.
- c. Making it difficult for the learners to connect the meaning and the form.

Making it difficult means that the teacher does not give the answer (form, meaning, or form plus meaning) directly to the learners. He forces the learners to guess, or to follow clues by the teacher or found in his own previous knowledge. Thus, he must use his reasoning and interpretative abilities to find the answer. In other words, the teacher and the learners play games. The teacher must be careful to see that he makes the job difficult enough to challenge the learners but not too difficult that they was given. Instead, he should help them towards a sense of achievement, a feeling of having won the game.<sup>9</sup> Besides that, there is seven important things in teaching vocabulary. They are:

- a. When present new vocabulary, we must teach its meaning and pronunciation.

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<sup>9</sup> Byrne Donn, *English Teaching Perspective*, (England: Longman, 1985), 188-189.

- b. The precise meaning of new words, in specific context is very important.
- c. The meaning of new words can be taught through pictures, mime, real objects as well as from a situation in context.
- d. The teachers need to ask question to check students understanding about the meaning.
- e. Students need a lot if varied practice of new vocabulary.
- f. Students need to revise new vocabulary regularly.
- g. Students need to record and store new vocabulary in a helpful way

## **6. The Principle of Teaching Vocabulary**

Learning vocabulary is very important in language. One of difficulties is focusing on vocabulary. So, the teacher must be creative to improve student's vocabulary. According to Adwin, there are four principles for teaching vocabulary.<sup>10</sup> They are as follows:

- a. Focus on the most useful vocabulary

Some words can be used in a wide variety of circumstances. Others have much more limited use. The word "advertise" has much more limited usefulness. It is still a useful word to know, but there are many more useful words to learn before this one. Teaching useful vocabulary before less useful vocabulary gives learners the best return for their learning effort. The most useful vocabulary that every English language learners needs whether they use the language

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<sup>10</sup> Adwin, *Practical English Language Teaching First Education*, (New York: the MC Graw-Hill Companies), 2003, 135-140.



for listening, writing, reading and speaking, or they use whether formal or informal situations. This vocabulary is so useful that it covers around seventy five percent of the running words in academic text and the news paper. Over eighty percent of the running words are novel, and about eighty five percent of the running words in conversation.

b. Focus on the vocabulary in the most to appropriate way

The first principle looked at what words to teach and learn. This principle looks at how they should be taught and learned. Here we will look at the four most important vocabulary learning strategies of using words parts, guessing from the context, autonomous vocabulary learning and using dictionaries.

c. Give attention to high frequency words across the four strands of a course

High frequency vocabulary needs to occur in all four strands of a course. It should get deliberate attention through teaching and study and should be met and used in communicating message in listening, speaking, reading and writing. High frequency vocabulary should also be fluently accessible for receptive and productive use.

d. Encourage learners to reflect on and take responsibility for learning

There is an important principle that lies behind choosing and learning and that learners need to realize that they must be responsible for their own learning. This responsibility requires: knowledge of

what learn and the range of option for learning vocabulary, skill in choosing the best option, and the ability to monitor and evaluate progress with those option.<sup>11</sup>

## **B. Memory Challenge**

This subchapter discusses some topics that are related with Memory Challenge. They are the definition of Memory Challenge, advantages and disadvantages of Memory Challenge and teaching Memory Challenge.

### 1. Definition of Memory Challenge

Memory Challenge is designed to help students memorize words from a lesson by recalling the words. This technique helps the students improve their vocabulary because this technique demands their memory to remember the word with groups discussion. With these techniques, the students can be more active to learn in the classroom and more enjoy in learning English.<sup>12</sup>

### 2. Advantages and disadvantages Memory challenge

#### a. Advantages of Memory Challenge

- a) Students more active to practice the exam
- b) With this technique we can increase our vocabulary
- c) We more enjoy to follow the English class
- d) Students ordinary to study group's condition
- e) Students more carefully in memorize the word

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<sup>11</sup> Adwin, *Practical English Language Teaching First Education*, (New York: the MC Graw-Hill Companies), 2003, 135-140.

#### b. Disadvantages of Memory Challenge

- a) This game need more time to finish the game. So, the teachers have to manage the time well
- b) The students must be careful to remember, to say correct pronunciation the word especially in vocabulary.

#### 3. Teaching using Memory Challenge

In teaching using Memory challenge, there are some steps, they are:

1. The students divided into small groups (each group 5 person)
2. The teacher asks one of the students from the group to come forward to be given direction.
3. One of the students explained to group's friend face to face or back to back about vocabulary and pronunciation vocabulary of job.
4. Then, the teacher asks the students to close the book.
5. Each group has a 5-15 minutes to write, to remember, say correct pronunciation vocabulary of job as they can.
6. Group who write, remember the most words or sentences becomes the winner.