

## ABSTRACT

Noviyanti, Lista Dwi. 2023. *Enhancing Novice Learners' Vocabulary Mastery Through Word Search Puzzle*. Thesis. English Language Education Program, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Muhammadiyah University of Jember. Advisors: (1) Indah Werdiningsih, M. Pd. (2) Nurkamilah, M. Pd.

**Key Word:** Novice Learners, Vocabulary Mastery, Word Search Puzzle

Vocabulary plays a critical role in mastering the four main language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Most students confront many challenges and learn vocabulary passively as a result of a variety of causes they find it uninteresting when the teacher explains grammar rules, pronunciation, meaning, or definition. Therefore, this research under the title "Enhancing Novice Learners' Vocabulary Mastery Through Word Search Puzzle" is urgent to conduct.

The problem of this research is "How can the use of Word Search Puzzle increase students' vocabulary mastery?" and the objective of the research based on the problem is to find out how Word Search Puzzle can enhance students' vocabulary mastery. This study aims to explore the factors that contribute to novice learners' success in increasing vocabulary using Word Search Puzzles. In this research, Word Search Puzzle is examined more deeply about what factors can increase students' vocabulary.

The design of this research is Classroom Action Research (CAR). There are 4 stages in implementing CAR, namely planning, acting, observing, and reflecting. This study consisted of 2 cycles with 2 meetings in each cycle. The subject in this research is 7A students at SMP Negeri 1 Kalisat in the academic year 2022/2023 which covers up to 32 students. The instruments used in this study were test, observation, and field notes. The data are collected using student vocabulary tests and student activities during learning. The research is declared successful if the students get a score of 70 and reach percentage 68,8%-100%. In order to analyze the data, percentage formula is used. The implementation of Word Search Puzzle was combined with group that made this game as a competitive game in cycle 2 and repeating the pronunciation of the material 3 times that made novice learners practice more new words.

The result of this research showed that novice learners vocabulary mastery increases by using Word Search Puzzle. It can be proven that the students' vocabulary enhanced from 46.9% students in the first cycle to 84.4% students in the second cycle. This research is successful when viewed from the procedures that have been carried out by researchers in the second cycle. It can be concluded that novice learners' vocabulary was successfully enhanced by the Word Search Puzzle through interactive learning and repeating the pronunciation of the material.