

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of The Research

Vocabulary is one of the elements of language that should be mastered by language learners. To be able to communicate well, vocabulary plays very important roles. The language learners cannot understand what people convey orally or in written if they have difficulties in deciding a word in which as a symbol of ideas is uttered. According to Ghazal (2007.p.84), vocabulary learning is one of the major challenges foreign learners face during the process of learning a language. It means that vocabulary is the first thing to mastery in learning English. Vocabulary plays an important role in language. It helps students to communicate and comprehend language well. When students have a large number of vocabularies in their mind, they will select word easily in certain occasions. The ability to listen, to speak, to read, and to write good English is influenced by students' vocabulary mastery. The more words they know, the more easily they can express their ideas and understand oral or written words.

Based on researcher observation and interview with the teacher. The students's vocabulary mastery of SMP Plus Al-Mubarak is still low, Because the students have lack of vocabulary they are get the average score of pre test is 65and they difficult to get KKM in 75. Although there are some students who are able to get KKM. Which is the highest score of vocabulary is 70 and the lower score is

40. Based on pre test on Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup> 2019 at 08.00 am at SMP Plus Al-Mubarak (See on the appendix 4). While learning English the students cannot achieve some of indicators of the subject. The most difficult indicator is the students did not understand what the passage about because they lack of vocabulary and they are feeling it will be wrong what they said about. In addition, the teacher uses uninteresting technique in teaching English that make them bored in learning. The teacher just asked the students to read the text individually and answer some questions. Also, the teacher only uses text in LKS (Students' Work Sheet) or workbook that its performance does not support the students' interest. So, to solve this problem the teacher should be creative to provide fun and meaningful teaching and learning process. One of the ways to do that is teaching vocabulary through a strategy.

One of the strategy to teach Vocabulary which can be used is acrostic poem. The broadest definition of Acrostic poem. According to Webster's dictionary, an acrostic poem is a composition usually in verse in which set of letters (as a initial or final letters of the lines) taken in order to form a word or phrase or a regular sequence of letters of the alphabet. In terms of vocabulary, acrostic poem were used to help students spelling sight words. For example, Howard, DaDeppo and De La Paz (2008,p.73) noted that difficulties with spelling could impact students' reading acquisition and writing and had a critical impact on vocabulary development. So the students not only can memorize and improve their vocabulary but the students can improve reading and writing skill also using acrostic poem. From this research the researcher conducted previous research by Elok Wardha Soviana 2017 from Maulana Malik Ibrahim Stase Islamic University

Malang. The object of her research is getting the product of learning media in the form of acrostic poem which are expected to be able to increase the effectiveness and students skill in writing poem with the correct vocabulary. The result of her research the students of forth garde didn't interest in writing poetry because they are only be done by using method and assignment that already exist on their book lesson. The differences her research with my this research is her reaserch she is using picture book as learning media to write acrostic poem, but for my research I use acrostic poem to improve vocabulary mastery. In Soviana research she was failed, because her object research is not suitable for students elementary.

Based on the background of the research, acrostic poem is a type of word play. Many words will be got through this media. Automatically, this will increase students' vocabulary. This research was conducted to improve students vocabulary mastery by using acrostic poem.

### **1.2 Problem of The Research**

Based on the research background, the researcher formulates the research problem by using this research questions are :

1. How can the acrostic poem improve the students' vocabulary mastery?
2. How can the acrostic poem improve the students' active participation?

### **1.3 Objective of The Research**

Based on the problem above the purpose of this research are :

1. To know how acroctic poem can improve the students vocabulary mastery.
2. To know how acrostic poem can improve the student's active participant

## 1.4 Operational Definition of The Research

In order to avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation of the terms used in this research, the researcher needs to explain them as follows:

### 1. Vocabulary Mastery

Vocabulary is a set word which is to be master in speaking English, because of someone mastering vocabulary there will be able to improve their language. Vocabulary is important in case, it could help the students to enjoy their classes. One who mastery enough vocabulary will find fewer difficulties than those who have fewer vocabularies. There are a lot of types of vocabulary. Such as, Adjective, Verb, and Noun,

### 2. Acrostic Poem

Acrostic poem is a poem where certain letters in each line spell out a word. The word or phrase can be a name or a thing. Typically, the first letters of each line are used to spell the messages. But they can appear anywhere.

## 1.5 Significance of Research

By doing this research, researcher hopes to contribute the improvement of teaching vocabulary.

### 1. For The teacher and Students'

Hopefully the teacher can teach vocabulary effectively using this technique, it is not only improve students vocabulary but also improve

writing skill. And for the students acrostic poem make them easier to memorize word and know the meaning of the word.

## 2. For The Future Research

The researcher hopes that the result of this study can be used as reference for other researcher to conduct a research in teaching English. Especially using acrostic poem.

### **1.6 Scope of Research**

In order to focus of this study, especially in the explanation, the researcher limits the study as improving students vocabulary mastery by using acrostic poem at SMP Plus Al Mubarak in the 2019/2020 academic year.

