

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with the topic of the research. They are background of the research, problem of the research, purpose of the research, operational definition of the research, significance of the research, and scope of the research.

1.1 Background of The Research

Language is main aspect of communication. The first thing that should mastered in learning any language is vocabulary. More vocabulary mastered, it can make easier to communicate with other people. As Hornby in Alqahtani (2015, p.24) states that vocabulary is the total number of word in a language. It means that have a certain amount vocabulary can help student communicate well. Another statement according to Wilkins in Thornbury (2002, p.13) without grammar very little can be conveyed, without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed. It means when study language only focusing in learning grammar without enriching vocabulary it will make difficult in conveying ideas.

In Indonesia English is as the foreign language. The Indonesia students should master English vocabulary to communicate well in English, because vocabulary is basic of mastering a new language. But, most of Indonesian only want to know how to speak English well, without enriching their vocabulary. Many studies that have done to investigate the level of English proficiency. One of the studies is international studies in Education First English Proficiency Index. According to EF EPI (2018, p.26), Indonesia is one of the countries that are the

low level of English proficiency. In world ranking, Indonesia is in the 51st place from 88 countries with score 51, 58. It showed that Indonesia is still less in English proficiency. From the data above, student achievement in English is need improvement. Especially in learning vocabulary. Because vocabulary is important part in English that should mastered to help the people express and convey their idea.

Teaching vocabulary often given little priority in foreign language learning program (Patahudin and Saidna, 2017). Mastering vocabulary is not easy for students, especially students in Indonesia learning English as a foreign language and do not used in daily communication. It make more difficult for students to master English vocabulary. In addition, Thornbury (2002, p.26) states that students forget words up to 80 percent within 24 hours. It means that if students often forget some of word in English, it will make them slow in mastering English. Thus the teacher has to appropriate an effective and creative strategy in teaching English vocabulary.

According to Murcia (2001, p.290) strategies can help students in understanding the meaning of word and consolidating it specially when they are encouraged in learn independently. One of the appropriate strategy in helping student memorizing vocabulary is mnemonic strategy. It is memory enhancing instructional strategy used to enhance the storage and recall the information contained in memory. Hatch and Brown (1995, p.388) state that mnemonic or memory aid devices are basic kind of strategies used to increase memory to be more explicit and also used for consolidating of form meaning connection in memory. This strategy are intended to make the students create more effective

ways to take encoding vocabulary meaning material then make it much easier for them to remember. By implementing this strategy can help the student in memorizing vocabulary activity, because this strategy created to make the student concentration on remembering the image of words become a unique information in order to memorize it easily.

Based on the explanation, the researcher wants to know the effect strategy and then conduct the research entitled “ The Effect of Using Mnemonic Strategy on Students’ Vocabulary Mastery on the seventh grades students’ at MTs Negeri 5 Jember in the Academic Year 2018-2019”

1.2 Problem of the Research

Based on the background of the research above, the problem of the research is as follow:

“Is there any significant difference between students’ vocabulary mastery who are taught by using mnemonic strategy and the students who are taught by using grammar-translation method on the seventh grade students’ at MTs Negeri 5 Jember in the 2018-2019 academic year?”

1.3 Purpose of The Research

The purpose of the research is to find whether or not there is a significant difference between students’ vocabulary mastery who are taught by using mnemonic strategy and the students who are taught by using grammar translation method on the seventh grade students’ at MTs Negeri 5 Jember in the 2018-2019 academic year.

1.4 Operational Definition of The Research

Operational of the research will become a guide in understanding the concept of the research. In this research there are two operational definition, are:

1.4.1 Mnemonic strategy

Mnemonic is an instructional strategy that can help students improving their memory of information by connecting new information to the information that they have already known. Actually, this strategy is strategy that used in helping students memorizing a new words. A teacher who will teach vocabulary can apply this strategy to make the voabulary easier to memorize by students.

1.4.2 Vocabulary mastery

Vocabulary mastery in this research refers to students level of knowledge about English vocabulary. It can be seen in the students score tests about noun, verb, preposition and adjective. The test is given before and after students taught by using mnemonic strategy.

1.5 Significance of The Research

The result of this research is hoped to give benefit in educational knowledge and also can help teacher in motivating students in learning English by using mnemonic strategy especially in vocabulary.

1.5.1 Theoretical Significance

The result of this research is expected in helping English teacher in teaching English vocabulary using a new strategy and for student is expected to help them in learning vocabulary easily.

1.5.2 Practical Significance

The result of this research be able to use mnemonic strategy in teaching and learning process. The objective of the research is expected to motivate the teacher in using strategy in teaching vocabulary to students in order make it easier to memorize the word by using mnemonic strategy. For the student is to get them interested in learning vocabulary easily.

1.6 Scope of The Research

This research focuses in investigating the effect of using mnemonic strategy on students' vocabulary mastery. The subject of the research is seventh grade students at MTs Negeri 5 Jember in the 2018-2019 academic year.

