CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses about background of the research, problem of the research, limitation of the problem, objective of the research, benefits of the research, assumption of the research, scope of the research and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Research

One of the components that play important roles in English is vocabulary. It serves as the basic for someone in listening, speaking, reading and writing. Accordingly, it does not matter how well someone in grammar, pronunciation and any other elements of a language, without a numerous stock of vocabulary, communication cannot happen in any meaningful way (Nathan, 2011). So, it is natural if vocabulary is taught early to young learners since it helps them to acquire English.

One of the objectives in teaching English to Indonesian people is to enable to read and understand books written in English. To achieve that purpose, the students need a large number of words of English language to master. As Schmitt (2009: p.98) said, "No matter how well the student learns grammar, no matter how successfully the sounds of L2 are mastered, without words to express a wider range of meanings, communication in an L2 just cannot happen in any meaningful way. From this statement, it could be understood that vocabulary is one of the items that have to be

mastered by the students in learning English because no one can speak English if they have limited vocabulary.

In other words, without a proportional amount of vocabulary, anyone will get trouble in his or her reading, listening, speaking, and writing. Mastering vocabulary means that students have comprehensive knowledge about the vocabulary which include the meanings, the spoken form, the written form, the grammatical behavior, the word derivation, the collocations of the words, the register of the word - spoken and written, the connotation or associations of the word, and word frequency.

One of the teaching techniques that can be used to teach English vocabulary to the students is song. Song has long been part of human life. It can be heard everywhere; on radio, television, family occasions such as wedding party, at funerals and so on Mcdermott (2005: p.29). Additionally, Schoepp (2011) said that, since songs have been part of people language experiences, it can be a great value if it is coordinated with language lesson.

Song is considered as one of alternative ways to improve English especially on vocabulary; like what Wrenshall (2010) said; "there is also plenty of evidence that song help memorization, and the rhythm and rhyme of the lyrics can certainly help vocabulary as well. Some songs are able to convince and stimulate the brain work in study. Furthermore, in the teaching foreign language or English, songs can be beneficial in the teaching of skills as well as language aspects (Lems, 2010). The teaching using songs is actually very fun because of the suggestions of music and songs can bring the students into the rest, relax and free from under pressure environments.

In this new global era, people get used to something that they see daily or do every day easily. A song is something that cannot be denied to be involved in everyone's daily life. Songs can be listened to and heard anywhere. Moreover, there are a lot of students have the habit of listening to songs. Listening to song lyrics for multiple times might enrich students vocabulary and knowledge. They listen to songs every day and everywhere, even when they are not at home, for example, in the malls, park, cinemas, streets, etc. The lyrics repetition in songs might help students memorize the structure of a sentence in a correct way. In fact, students memorizing song lyrics are less difficult and faster than learning vocabulary from a book. This might happen because listening to songs are more fun, less intense and boring compared to reading a book. Students could sing or say the lyrics of a song spontaneously correctly anytime. While listening to any popular songs, there is a lot of vocabulary that students might hear a lot of new words which they do not even heard before. One who really likes some particular song will search the meaning of these new words. In this way, it will enrich their vocabulary knowledge easier and faster.

English songs are often used in learning process. The main purposes for using songs are both for introducing and improving English language. It is because songs offer great assistances in developing English language. According Berne (2012), listening is the first encounter with the target language in language learning journey. From the statement above, English song is considered to be one of the resources that can be utilized in the teaching and learning of vocabulary. Through the appropriate English songs, the students can comprehend the knowledge factually, conceptually,

and procedurally. In other words, while singing, the students are able to read the lyrics and this indirectly encourages them to learn new words.

Based on the statements above, Singh (1987) claimed with the help of perception, the needs of various people can be determined, because people's perception is influenced by their needs. In addition, students who are the main subject in this case, have perceptions which need to be known and appreciated too. Students who often listen to popular English songs might never think that whether the songs enrich their vocabulary or not.

The idea of the research was based on the researcher's personal experience. English songs had a big role in helping the researcher to develop her English developments especially in improving vocabulary. Also, the English teachers in MAN 2 Jember never use English songs as a media in learning English in the classroom. There are many benefits from English songs that can help the students to improve their vocabulary. Through the research, the researcher wants to know that English songs can help the students vocabulary.

Based on the above background, the researcher was interested to conduct a research entitled "The Students' Perceptions in Learning Vocabulary through English Song of Eleventh Grade Students at MAN 2 Jember in 2019/2020 Academic Year". The importance of vocabulary becomes one of the reasons why the researcher wants to conduct this research.

1.2   Problem of the Research

Based on the background of the study above, the problems of the study were mentioned below:

1. What are the students' perceptions on using English song in learning vocabulary of eleventh grade students at MAN 2 Jember in 2019/2020 Academic Year?

2. What are the difficulties of eleventh grade students at MAN 2 Jember in using English songs as media in learning vocabulary?

1.3   Limitation of the Research

Based on the problem identification, this research focused on finding out students perceptions in learning vocabulary through English songs. The researcher also wanted to know what the difficulties on using English songs as media in learning vocabulary. It would be conducted to the students at the eleventh grade at MAN 2 Jember in 2019/2020 Academic Year.

1.4   Objective of the Research

Based on the statements of problem above, the main objectives of the study were as follows:

1. To know the students' perceptions on using English song in learning vocabulary of eleventh grade students at MAN 2 Jember in 2019/2020 Academic Year?

2. To find out the students' difficulties on using English Song as media in learning vocabulary of eleventh grade students at MAN 2 Jember in 2019/2020 Academic Year?

1.5   Benefits of the Research

Through this research, there were some benefits that could be achieved. The benefits were useful for:

1. The Teacher

The teacher can take advantages from the information about English song strategy in mastering vocabulary and she or he can evaluate whether this strategy better or not to be applied in the classroom

2. The Students

The researcher believes that the research will help the students to have new learning source to help to develop their English language especially in their learning vocabulary. The results of the research are able to show the students some methods to support their learning process by using English song. Hopefully, they will have better improvement on their vocabulary mastery by using English song.

3. Other Researcher

The result of this study might be used for other researchers who are interested to conduct the same area of this study. The findings of this study can be used as a reference to conduct further different research design or methodology. Also it becomes base for other researchers to conduct experiment in same area of study related to the use song in learning vocabulary.

1.6   Assumption of the Research

The assumptions deals with this research were as bellow:

1. Using English songs as a learning media can help the students improve their vocabulary in learning English

2. There are some students who have difficulty learning vocabulary specially in finding out the content word (adjective, noun and verb) by using English songs as a learning media

1.7   Scope of the Research

This research would be conducted for eleventh grade students of MAN 2 Jember in 2019/2020 academic year. For this research, the focus was on the students' perception in learning vocabulary through English song.

1.8   Definition of Key Terms

Along with the description above, the writer provides some definitions of terms that would come across often during the research. The terms below would guide the readers in reading and understanding this research.

1. Perception

Perception is how an individual see others and how other perceive individual. Perception is a process to select, organize, and interpret the input from their sense (vision, hearing, touch, smell, and taste) to give meaning. From the definition, the students perception toward English songs is able to be the key to answer the research questions.

2. Vocabulary

Vocabulary is the core component of language proficiency and provides a basis for how well learners speak, listen, read, and write since it is the fundamental in learning English. Thus, vocabulary means a set of words that plays a very important role that learners need to learn in order to master English well.

3. English song

Song is a sort of pieces of music with words or language in a set art of melodies. Song is one of teaching media that can be used to teach any material. It may be used to create a more relaxing in learning foreign language. It is also can be used to teach vocabulary because in the lyrics of song there are several kinds of vocabularies.