

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of (1) the background of the study, (2) statement of the problem, (3) objective of the study, (4) significance of the study, and (5) key term.

1.1 Background of the Study

Vocabulary is a central aspect to support the English language, because it plays a crucial part and has an impact on the skills component, namely: reading, writing, speaking and listening (Anggraini, 2018). Anyone who learns a language will not be separated from the vocabulary that will complete the language. Vocabulary is a group of words. that when put together will have meaning, it is very important in communication. With the help of vocabulary, a person can convey his/her ideas, feelings, emotions, and desires. Students have to memorize many dictionaries designed to express their meaning correctly. They not only learn the words, but they also understand what the words imply. Vocabulary is the most crucial aspect of language that students' must know in order to communicate effectively in that language. When students know a lot of vocabulary, they easily use a few different words about how they communicate with others as they wish. Learning English becomes difficult

without mastering vocabulary. By mastering vocabulary, learning objectives will be easily achieved.

Vocabulary mastery is the most fundamental concept that students must grasp in order to learn English, a foreign language for Indonesian students'. The four English skills will be automatically supported if a student has a sufficient vocabulary in English. However, learning a new language is not easy for foreign language learners, especially Indonesian students who have different language rules in their mother tongue and English. With different pronunciation, spelling, meaning and use of words. There are several problems in the students' vocabulary learning process. First, the learning process at school was a bit stiff and made students bored while learning English. Where, the teacher only provided an explanation of the material in front of the class, students listened, and took notes. Second, Some students lacked enthusiasm or desired for learning English.

According to Chen, W. et al. (2017), technology is being incorporated into education more and more in order to increase student involvement and motivation. With the existence of learning English using technology can make students have an interest in learning vocabulary. It is undeniable that nowadays teenagers spend more time studying using their cellphones and no longer using books because according to them learning to use books make them bored quickly.

Based on the information obtained in the observation held at the eighth grade on the English teaching and learning process conducted at SMP Negeri 40 Surabaya, the English teacher said that many students had low understanding of vocabulary. And the researcher conducted a diagnostic test on May 11, 2023 at the eighth A grade evidenced by the results of the diagnostic test that only 34,66% of students passed KKM and 65,34% failed KKM with the Minimum Completeness Criteria (KKM) score of at least 75 for English subjects. It can be explained that only 9 (34,66%) students achieved KKM and 17 (65,34%) students did not reach the KKM. The results of the diagnostic test, it was found the students' vocabulary mastery was still low. There were still many students who had low understanding of their English vocabulary and had difficulty in learning new vocabulary since the teaching technique was boring. It was also found that class activities were mostly using a teacher-centered technique which means the teacher explained the learning material for students to be more active. Therefore, teachers should be more creative in customizing their teaching techniques to motivate the students to gain many vocabularies.

And the teachers at SMPN 40 Surabaya never used media in teaching English especially on vocabulary. Using media that had never been used made students interested in learning English and built up the students' interest through a media applied as a solution in solving the problem. Students needed teaching media to help students understand foreign languages, especially English. In this instance, the teacher must be careful in his or her media selection, especially

when teaching English to students. Students are supposed to learn a foreign language or second language in an engaging and entertaining manner. instructors' role in using media in the teaching and learning process is highly significant in encouraging students' interest in the teaching-learning process in English, as well as developing excellent relationships between teachers and pupils (Rahmi, 2014).

Based on the explanation above, improving vocabulary mastery must be done by using the media. One of media that can be used is Wordwall.net media to improve the students vocabulary mastery. Wordwall.net has advantages for teachers that is an application that can be used by educators to create interactive templates and printed materials for learners such as quizzes, pairing, word search, anagrams, match making, word randomization, grouping created activities by teacher in addition Wordwall.net is used by students in order not to get bored quickly in receiving learning, making teachers creative in presenting their learning, making vocabulary learning more fun, enjoyable, interesting, and effective. In this media, teachers simply contribute content, and the application takes care of the rest by processing it. The application, known as Wordwall.net, offers a range of themes and game options tailored to specific lessons. It includes diverse interactive games designed for educational purposes, particularly for vocabulary practice. Teachers have the option to utilize games created by their colleagues or create their own using the available templates on the website (Çil, 2021).

Studies about the use of Wordwall.net as a media, had been proven by previous researcher Setia Rini (2021) with the title "Using Word Wall For Improving Students" Writing "What Are You Doing" the results of this study there were 88.56% of the eighth-grade students got an excellent score. Word Wall platform had positively impacted to the students' vocabulary mastery improvement. This platform should be applied in EFL classroom especially during online learning. However, they also recommended this platform to be used in a normal face-to-face classroom. It means there was significant improvement using Wordwall.

The second research was by Erlin Alpatikah (2022) with the title "The Effect Of Using Wordwall.Net On Student's Vocabulary Mastery" in post-test mean result showed control class got 77.33 and experimental class got 86.45. She said that the implementation of the Word Wall had positive impact on the student's vocabulary mastery improvement and it produced student's interest in learning English especially during online learning. In addition wordwall.net could stimulate student's intrinsic and extrinsic motivation with its features, such as the game templates, themes, feedback section and leaderboard, because it consisted content of challenging, curiosity, control and competition. Therefore, there was an effect on student's vocabulary mastery after using wordwall.net.

Based on the statements above, the researcher wants to improve students vocabulary using Wordwall.net . This media that can make it easier for students to learn vocabulary like students are playing. This media is designed and presented in a visual form such as games or games due to improve student learning outcomes. Then the researcher conducted a study entitled “Using Wordwall.net as a media to improve students vocabulary mastery at the eighth grade of SMP Negeri 40 Surabaya”.

1.1 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background above, the researcher formulates the statement of the problem is as follow :

“Can the use of wordwall.net as a media improve students vocabulary mastery at the eighth grade of SMP Negeri 40 Surabaya”.

1.2 Objective of the Study

Based on the statement of the problem above, the objective of the study is as follow :

“To find out the use of wordwall.net as media can improve students vocabulary mastery at the eighth grade of SMP Negeri 40 Surabaya”.

1.3 Significance of the Study

The researcher hopes that this study has practically benefits which are described as follows:

a. For Students

With the wordwall.net media in learning English vocabulary, it is hoped that it can help students who have difficulty in learning vocabulary. And the existence of this media makes students excited in learning, not easily bored, and more creative reasoning and thinking skills so as to motivate students to follow the learning process well.

b. For Teachers

English teachers will be more creative in learning English in the classroom by using wordwall.net in their teaching strategies to reduce boredom in learning English. It is as well as further evaluation material that can be used as a starting point for learning English in the future.

c. For School

The results of this study can be used as input for education implementers in realizing an effective and efficient learning system with qualified teachers in the future and as consideration for education implementers in order to make learning better in schools.

d. For Future Researchers

The other researchers can use the result of this study as an additional reference or further research with different discussion.

1.5 Key Term

The purpose of identifying key terms is to avoid confusion among readers. To make it quite obvious there are some key terms such as vocabulary and wordwall.net as a media in efforts to improve students' vocabulary mastery at the eighth grade of SMP Negeri 40 Surabaya students' English vocabulary mastery.

1. Vocabulary mastery

Vocabulary mastery is the ability to explore and understand English words, which is essential for effective communication in both speaking and writing. It allows individuals to correctly interpret words and convey their intended meanings. Kinds of vocabulary in this study :

- a. Adjective is a class of word that used to give additional information or describe or modify noun and pronoun.
- b. Verb is a class of word that conveys action or a state being of the subject.
- c. Antonyms are words that have opposite meaning.
- d. Synonyms are words that have similar meaning

2. Wordwall.net

Wordwall.net is the application that available on a website, enables the creation of interactive learning materials. It serves as a platform to develop educational media such as quizzes, matchmaking, pairing, anagrams, word randomization, word search, grouping created activities by teacher. Wordwall.net is used by students not to get bored quickly in receiving learning, making teachers creative in presenting their learning, and making vocabulary learning more fun, enjoyable, interesting, and effective (Çil, 2021:22).