

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

In this era, English is one of the languages that must be mastered in everyday life. To be able to use English well, you have to master vocabulary well too. This is because vocabulary is a basic and most important part of English. Good vocabulary mastery can help students' creativity. As a foreign language, learning English vocabulary mastery is very important to support other English language skills, especially for students' Junior High School.

Vocabulary journal is a vocabulary learning strategy. According to Dugan, A vocabulary journal is an ongoing personal collection of key vocabulary terms that can be pre-taught by the teacher or self-selected by the student. In addition to recording the word and definition, vocabulary journals also ask the student to enter additional information such as an illustration, example of word in a sentence, and synonyms/antonyms to deepen their understanding of the word as well as ensure that student will use the word in their speaking and writing.⁵ Vocabulary journals are typically used to record vocabulary, student-friendly definitions and visual representations for each term. Teachers can include features such as a word index or examples of usage in different situation.

Cameron in Widyastuti (2012), believes that vocabulary acquisition and learning are essential for development in both oral and written language. Vocabulary is one of the most obvious components of language and one of the first things applied linguists turned their attention to Richard, (2001). It implies

that learning a language cannot be separated from learning vocabulary. According to Thornbury (Wardani, 2015) without grammar very little can be conveyed, without vocabulary, nothing can be conveyed.

In addition, According to Anthony (Bishop, 2019), all learners must master much of the vocabulary if they want to master all skills. Vocabulary is an important part of every skill. Be it speaking, reading, or writing skills. Vocabulary also has an important role for students who study English as a foreign language. Vocabulary mastery can make it easier to communicate well. There are internal and external factors that influence. One of the internal factors that influence is creativity.

Semiawan (Akbar, 2001) says that creativity is the ability to provide new ideas and apply them in problem solving. Creativity includes talent traits such as fluency, flexibility and originality in thinking as well as non-talent traits, such as curiosity, love to ask questions and always want to seek new experiences. In this life creativity is very important, because creativity is a very meaningful ability in the process of human life. Creativity is the ability to create new combinations and generate ideas. With high creativity, a simple idea can be seen as a very good idea and a new idea can be developed into something extraordinary. Creativity is the ability to develop or explore thoughts. Based on the researcher's problems, experience during field observations, the researcher found that many junior high school students also experienced difficulties in communicating when using English, both orally and in writing. Based on these problems, the researcher intends to reveal whether there is a correlation between students' vocabulary

mastery and verbal creativity. Mastery and understanding of vocabulary will help students understand the meaning of words and assist in developing their creativity. If they have a good vocabulary, it will help them convey their ideas to others smoothly. Based on the statement above, it can be concluded that to speak English well, a student needs a lot of vocabulary to be able to express their ideas. Based on the problems above, the researcher wanted to conduct an experimental study entitled "CORRELATION ON STUDENTS' VOCABULARY MASTERY AND CREATIVITY at EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS' OF SMP NEGERI 12 TANJUNGPINANG".

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Then, the identification of the problems can be written as follows:

1. The students also have difficulty communicating when using English,
2. The students have difficulty developing ideas.
3. The students' difficulties to develop their vocabulary.
4. The students' vocabulary is still low.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

The researcher limits, the problem to the Correlation between Students' Vocabulary Mastery and Creativity. The researcher will not talk about another problem.

1.4 Research Question

In this study, the researcher proposes a question is there any correlation between students' vocabulary mastery and creativity at SMP Negeri 12 Tanjungpinang?

1.5 Purpose of the Study

In this research, the purpose of the study is to find out whether or not there is a correlation between students' vocabulary mastery and creativity at eighth-grade students of SMP Negeri 12 Tanjungpinang

1.6 Significance of the Study

The result of this study is expected to give some benefits. Both benefits are as follows:

1. Theoretically: This study is expected to contribute to supporting the theory in students' vocabulary mastery and creativity.
2. Practically: This study has benefits for the students, English teachers, and other researchers. Those benefits are as follows:
 - a. For the teacher this research can be used as a source of information about the relationship between vocabulary mastery and creativity
 - b. For the reader can get the information about the correlation on students' vocabulary mastery and creativity.
 - c. For the students this research is expected to provide information about the importance of language skills in verbal creativity so that school achievement can increase

1.7 Definition of the Key Term

The following definition is given to make readers have the same understanding or perception of some terms used in this study. They are also intended to avoid ambiguity or misinterpretation. They are as follows:

1. Correlation is a statistical measure of the relationship between two or more variables.
2. Vocabulary mastery is the number of words that someone knows and understands in a language and recognized the meaning that they have learned in a certain situation that they really have experienced in their lives.
3. Creativity is the ability to create new combinations based on data, information or elements obtained from possible answers to a problem and expressed verbally.

