

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of Study

Mastering vocabulary is integral to acquiring proficiency in any language, serving as the cornerstone for effective communication. Learning a language also means learning vocabulary, as it is only possible to communicate well by knowing the correct vocabulary. Vocabulary is not the only important component in learning English, but it is one of the most important. Nuryadi et al (2017) stated that vocabulary is fundamental in language learning, particularly in facilitating effective communication. Expressing thoughts, ideas, and emotions becomes very challenging without a rich and varied vocabulary. In addition, vocabulary improves our reading and writing skills, allowing us to understand complex texts and express ourselves well.

Mastering vocabulary stands out as a critical aspect of English language acquisition. Through a comprehensive grasp of diverse lexical items, learners experience enhanced reading, writing, listening, and speaking English proficiency. This suggests that proficiency in the four core language skills hinges significantly on a thorough vocabulary mastery. As Thornbury (2002) said, Focusing predominantly on studying grammar may not yield significant improvements in your English proficiency. The most substantial advancements will likely occur when you dedicate time to expanding your vocabulary and mastering expressions. While grammar is essential, its impact on communication is limited compared to the versatility offered by an extensive vocabulary. Words and expressions provide

the means to convey a wide range of ideas and messages, allowing for more effective communication in English.

In fact, Many students struggle with mastering vocabulary, particularly with pronunciation, memorization, and usage in context. This is evident in the fact that most students need to be fluent in English, which can lead to disinterest in learning the language (Mansur & Fadhilawati, 2019). It can be seen that most students do not speak English fluently due to limited vocabulary. They cannot speak English fluently, which makes them uninterested in learning the language.

In SMPN 03 Tanjungpinang, the students need help in learning English because they lack vocabulary, rarely use words in English, and do not understand the meaning. Moreover, the students do not enjoy learning English. Based on the pre-observation it is found that, most students have problems when learning English, such as students not listening when the teacher is teaching, they do not understand English learning due to a lack of vocabulary, or even they do not understand the meaning of the word. LKS, PowerPoint, and other supporting books are the learning media used. Some students said they felt bored if they were only given note-taking tasks and monotonous learning resources from these conventional media. The use of PPT learning media is still less interactive, so it is necessary to use media that is interactive and fun.

In the context of the above problems, the researcher argues that teachers should make learning media attractive so students can learn with high focus and interest. This aims to spark students' enthusiasm for English learning and notably enhance their vocabulary mastery. Derakhshan & Khatir (2015) stated, "Games play a

crucial role in the development of students' vocabulary by bolstering word memory, promoting interaction, refining communication skills, honing competence, and fostering cooperation in pursuit of a shared objective achieving victory as a team". Blooket media is a technology-based media used to optimize English vocabulary mastery.

Blooket is very appropriate for use in learning, as explained by Susilo et al (2022) namely Blooket is a game-based quiz digital learning platform. Blooket not only provides a quiz platform as usual, but Blooket has many game models that make learning more interactive and can increase the effectiveness of the language learning process. Blooket is easily accessible via smartphone or PC. Once an instructor has created their account, they can create questions or quizzes or borrow ones that others have created. Therefore, a lot of sources and information obtained regarding the use of this application can be used to improve foreign language learning. In short, this web, namely Blooket, is beneficial and profitable because it can help enrich vocabulary.

Based on the above, this study aims to find out whether the use of Blooket can help students' vocabulary. It is expected that by using Blooket, students and teachers can learn, especially vocabulary, and overcome problems that may arise. The purpose of this study is also to evaluate the effect of using Blooket to teach vocabulary.

## **1.2 Identification of the Problem**

The problems faced by students based on the background of the above study are:

1. Students lose interest in learning because in delivering lessons, teachers

only use conventional media, which is monotonous and dull in the teaching and learning process.

2. Students do not understand English learning due to a lack of vocabulary.

### **1.3 Limitation of the Problem**

This research focuses on the effect of using Blooket on students' vocabulary mastery at SMPN 03 Tanjungpinang.

### **1.4 Research Question**

The research question of the problems that researcher can identify is :

“Was there any significant effect of using Blooket on students' vocabulary mastery at the eighth grade of SMPN 03 Tanjungpinang?”

### **1.5 Objective of the study**

The purpose of this research is to find out the effect of using Blooket on students' vocabulary mastery at the eighth-grade of SMPN 03 Tanjungpinang.

### **1.6 Significance of the Study**

The significance that can be obtained from this study are:

1. Student.

This study will be able to increase English vocabulary in a fun and easy-to-learn way. It can motivate students to continue to be able to learn whenever and wherever.

2. Teacher.

With this research, it is hoped that teachers can get references to fun and enjoyable learning media, that with Blooket, learning is not boring and monotonous.

## 1.7 Definition of the Key Terms

### 1. Vocabulary

Vocabulary refers to the complete set of words or lexicon, along with their meanings, that constitute a language utilized by individuals, groups, or specific professions (Utami, 2015)

### 2. Vocabulary mastery

Comprehension and proficiency in vocabulary refer to the capability to comprehend and command a broad range of words within a language. This proficiency holds significant importance for students in their language acquisition journey as vocabulary is fundamental to all language competencies, including reading, writing, speaking, and listening (Ahmad, 2014)

### 3. Blooket

Blooket is a game-based quiz digital learning platform. Blooket not only provides a quiz platform as usual, but Blooket has many game models that make learning more interactive and can increase the effectiveness of the language learning process (Susilo et al., 2022).