

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is a tool of communication for human interaction. People communicate and interact with others using language. It is a medium to express their ideas, opinions, thought, and feelings. There are so many languages in the world and one of them is English. English is one of the main subjects which is taught in schools and universities.

In studying English, students have to master four skills namely: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. And they are also required to master element of the English that is: grammar, pronunciation, and vocabulary.

Crashed (1998: 150) said that vocabulary is indeed a basic element for communication. Vocabulary has to be mastered by students in order to be able to communicate with others. Their adequate mastery of vocabulary will facilitate the communication of their ideas.

Vocabulary is an important element in learning English to support the four English skills besides, if students have known enough vocabulary it will help students of speaking, writing, and listening based on the writer teaching practice experience. But most of students have difficulties in understanding and memorizing words. So as English teachers, we should have our own techniques like using pictures as media in teaching vocabulary to improve their vocabulary mastery.

Anthony (1983: 5) said “Technique depends on the teacher, his individual artistry, and on composition of the class. Particular problem can be talked equally successfully by the use of different technique”. He also suggests as an English teacher, have to be more creative in choosing the teaching techniques to be used in the classroom.

During his observation when doing teaching practice teacher keep teaching and learning as a monotonous process. They speak formally in front of the class, give some explanations, read some information from the books, show the materials, and students keep watching and listening to the teacher.

Teaching vocabulary in junior high school can be effective if teacher uses appropriate strategies and teacher should more creative to make students interested to learn English. The use of media is one of the ways to enrich the quality of students’ learning. Because teaching with media can help to make communication between the teacher and students more effective and attractive.

The use of media is very recommended, so that the interaction will be occur between the teacher and students in the class, because beside the use of media in teaching have many benefits it also making the subject easy and clear, and arousing students motivation to learn. So the students will learn English satisfy, clearly and more interested.

Based on the idea presented above, the writer would like to make a study entitled **“The Use of Pictures to Increase Vocabulary Mastery of the Seventh Grade Students of SMP N 8 Kupang in the School Year 2016/ 2017**

1.2 Problem Statements

Problem Statements is actually the specification of the topic of a thesis or research. The problem statements of the study are written down in the following:

1. Is teaching vocabulary by using pictures effective to increase vocabulary mastery of the seventh grade students of SMP Negeri 8 Kupang in the school year 2016/2017.?
2. What is vocabulary mastery level of seventh grade students of SMP Negeri 8 Kupang in the school year 2016/2017 after being taught by using pictures.?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Objectives of the study are the aim of doing this study. The objectives of this study are presented as follow:

1. To find out the effectiveness of using pictures for teaching vocabulary in the seventh grade students of SMP Negeri 8 Kupang in the school year 2016/2017 .
2. To find out the vocabulary mastery level of the seventh grade students of SMP Negeri 8 Kupang in the school year 2016/2007 after being taught by using pictures.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This research has significance for the teachers, the students, the writer, and the readers as presented as follow:

1. The writer

This research can be used to enrich his knowledge of teaching especially in using pictures for teaching vocabulary.

2. The students

This research can be used to increase the English students' achievement in vocabulary.

3. The teachers

This research can be used as an item to enrich the inventory of English library and the result of this study are also expected to be the guidance for the teacher in constructing and using pictures to teach vocabulary in junior high school. Besides, it is also expected that using pictures can help teachers to make the teaching of vocabulary more interesting and can be helpful to arise students' motivation an interest in learning vocabulary.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study belongs to the Classroom Action Research since the writer would like to find out the effectiveness of using pictures in teaching vocabulary. In English language learning there are four English skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. And there are the three English sub skills: vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation. This study focused on vocabulary, particularly parts of human body.

In this study the writer only limited to the teaching vocabulary through pictures in seventh grade students of SMP N 8 Kupang in the academic year 2016/2017.

1.6 Definition of Terms

In order to help the reader to understand the study vocabulary and the writer gives some definition of terms dealing with this topic.

1. Vocabulary

Vocabulary is the stock of words used by or known to a particular people or group of person. According to Hornby in the *Oxford advanced learner's dictionary of current English*, it is stated that vocabulary is the total number of words in a language, all words known to a person or used in particular book, subject, etc (Hornby, 1995: 959). So vocabulary is one important aspect in learning a foreign language. Without a proportional amount of vocabulary anyone will get trouble in her/his speaking, reading, listening, and writing. Without a shred of doubt, the writer said that the acquisition of vocabulary would help people in gaining, understanding, and also enhancing the process of knowledgeable transferred for a better life and in this study vocabulary means the stock of vocabularies that known or mastered by the Seventh grade students of SMP N 8 Kupang.

2. Picture

Picture is one of learning media that can be used to explain the subject matter. The use of picture as media or means of delivery of the lesson, not only interesting but also can bind to the attention and clarify ideas or information presented to the students of a teacher (Asnawir, 2002: 54). In this study, picture is a media used by the teacher to teach vocabulary to seventh grade students in SMP N 8 Kupang in the school year 2016/2017

3. Mastery

Mastery is great skillfulness and knowledge of some subject or activity (dictionary.com). In this study, the writer means the students mastery of English vocabulary.

4. Increasing

Increasing is become or make something greater in amount, number, value, etc. (Hornby (2008: 224). In this study, the word increasing is used because the writer wants to improve the stock vocabulary of the seventh grade students of SMP N 8 Kupang.

5. SMP N 8 Kupang

SMP Negeri 8 Kupang is one of state Junior High Schools in Kupang. The school is located on Jl. S.K Lerik, Kelapa Lima sub district, Kota Kupang, in which the writer chooses as the location of the study.