

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

Human is one of the creatures that can't live alone. They need interaction with other to survive. Since long time ago, human try to interact each other by using signals, pictures or symbols to convey their mind to other.

In the long run, human found a new term to convey his mind. It is language. Human uses language as a tool to communicate and share information, like science and technology

But the culture and geographical condition of an area affect different types of language and then born so many languages in the world for example Arabic, Chinese language, Indonesian, English, and etc.

Slowly, the use of language in the world becomes complicated because people from different country can't communicate each other. For example people from Indonesian can't interact with Arabian because they use different language. Based on this problem, human needs one language which applies worldwide. In this case English. English has become an international language. Talebinezhad & Aliakbari (2007:1) said that "English is one of the most important means for acquiring access to the world's intellectual and technical resources".

Since English has become international language, we have to master the four basic language skills. They are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Beside such basic skill, the student has to master some vocabularies as well as possible.

The one of important part of language is vocabulary. Smith (2000:96) states “vocabulary is made up of more than just single word”. Vocabulary is one of the language aspects that important because someone that have limited vocabularies is also has limited in listening, speaking, reading and writing. It is impossible while learning language without mastering vocabularies. Because of the limited vocabularies, the learners cannot communicate to other clearly. The acquisition of a large number of vocabularies can help the students listen, speak, read and write. A good vocabulary and ability to use words correctly and effectively can help the students make school work easier and more rewarding, and also many tests that they take in school include vocabulary questions..

But the next problem is the way we teach vocabulary. We need a good technique to teach vocabulary. Since long time ago, some teacher use a game in teaching english. The game which related to vocabulary is crossword puzzle. But the question is, *is crossword Puzzles appropriate to teach vocabulary?*.

Based on the description above, the writer is interested to conduct the research entitled **“TEACHING ENGLISH VOCABULARY THROUGH CROSSWORD PUZZLES”**

B. Research Question and Hypotheses

Question

Based on the statement above, the resercher formulates the problem: is **“Can teaching english using crossword puzzles improve stundets vocabulary mastery?”**

Hypotheses

Null hypothesis:

Teaching English through Crossword Puzzles does not improve students' vocabulary mastery.

C. Objectives of the Research

The objectives of the study in this research is to know how success a teaching vocabulary when we teach through Crossword Puzzles.

D. Limitation of the Research

In avoiding the deviations from the topic, the writer focuses on the teaching English, especially teaching vocabulary and the technique that used, whether Crossword Puzzles is effective in teaching vocabulary.

E. Significance of the Research

It is hoped that this study will help both students and teacher and also find new knowledge so the students more enjoy and happy when they learn English.

1. Pedagogical

With this research is expected to help teacher to choose the crossword puzzle as a technique in teaching English vocabulary to increase students' vocabulary mastery

2. Theoretical

a. The result of the research can be used by those who want to conduct a research in teaching vocabulary as reference.

b. The result of the research can be used as an input for English teaching learning method, especially for teaching vocabulary in junior high school.

3. Practical

a. For the students, learning English by using crossword can improve their understanding about English words

b. For the teacher, it will give him or her insight that using crossword puzzle is worth trying in teaching vocabulary

F. Definition of the key term

From the background of the study that describe above, there are some statements that will be identified;

1. Teaching here refers to the teaching that teachers do in every school. "Teaching is guiding and facilitating learning , enabling the learner to learn, setting the condition for learning."(Brown,2000:7), the teaching that will be discussed is teaching English, especially teaching vocabulary.

2. Vocabulary is the collection of words that individual knows."(Linse,2005).

3. Crossword Puzzles is “A word puzzles in a grid of black and white squares. The goals is to write one letter in each white square to make the words given by clues. The black squares tell where the word ends” (Claire, 2010:6).

G. Organization of the Research Paper

This research consists of five chapters:

Chapter I : Introduction

In this chapter, the writer discusses background of the research, research question and hypotheses, objective of the research, limitation of the problem, benefits, research methodology, definition of key terms, and organization of the research paper.

Chapter II : Literature Review

In this second chapter, the writer provides the theoretical foundation of teaching vocabulary Through Crossword Puzzles.

Chapter III : Research Methodology

This chapter discusses the procedures of the research that includes research design, research method, population and sample, instrument, and data collection technique and analysis.

Chapter IV : Results and Discussions

In this chapter reports the data that has been collected based on research methodology including the results and the discussions.

Chapter V : Conclusion and Suggestions

This chapter presents conclusion of this study and suggestions for further study