

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

As a social creatures, human beings need to interact with other people. Absolutely, it is needed a tool to make one person is able to understand others about what they mean. Language is such a tool which is used to facilitate people to be able to convey some information or expression in order that other people are able to get the meaning. In spesific, Collin CoBuild Dictionary on CD ROM 2006 states“language is a system of communication which consists of a set of sounds and written symbols which are used by the people of a particular country or region for talking or writing”. It means that language has some spesific components, in general is sounds and symbols, and it is used for communication both orally and in written.

In this globalization era, it seems that there is no wall to separate people country to country. The role of communication takes an important responsibility to make them are able to interact each other. Left from this reason, deciding an international language is considered as the best way to overcome the communication problem. Therefore, English is decided as an international language that is absolutely used by people around the world in communicating.

Discussing of English, like other languages, it has some important elements. Clasically, there are three components of English language: phonology,

vocabulary, and syntax (Bolles, 2014). Phonology is the study of the ways in which speech sounds form systems and patterns (Victoria, et. al. 2003). Phonology deals with the sound systems of language, how speech is organized into systems in different languages, how sounds are combined and the relation between them, and how they affect each other (McMahon, 2002). Vocabulary can be defined, roughly, as the words that are taught in the foreign language. However, a new item of vocabulary may be more than a single word (Ur, 2009). Syntax is the study of the structure of sentences and syntax analyzes how words combined to form sentences. Sentences are made up of smaller units, called phrases (which in turn are made up of words) (Yule, 2010).

Discussing about vocabulary, it can be called that vocabulary is the core component of language proficiency and provides much of the basis for how well learners speak, read, listen, and write (Richards & Rinandya, 2002). Without having many vocabulary, learners will face the difficulties when they want to express utterance both orally and writing. That's why some several instructions still focus on teaching vocabulary first to enrich students' language treasure.

Allah SWT says in verse al-Baqarah: 31

نُكُنْتُمْ إِن هَتُؤَلَاءِ بِأَسْمَاءٍ أَنْبِئُونِي فَقَالَ الْمَلَكُ عَلَى عَرَضِهِمْ ثُمَّ كُلَّهَا الْأَسْمَاءِ أَدَمَ وَعَلَّمَ

صَدَقِي

In that verse, Allah SWT taught Adam some names of things on earth when Adam was sent to earth. In language instruction, the verse implies that

vocabulary is very important to be introduced to the learners because it is the basic of the language knowledge because without having vocabulary, it is impossible for language learners to convey what they want to express. In reverse, if someone has acquired a broad of vocabulary, he or she tends to not consult with obstacles and lost in translation in comprehending grammar, listening, and reading. Moreover, he or she is able to speak and write more fluently.

One of the technique in learning vocabulary is by using games. In educational purposes, games are used to create amusing and enjoying atmosphere in teaching and learning in the purpose of the knowledge can be achieved by students with their open heart. In the purpose of improving vocabulary, the spesific game can be used is word games.

There are so many word games that can improve the vocabulary. One of them is scrabble. Scrabble is a word game in which two to four players score points by placing tiles, each bearing a single letter, onto a gameboard which is divided into 15 x 15 grid of squares. The tiles must be from words which, in crossword fashion, flow left to right in rows or downwards in columns. The words must be defined in a standard dictionary. Skills required of this game are vocabulary, spelling, counting, strategy, bluffing, anagramming and probability. Suggested by Johnson (2005), the advantages of playing Scrabble are:

“First, it can increase the vocabulary and have a better grasp on the spelling of words. This can be extremely advantageous for young children who are at a stage where their vocabulary is expanding at rapid rate. Second, creatively and strategy. The players must be able to creatively think of a word that will

play of previously spelled word, this requires creative use of the letters that the player has. The last, playing scrabble game also requires basic math skills.”

In this study the writer correlates Scrabble with students’ vocabulary mastery at Senior High School because vocabulary is included in all English skills and students should acquire a sufficient number of words and know how to use them accurately in order to communicate effectively. Besides that, the writer choose MAN Kotabaru because based on pre-observation, the writer finds that Scrabble has been known by all of students there and the competition becomes the routine agenda there.

Based on the expalanation above, the writer is interested in conducting a research about **THE CORRELATION BETWEEN STUDENTS’ INTEREST IN PLAYING SCRABBLE AND STUDENTS’ VOCABULARY MASTERY OF THE ELEVENTH GRADE IN MAN KOTABARU ACADEMIC YEAR 2014/2015**.By conducting this research, the writer expects that the result can be consideration to provide alternative technique in teaching and learning English in fun way if the result shows positive correlation.

B. Statements of Problem

By conducting this research, the writer wants to investigate some problems which are formulated as follows:

1. How is students’ interest in playing Scrabble of the eleventh grade in MAN Kotabaruacademic year 2014/2015?

2. How is students' vocabulary mastery of the eleventh grade in MAN Kotabaru academic year 2014/2015?
3. Is there any correlation between students' interest in playing scrabble and students' vocabulary mastery of the eleventh grade in MAN Kotabaru academic year 2014/2015?

C. Objective of Study

This research has some objectives are as follows:

1. To know the students' interest in playing Scrabble of the eleventh grade in MAN Kotabaru academic year 2014/2015.
2. To know the students' vocabulary mastery of the eleventh grade in MAN Kotabaru academic year 2014/2015.
3. To find out whether there is a correlation between students' interest in playing scrabble and students' vocabulary mastery of the eleventh grade in MAN Kotabaru academic year 2014/2015.

D. Hypotheses

In this study, there are two hypotheses that will be examined as follows:

H_0 = there is no correlation between the students' interest in playing scrabble and their vocabulary mastery.

H_a = there is a correlation between students' interest in playing scrabble and students' vocabulary mastery.

E. Significance of Study

The result of this research is expected to have some advantages, such as:

1. As consideration to provide alternative teaching and learning English in a fun way.
2. It will give the readers the information about Scrabble and whether it can improve students' vocabulary and influence students' vocabulary mastery.
3. It will enrich the literacy treasures and can be used for the next research which investigate similar research.

F. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misinterpretation or misunderstanding toward the title, the writer provides the definition of key terms as follows:

1. Correlation: a connection between two things in which one thing changes as the other does. (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary). In this study, it is the relationship of students' interest in playing Scrabble and students' vocabulary mastery to know whether there is a influence of playing Scrabble toward the students' vocabulary mastery.
2. Interest :self-sustaining motives that lead people to engage with certain objects, activities, or ideas for "their own shake". (Sylvia, 2001).In this study, interest is the students' awareness to play Scrabble game.

3. Scrabble: Scrabble is a word game played with two to four players with the player using their vocabulary to create words (Tanjung, 2011).
4. Vocabulary : A list of words and often phrases, usually arranged alphabetically and defined or translated; a lexicon or glosasary(thefreedictionary.com).
5. Mastery : the ability to blend skills and knowledge in a specific area of practice(masteryworks.com). In this study, it is the level of students' mastery in vocabulary test.