

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Language is basically means of communication. With language, people can express their feelings or idea orally and get some information from others. Language is also used to make connection in daily activity. Since years ago people use language which can be understood by others. People need a language that can be universally understood by society. One of foreign languages used in Indonesia is English.

Allah Almighty created different language for human, as Allah said in the Holy Koran, Ar Rum verse 22:

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ خَلْقُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَأَخْتَلَفُ الْأَلْسِنَتِكُمْ وَاللُّوَانِكُمْ إِنَّ

فِي ذَلِكَ لآيَاتٍ لِلْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٢٢﴾

In this context, the content of the Holy Qur'an in the verse Ar-Rum : 22 is about there variations of language which is created by Allah in the world. Every nation and tribe has different language. As the result, people have to learn more than one language to communicate around the world,

because language is one of the important factors which can to tight the relationship and create the understanding for human. Language is the foundation for all cooperation for human. Language is very important for life, so language must be learned, which is language for communication in the world.

Language becomes an important thing, and people around the world use it. It is a gift from the God to human beings as it is said in the Holy Koran in the verse Al-Hujuraat verse 13:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ

لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتَقْوَىٰ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ ﴿١٣﴾

This verse proof that language has a very important role among human beings in every nations and tribes. So, the need of learning is very important because the function of a language is for communication with anyone everywhere.

As one of language in the world, English is considered and applied as an international language. Nowadays, English becomes influential language in

a lot of sectors, such as business, education, technology and science. Therefore, English is very popular and has been spoken and learnt by almost all of people in the world. So, the importance of English cannot be denied and ignored since English is the most common language spoken and used everywhere in the world.

In Indonesia, English is one of foreign languages which is taught in elementary school, junior high school, and senior high school. Besides, some students are unable to speak English, because they are lack of vocabulary. Especially in elementary school, some students get difficulty in memorizing the word which is not their native language.

In teaching-learning of English language, one of component or sub skill that must be taught to the learners is vocabulary. Vocabulary is central and important to language learner. Words help us to share our ideas and they also help us to understand other people's ideas. We listen, speak, read and write with words. It can be said that the students will find difficulties in mastering English skills if they have limited vocabulary. Without a sufficient vocabulary, someone cannot communicate effectively or express ideas because we think with word.

Mastering vocabulary will well make language mastery is getting better. Conveying spoken language will be easier and more understandable when the vocabulary is well mastered. Presentation language in writing will

also be easier and clearly understood when the vocabulary is well-mastered. So it is clear that the vocabulary plays an important role in the language.

If students want to master language skills such as listening, speaking, reading and writing, students need to have a large number of vocabularies. With a limited vocabulary students will also have a limited understanding in skills of language. In other words, mastery of a language means the ability to use or even to understand the words of a language.

The teacher and the students need to have suitable strategy to vocabulary mastery. Harmer said that teaching vocabulary is an important element of teacher's art. Vocabulary is needed for expressing meaning and in using the receptive (listening and reading) and the productive (speaking and writing) skills. Students need to have lexical knowledge in that language in order to communicate using that language. Acquiring a large and varied vocabulary is one of the largest challenges in learning a second language. The more we master the vocabularies, the better our performances in all aspects of English will be.

In addition, (Thornbury, 2002, p.20) mentions about a large extent number that students, as foreign language learners, need in mastering vocabulary as soon as the students can use the vocabulary in daily conversation. He says the students can communicate with other people using vocabulary if they achieve about 2000 words of vocabulary mastery targets.

Teacher can use many ways to gain students' enthusiasm, one of them is by using game. Game can be used in any part of lesson. It can be the beginning as a brainstorming activity, in the middle part of the lesson or in the end of the lesson to evaluate the result of learning lesson.

Students can perceive English as a fun subject, it is easy for them to absorb the material. And using game is one of the methods that can be used as a tool to fulfill not only fun but also learning. Games help the teacher to create teaching-learning process more useful and more meaningful.

There are many kinds of games which can be used and effective in teaching English. It cannot be an easy job for teachers to find an appropriate game for teaching and learning process, because each game has their own purpose. Teachers should be to find and use the game in teaching and learning process.

Vocabulary should be interesting and satisfying for both teacher and students. The English teacher has to think a suitable way, subject material and how to apply it in classroom. Teacher must have a fun and creative strategy to teach vocabulary that can make students have interest and pay attention in vocabulary mastery.

This study is important to be done because it hopefully can give many benefits to English teacher, students and the other researcher. The writer expects this study can solve the teacher's problem in teaching vocabulary and give the appropriate strategy in teaching vocabulary. The researcher hopes this

study can help students in vocabulary mastery. To other researcher, the writer hopefully can give information about vocabulary and crossword puzzle game.

This process expected gives the students more enjoyable, interesting especially in learning vocabulary. Students as individuals should always be in high motivation and self-confident to learn English anytime and play active role in classroom interaction with their classmate or their teacher. Therefore, the writer feels want to know and explore this problem furthermore.

Considering that situation, the writer gave a solution to increase the students' vocabulary mastery for students of UPB (Unit Pengembangan Bahasa) class in Antasari State Islamic University, so later the students will able to mastery English well.

Based on the problem, the writer would like to improve student's vocabulary mastery through crossword puzzles. Crossword puzzles is a simple games that can be played in any age level with different difficulty. The proposed technique is crossword puzzle game towards students' vocabulary mastery with the title "THE USE OF CROSSWORD PUZZLE GAME TOWARDS STUDENTS' VOCABULARY MASTERY"

B. Statement of The Problem

The main problems of this research are:

1. How to the teachers use Crossword Puzzle Game in UPB class?
2. What are the problems for teachers in using Crossword Puzzle Game in UPB class?

C. Objective of the study

There are two purposes of this study:

1. To know the ways teachers use Crossword Puzzle Game.
2. To know the problems for teacher in using Crossword Puzzle game.

D. Scope of Study

1. The subject of this research is the students of UPB of Antasari States Islamic University Banjarmasin.
2. This research is focused on the students' vocabulary mastery by using crossword puzzle game for the students of UPB of Antasari States Islamic University Banjarmasin.

E. Significance of the Study

The result of the study is expected to provide useful information about the use of crossword puzzle game toward students' vocabulary mastery in the students of UPB of Antasari States of Islamic University Banjarmasin.

It is expected that the findings can contribute to the group, they are:

1. For English teacher

It gives an alternative technique in vocabulary mastery, especially using crossword puzzle game. It also helps the teacher to increase students' score in English test.

2. For students

This study to help them to solve the problem in vocabulary mastery and enrich their vocabulary. It is also expected to be a useful input to help the students' to improve their score in English test.

3. For further research

For the further research who are interested in doing research about vocabulary for college student level can get the basic information about the use of crossword puzzle game. Furthermore, can apply crossword puzzle game for other English material.

F. Hypothesis

There are two hypothesis in this research:

1. Null Hypothesis (Ho)

There is no significant different in students' achievement in learning English between students who are taught by using crossword puzzle game towards students vocabulary mastery and students who are taught without using crossword puzzle game towards students vocabulary mastery in the students of UPB of Antasari States of Islamic University Banjarmasin.

2. Alternative Hypothesis (Ha)

There is any significant different in students' achievement in learning English between students who are taught by using crossword puzzle game towards students vocabulary mastery and students who are taught without

using crossword puzzle game towards students vocabulary mastery in the students of UPB of Antasari States of Islamic University Banjarmasin.

G. Definition of Key Term

In order to make the readers get easier in understanding this study, here the researcher will give the definition of some key terms that important to be understood as the following:

1. Use

Take, hold, or deploy (something) as a means of accomplishing or achieving something

2. Crossword Puzzle

Crossword puzzle is a puzzle in which word that are the answers to clues are written into a pattern of numbered squares that go across and down. This game is very familiar to the students for they can find such as puzzles in their language in this game, the students will have to fill the boxes letter by letter based on the question.

3. Game

Game is an activity that one engages in for amusement or fun.

4. Vocabulary

Vocabulary a group of word arraged in alphabetical order and briefly explained and should be studied in context. It is a list of word in a language eith their meaning.