

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Vocabulary is one of the important language aspects in order to be fluent in a foreign language, including English. It is a fundamental habit in communication. Vocabulary is one of the elements in learning a new language, which means that by learning vocabulary can support the other comprehension skill of English (Hatch & Brown, 1995).

Nowadays, learning English does not only depends on the dictionary or in a course. People could access many things through the internet. Moreover, many media that can be used as a support for people who wants to learn vocabulary. One of them are Spotify, a music streaming site that contains millions of songs from every genres and artists around the world.

Reported from Detik.com (02/2021), in Indonesia itself, Spotify has reached 345 million users, and it keeps growing as time goes by. In addition, most of the Spotify users comes from many generations. Some of them comes from millennials and Gen-Z(s) generation, where the writer assumes that they listen to music regularly. Starting from this reason, the writer decided to investigate how adult learners using Spotify as a media to improve their vocabulary.

The use of various media for English vocabulary learning has been discussed implicitly in the holy Qur'an, as cited in the Q.S al-Alaq/96 verse 3-4 below.

اقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ (۳) الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ (۴)

In the fourth verse, it was written (بِالْقَلَمِ), which literally means pen.

According to Al-Asfahani in Mu'jam Mufradat Alfadz al-Qur'an, pen in that verse refers to something that is solid and hard, such as nails and a block wood, specifically for writing purposes (as a pen). However, according to Al-Maraghi's interpretation in his book, he explained that Allah creates qalam as a media for human to understand some matters. To be more specific, he explained qalam as inanimate objects that has no sign of life and understanding ability, but it was interpreted as a connector between humans and science.

As time goes by, the definition of qalam is also developed. It is not only defined as the tools to write which can only be used by traditional boarding school students. Nowadays, we could capture the meaning of qalam as the learning media in the modern era, which then related to the research topic.

In the previous study, Kisworo (2015) investigated the use of song lyrics for teaching vocabulary at junior high school levels. Meanwhile Mahendra (2021) specifically investigated about students' perception toward the use of Joox App in Listening Skill at IAIN Palangkaraya. Furthermore, Hadian (2015) has conducted a research about the use of song lyrics in teaching listening in a Junior High School in Bandung. In addition, Rahmania and Mandasari (2021) studied student's perception towards the use of JOOX App to improve students' pronunciation. The result of this study showed that students are agreeing that

listening music through JOOX while reading the lyrics provided by the App could help them to improve their pronunciation skill.

From that researches above, the writer decided to investigate how Spotify Application could be used by college students (adult learners) to improve their vocabulary. The reason was because the writer has not seen any research in that field while investigating Spotify Application with Vocabulary. Moreover, the writer also considering how important it is to gain more source of vocabulary in learning English Language in a great and interesting way.

B. Definition of Keyterms

1. Vocabulary Learning

Vocabulary learning is the process of how learners expand the number of words they understand when they are learning English as a foreign language.

2. Spotify Application

Spotify is a digital music streaming platform where people have access to millions types of music form around the world. It contains not only music in various genre, but also providing podcasts service. In this study, the researcher wants to specifically explore the lyrics feature that offers direct translation within this application, which can be used by learners to enhance their vocabulary.

3. Independent Learning

Independent learning is the student's ability in regulating their self-control and to evaluate themselves in terms of learning by themselves. It is

meant to be done outside of the classes or by learning together with fellow students.

4. Independent Learners

Individual learners refer to the executors of independent learning or self-regulation. They are the ones who are responsible for controlling their own learning inputs and outputs, the learning methods, and the way they assessing their own learning.

C. Research Questions

Based on the background of the study above, the research questions that could be discussed are:

1. How learners use Spotify Application in independent setting to learn Vocabulary?
2. What types of vocabulary does the learners learnt after using Spotify Application?

D. Objective of The Study

Based on the questions above, possible objective if the study that can be discussed are:

1. To investigate how students using Spotify Application to learn vocabulary in independent setting.
2. To find out what types of vocabulary learnt by the learners after using Spotify Application.

E. Significance of Study

1. For learners, the writer hope that this research could help those who need more reference in individual learning in the second language acquisition field, to be more specific in acquiring the vocabularies.
2. For teacher, the writer hope that this research could help for those who need references on how using different sites in teaching certain language skills
3. To be a reference for further research. The writer hopes that this research could help other researchers who need insights in this field and make a better research based on the lacks found in this research paper.