

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

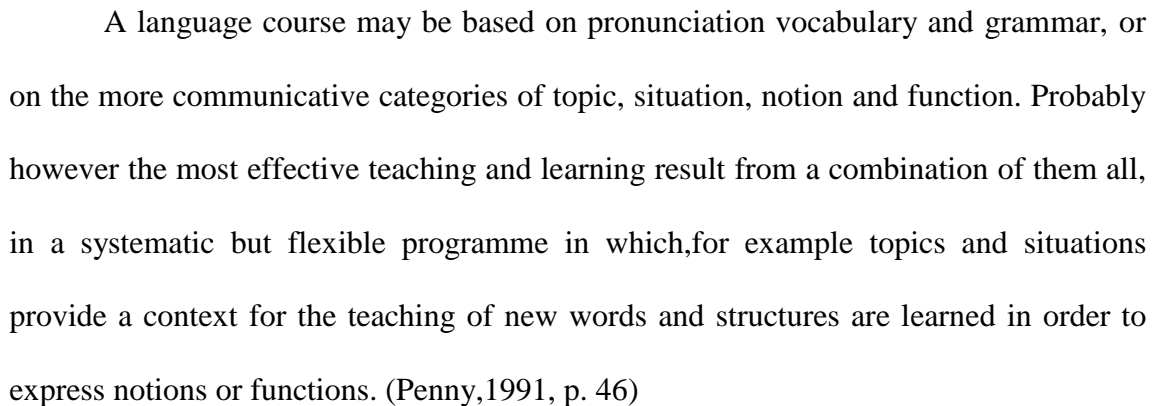
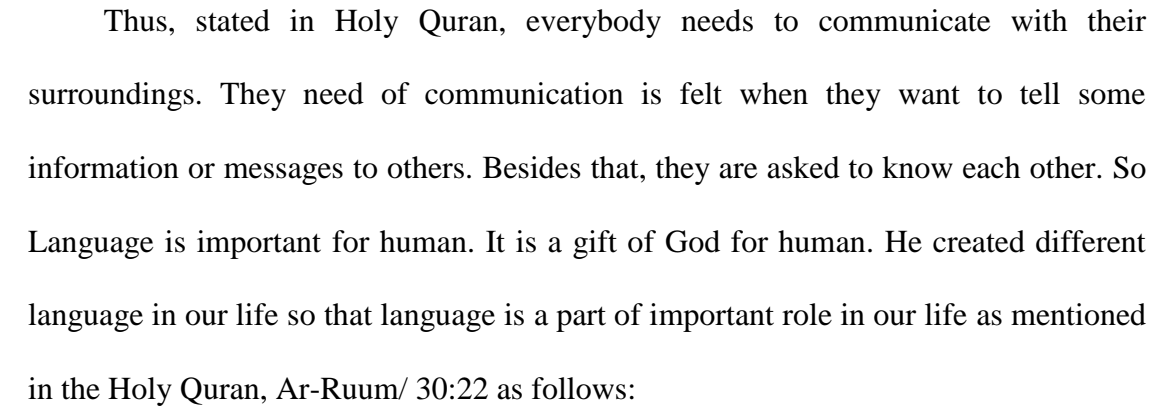
A. Background of Study

Language is a tool to talk to someone, with language someone can express something. It is the effective tool to know one another. It is very important to learn others language to make understanding and prevent misunderstanding. People be able to extend any of expression such as idea, experience, feeling, thought and any others by written and oral. Language also will make people be able to close with another. Finocchiaro (1974, p .5) said that language is an intimate part of social identity.

Murcia and Meintashin (1969, p. 183) said that the essence of the language is human activity, activity on the part of one individual to make him self understood by another, and the activity on the part that other to understand what was on the mind of the first. So the language is human activity that makes people understand what he delivers.

Human needs to know and to interact each other in their life, as stated in the Holy Quran Al-Hujuraat /49:13 as follow:





famous and important language in the world. Nowadays, English subject is taught at SD/MI, SMP/MTs, SMA /MA/SMK and even at university. Students learn to show their expressions and ability in English. Students will face many things in the future. English can help students face it confidently. Because of the reasons, English is designed to develop knowledge and ability of the students to make the bright future. Students can get many advantages from learning English.

English is a language that has rules and defined patterns where as English was said as an instrument to express ideas, opinion and feeling similar with the native speaker and also an instrument in absorption and development of science, technology and culture. (Departemen Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan, 1996.2).

Furthermore in teaching-learning process, English is intended to develop four skills. The four language skills are listening, speaking, reading and writing appropriate to theme which are chosen on interest, vocabulary and suitable grammar. (L. G. Alexander, 1975, p. viii).

Some people say that young learners learn languages faster than adults. They talk of children who appear to pick up new languages effortlessly. Perhaps this has something to do with the plasticity of a young brain. Something, after all, must account for the fact that with language, according to Steven Pinker, ‘acquisition.... Is guaranteed for children up to the age of six, steadily compromised from then until shortly after puberty, and is rare thereafter’ (Pinker 1994, p. 293), and that this applies not only to the acquisition of the first language, but also to second language or foreign languages. (Harmer, 1988, p. 37).

In the modern time like today, English is number one language in many things, such as in technology, information, and education. There are two forms in language, the spoken and written. Two language activities are associated both encoding and decoding process. Speaking and writing themselves are, meanwhile listening and reading are decoding process. (Richards and Renadya, 2002, p. 96). In the English vocabulary teaching and learning process, the four skills can not be separated, they are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The elements of English given to the students such as grammar, vocabulary, spelling, and pronunciation are supposed to support the mastery and development of the four skills of that language.

One of the most important language components is vocabulary. A person's vocabulary is the set of words within a language that familiar to that person. The vocabulary usually develops with age, and serves as a useful and fundamental tool for communication and to acquire knowledge. The vocabulary is one of the largest challenges in learning.

Someone will not be able to read, write, speak and also understand the language without having any number of words. Vocabulary is one of the language aspects which should be learned. Learning vocabulary is important for us to able to speak, write, and listen nicely we have to know vocabulary adequately first. A person is said to know a word if he can recognize its meaning when he see it (Cameron, 2000, p.75).

Vocabulary learning is learning to discriminate progressing the meaning of words in the target language from the meanings of their nearest 'equivalent' in the mother tongue it is also learning to make the most appropriate lexical choices for particular linguistic and situational contexts.(Wilkins, 1972, p.130).

The teacher had better prepare good instructional media and material that can improve children's understanding and motivation. A creative teacher has a long list of possibilities of classroom activities. Since the children like play, song and game, why not the teacher uses them as media.

Educational games are games that help the students with school work. Games can be used in any classroom to support language learning and can be easily adjusted for age, proficiency level, interests, and needs. Once the materials are initially created minimum preparation is needed for future modifications.

Crossword Puzzle is part of games. By using crossword puzzle the students will be easy to accept the English language lesson. This crossword puzzle helps the students to improve their vocabulary. This crossword puzzle is a method that used by a teacher at MIN Lampihong. After doing an observation, the writer found that teacher and fourth grade students of MIN Lampihong in teaching and learning English vocabulary use crossword puzzle. The writer found that a method of teacher in teaching and learning English use crossword puzzle. In this research, the writer is interested in investigating how is the use of crossword puzzle and how is the

students' response of crossword puzzle. Therefore, from the statement above the writer is interested in doing a research that use of games in the classroom.

So the writer does the research and writes entitled: **Teaching and Learning English Vocabulary by Using Crossword Puzzle of The fourth Grade Students of MIN Lampihong - Balangan Academic Year 2012/ 2013**

B. Statement of problems

In order to get clear information for this study the problems that are being to be studied:

1. How is the use of crossword puzzle in teaching vocabulary at the fourth grade students of Madrasah Ibtidayah Negeri(MIN) Lampihong Balangan academic year 2012/2013?
2. How is the students' response of using crossword puzzle in learning English vocabulary at the fourth grade students of Madrasah Ibtidayah Negeri (MIN) Lampihong Balangan academic year 2012/2013?

C. Objective of Study

There are two purposes of this research:

1. To know the use of crossword puzzle in teaching vocabulary at the fourth grade students of Madrasah Ibtidayah Negeri (MIN) Lampihong Balangan academic year 2012/2013

2. To know the students' response in learning English by using crossword puzzle at the fourth grade students of MIN Lampihong Balangan academic year 2012/2013

D. Significance of study

The Significance of using this study are as follows:

1. For the students, they will be easy to accept the English language, because they learn by using crossword puzzle and they can improve their vocabulary. So that they have strong and good motivation to improve their English language.
2. For the teacher, he can teach to his students easier. The teacher will be easy to explain the purpose of the study. The using game very helps the teachers in teaching and learning process.

E. Definition of Key Terms

There are some terms are used in this research. In order to avoid misunderstanding of them, some key terms are defined as follows:

1. Teaching : according to Brown (2000, p.10), Teaching is showing or helping someone to learn how to do something, giving instruction,, to guiding in the study of something, providing with knowledge, causing to know or understand.
2. Learning : According to Prestol (1968) , learning is promoted by reinforcement. (Hamalik,2003, p.17)

3. Vocabulary : In Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (Victoria, 2008, p. 495) vocabulary means all the words that a person knows or uses.
4. Crossword : In Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (Victoria Bill, 2008, p. 106) crossword is puzzle in which words have to be guessed from clues and written in spaces in a grid.
5. Students : The fourth grade students of MIN lampihong, means the students who are sitting in the fourth grade students of MIN lampihong.