

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

In this chapter, the researcher presents background of study, research questions, objective of study, significance of study, and definition of key term.

#### **A. Background of Study**

English is one of the compulsory subjects at every level of education, including junior high school. However, not a few students are less interested in this subject and are often considered difficult. One of them is because they have not mastered vocabulary and rarely use English for daily communication.

In learning English, there are four language skills that students must learn, namely listening, speaking, reading and writing. To master these four skills, there are several important linguistic elements that support them such as grammar, spelling, phonology, syntax, discourse, morphology, pronunciation and vocabulary (Widyahening & Sufa, 2021). One of the important elements that students need to master when they want to develop all English skills is vocabulary, vocabulary is also one of the elements that cannot be separated from the four English skills besides grammar.

As quoted by Brown from Zimmerman said that there was a time when vocabulary teaching sounded trivial or not very important (Brown, 2000) and focused more on developing the four language skills. In fact, teaching vocabulary to students is also one of the first steps for teachers to be able to develop other English skills.

Learners also need to get used to connecting one word with another when they make sentences or create dialogues to communicate. With the vocabulary that students have, it can make it easier for them to understand language (Indrasari, Novita, & Megawati, 2018). Mastering the vocabulary itself is not only by knowing the meaning, but also knowing and understanding the placement of the vocabulary used. Although the large number of vocabularies they have cannot guarantee the ability of students to learn English, having sufficient vocabulary can be an opportunity for their learning success (Erawati & Miftachudin, 2016).

In Q.S. Al-Baqarah: 31-33, Allah The Almighty. said:

وَعَلَّمَ آدَمَ الْأَسْمَاءَ كُلَّهَا ثُمَّ عَرَضَهُمْ عَلَى الْمَلَائِكَةِ فَقَالَ أَنْبِئُونِي بِأَسْمَاءِ هَؤُلَاءِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ {31} قَالُوا سُبْحَانَكَ لَا عِلْمَ لَنَا إِلَّا مَا عَلَّمْتَنَا إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَلِيمُ الْحَكِيمُ {32} قَالَ يَا آدَمُ أَنْبِئْهُمْ بِأَسْمَائِهِمْ فَلَمَّا أَنْبَأَهُمْ بِأَسْمَائِهِمْ قَالَ أَلَمْ أَقُلْ لَكُمْ إِنِّي أَعْلَمُ غَيْبَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَأَعْلَمُ مَا تُبْدُونَ وَمَا كُنْتُمْ تَكْتُمُونَ {33}

Based on the verse above, it describes the educational process that Allah gave to Prophet Adam, which means that education has been implemented since the first creation of humans. Vocabulary learning is described in Al-Baqarah verse 31-33, verse 31 shows that Allah taught Prophet Adam all kinds of names and understanding of them, this verse also shows that Allah gave humans the ability to make lafadz, and directly taught language through inspiration and understanding, as taught by Allah to the Prophet Adam. Verses 32 and 33 show that Prophet Adam was created with many advantages, including language, knowledge, and

names of objects or creatures. Allah gave Adam the knowledge of all things, all the names that the angels did not know. Allah demonstrated human privilege by teaching humans a language that they could use to communicate with other.

In teaching vocabulary, teachers also must find innovations to make learning more interesting to learn for students. Using learning media will certainly help teachers to create interesting and fun learning for students. Media that easy to use and able to fulfill the purpose of its use is certainly a consideration for teachers to facilitate the delivery of material in teaching and learning activities. With the many types of learning media used today, it is one of the conveniences for teachers to sort out what media needs to be used so that learning can be maximized.

As time goes by, learning media also develops accordingly. Learning media in the form of interesting applications are widely developed and used in the teaching and learning process with the aim of making it easier for teachers and students to achieve learning goals. Apart from the benefits, teachers must pay attention to the impact of using the application so that it does not deviate from the purpose of using the media.

One of the learning media that can be used in teaching and learning English is the Drops application. Drops is an application acquired by the Kahoot! Group which was created for learning languages, especially for learning vocabulary. The Drops application is also used in one of the junior high schools in Banjarmasin, especially in VII D students at MTsN 4 Banjarmasin. One of the reasons for using Drops is to solve students' problems in English subjects

regarding vocabulary mastery, and the English subject teacher at this class uses the Drops application as an alternative learning media for students to learn and increase their vocabulary. The teacher tries to use the Drops application as a learning media to teach vocabulary in a fun way.

Many studies have been conducted on the benefits of media or applications for learning. There are many good impacts on teachers and students from the use of media. In terms of appearance and usability, the Drops application is very easy to accept as a learning medium. In this research, it is very interesting to know how the teacher use the Drops application as a medium for teaching vocabulary in VII D at MTsN 4 Banjarmasin. Apart from that, the researcher also wants to know the opinions of VII D students at MTsN 4 Banjarmasin about using this application in learning vocabulary. Therefore, the researcher decided to conduct research on "Drops Application as Learning Media in Teaching Vocabulary At MTsN 4 Banjarmasin".

#### **A. Research Question**

Based on the background of the study above, the problems of this research can be described as follows:

1. How is the Drops Application used as a learning medium for teaching vocabulary in VII D at MTsN 4 Banjarmasin?
2. How is perception of VII D students at MTsN 4 Banjarmasin about the use of the Drops Application in learning vocabulary?

#### **B. Objective of Study**

Based on the research question, the research objectives of the study are:

1. Explain the use of the Drops application as a medium for learning vocabulary in VII D at MTsN 4 Banjarmasin.
2. Explain VII D students' perception at MTsN 4 Banjarmasin about the use of the Drops Application in learning vocabulary.

### **C. Significance of Study**

This research is expected to provide

1. For teachers: This research can provide inspiration for teachers by using the Drops application as a learning medium, especially in teaching vocabulary.
2. For students: This research can help students to be more interested in learning and increasing vocabulary by using the Drops application.
3. For readers: This research can help readers find information about using the Drops application as a learning medium in learning vocabulary.

### **D. Definition of Key Term**

1. Drops application

Drops application is the one of language learning apps developed for vocabulary learning. This application has many choices of languages that can be learned, and has various topics of discussion according to the level. Drops uses word games, pictures, colors, sounds and spellings that can provide a more enjoyable learning experience.

2. Learning media

Learning media is a tool used by teachers and students to help them achieve learning goals (Ediyani, et al., 2020). Media can help teachers deliver

lessons as a stimulus to the topics to be taught, the use of media can also help students understand learning better in an interesting and fun way. The media that will be discussed in this research is the drop application which is used in teaching vocabulary to students.

### 3. Vocabulary

Vocabulary is a collection of words of the language. Vocabulary is one of the elements of language that is very important to know when learners want to know a language. Vocabulary is something that must be known before learning the skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking.