

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of Study

A language is a system used to communicate more efficiently to transfer data to others. In culture, this is the one feature of language for expressions to connect well with other people. (Keraf, 2005) offers two understandings of language. The first is the notion of language as a means of communication between members of the public in the form of a sound-symbol created by said human being. Second, Language is a communication system that uses symbols vocal (a speech sound) which are arbitrary.

Language is also used as a teaching tool in the learning process. Through the effectiveness of Language, students can improve their abilities, broaden their thinking, and develop their creativity. So, Language is the most important in daily life because people can interact through it with other people around the world, especially in English. English, as a Language in the world, is very important for learning because it can be used to provide or receive information and development education and technology. To prepare English learning for young learners early is very important because their brains and memories are ready and most of them can learn very well. And students must master four English skills to able to communicate effectively. These four skills are Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. At the same time, these four skills also have some aspects one of them is Vocabulary.

Vocabulary is an important thing to know or to learn the English Language. Vocabulary is a language and words used or understood by a person or group of people. And this vocabulary is the basic Language aspect that is mastered before mastering English skills. As stated by (Nathaya, 2013) Vocabulary is one of the important factors in all Language teaching; students must continually learn words as they learn the structure and as they practice sound system "sometimes it's difficult to determine the words that students related to vocabularies such as: meaning,

spoken/written forms, collocations, connotations, grammatical behavior, etc. (Linse, 2005) Vocabulary is one of the Languages that should be realized or understood by Language learners. To communicate well, vocabulary is a very important role in the teaching and learning process. Teachers and students communicate in the classroom during the learning process to transfer knowledge. Students communicate as they discuss or play to exchange ideas, information, and debate. Through communicate allows someone to share knowledge, information with others and can express themselves. A human can communicate well if they have sufficient vocabulary.

According, (Honby, 1995) Vocabulary is all the words that a person knows or uses and it is all the words in a particular Language. So, we can see that Vocabulary is all the words in a language that is familiar and used by a person to communicate with each other especially in the learning process at school.

Based on observations will do by researchers in the eighth grade of SMP Swasta Amalyatul Huda Medan, the most difficult language skills are vocabulary. There are some difficulties with vocabulary; First, students have the most difficulty remembering or understanding vocabulary so that students cannot master vocabulary too much. Second, students do not know the type of vocabulary. So, the researcher will test the students so that they play a role in vocabulary mastery. Then researchers also occasionally make games that can hone students' vocabulary. Students must know the type of vocabulary in English. In this study, the researcher will explain the types of vocabulary, namely Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives, and Adverbs. By explaining the types of vocabulary, students will find it easier to categorize parts of the vocabulary and they will find it easier to master the vocabulary. This research needs to be done because the vocabulary mastery of the eighth grade of SMP Swasta Amalyatul Huda Medan, is still relatively low. Therefore, the researcher analyzes what causes low vocabulary mastery and the researcher needs to know where the students' difficulties in mastering vocabulary are located.

1.2 The Problem of Study

Based on the background of the study, the problem of study that can be identified are:

1. How is the student's ability to understand the vocabulary of eight grades in junior high school?
2. What are the student's difficulties in the vocabulary of eight grades in junior high school?

1.3 The Objective of Study

Based on the problem of the study, the objective of the study is as follows:

1. To find out student's ability to understand the vocabulary of eight grades at junior high school.
2. To find out the student's difficulties in the vocabulary of eight grades at junior high school.

1.4 Scope of the Study

The researchers focus on an analysis of vocabulary mastery. The researchers made the research subject with a total of 20 eighth grades students of SMP Swasta Amalyatul Huda.

1.5 Significance of the Study

This study will be a benefit:

1. Theoretical benefit

It can be used as academic media for education. And the results of the research paper enrich vocabulary, especially in English teaching.

2. Practical benefit

a. Teacher

The findings of this study can help teachers improve students' vocabulary in the learning process.

b. Student

The finding of this study can improve the quality of vocabulary mastery in the English teaching and learning process for students.

c. Next researcher

The findings of this study hopefully become one expected to be a useful reference for conducted similar research in vocabulary mastery in the teaching and learning process of English.