

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 The Background of the Study

English is an international language that plays an important role in the world as a communication tool. It can be used as a means of oral and written communication. English is important to learn, because English is used in many countries over the world and widely used in many sectors such as information, trade, education, etc. One of the considerations or ways for students to master the four skills in learning English is to master vocabulary. Without learning and understanding the vocabulary, learning language will never be successful. According to David Wilkins (2002), “Without grammar very little can be conveyed, without vocabulary *nothing* can be conveyed”.

Zimmerman cited in Coady and Huckin (1998) says that vocabulary is central to language and of critical importance to the typical language learning. In order to make it easier to learn all the skills, must have many vocabulary because it will greatly support our skill. In learning English, vocabulary is important to understand by students to facilitate their learning process. A lot of students problems in vocabulary mastery. Activities in classroom, they are not enthusiastic about learning, they are afraid to read and spell words for fear of being wrong, they do not know the meaning of every word they read and hear. However, the main problem is done by students, they are lazy to carry a dictionary and they don't try to memorize vocabulary. For them it is difficult to memorize it.

Teaching vocabulary in junior high school in seventh grade is not easy. Most students are not motivated to deepen vocabulary in English lessons. Students just want to play. In their person the future has not been directed to where and their character still requires recovery from children to adolescents. Based on the writer's experience when conducting research in junior high school, and based on interviews conducted by the writer and various data that has been done from junior high school, the writer found various obstacles, one of them most of them still lacking English vocabulary, and when asked some of them do not like English because it is difficult, on the contrary some of them like English but they are difficult to express English for fear of being wrong. This problem occurs because most teachers still use old way to teach English vocabulary just reading and translating, after that is collected to the

front of the class, the teacher only gives assignments without deepening the material and memorizing the vocabulary.

Therefore, increasing students' vocabulary mastery is very important so students can speak English fluently. Besides, lack of vocabulary mastery will cause difficulties in speaking English. Students will be able to master vocabulary through the learning process, and teachers can teach vocabulary using a variety of methods. Harmer says that there are various ways a teacher can explain the meaning of words when teaching vocabulary and this should be a major part of the teaching performance. Students need to see words and hear how they are used. So that students are more interested in learning English, especially vocabulary, teachers need to use teaching techniques called word matching.

The word matching technique is one of the learning methods, where students find or match pairs of words provided. This technique is a kind of game where students must find pairs of words. In the word matching technique using synonyms and antonyms, the teacher provides cards containing English words, and cards containing antonyms and synonyms of the words. The word matching technique with synonyms and antonyms will make students understanding and knowledge more extensive and improve because one word contains several vocabularies.

According to Manik, Christiani : 2016 states that," word Matching is suitable for someone and something to make or to see a connection or relation between two people or things by sentences". This technique has the following advantages:

1. All students can be directly involved when answering questions that are given to them.
2. Through this technique students will be active and can increase students creativity through card matching.
3. This technique will help students not get bored when learning vocabulary during the teaching learning process.
4. This technique makes the class more interesting.

In teaching vocabulary using this word matching technique will make the teaching and learning process easier, when students are interested in learning then all their concentration will be focused on the lessons given by the teacher. Ur (2009: 72) says that Matching items are quicker and easier to compose than multiple – choice". Based on the problem above, the writer aims to research how to IMPROVING STUDENTS'

# VOCABULARY MASTERY BY USING WORD MATCHING TECHNIQUE OF THE SEVENTH GRADE AT SMP TD PARDEDE FOUNDATION.

## **1.2 Problems of the Study**

Based on the background of study above, the research's problem of this study was formulated as the following “ does word matching technique improve the students' vocabulary at seventh grade at SMP TD PARDEDE FOUNDATION?”

## **1.3 Objective of the Study**

Like the previous explanation regarding the researcher problem. The researcher aims to improve the mastery of seventh grade vocabulary in SMP TD PARDEDE FOUNDATION by using word matching techniques during the learning process.

## **1.4 Scope of the Study**

The scope of this research is focused on the use of word matching technique to improve the students' vocabulary mastery at seventh grade of SMP TD PARDEDE FOUNDATION

## **1.5 Significance of the Study**

The findings of this study would provide valuable input for:

- a. The researcher. Through the results of this study, the researcher hoped to develop teacher skills using strategies to teach students' vocabulary and use the best methods in teaching English vocabulary to students so that it makes students more interested in learning English vocabulary.
- b. English teachers. This vocabulary technique was needed by English teacher in the learning process to improve students vocabulary.
- c. Students. This vocabulary teaching technique helps students learn English, because it makes students more interested, directed, and motivated in learning and improve their vocabulary.
- d. Through this research, readers or other researchers can used to teach vocabulary, and who are interested in doing futher research using to this research.