

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Research Background

Vocabulary mastery is an important aspect of language, because it can affect one's understanding of the message conveyed. A wide vocabulary can help someone understand the meaning of the words used in communication and convey messages clearly and precisely. In addition, mastery of vocabulary can also help someone in learning, especially in understanding complex reading content. This is in line with the results of a study conducted by the National Reading Panel (2000), which found that vocabulary mastery is one of the main factors in good reading skills. However, in the era of globalization and technological advances, the importance of mastering vocabulary is not only limited to one's native language. English, as an international language that is commonly used, also requires adequate vocabulary mastery. According to Gairns and Redman (2011), mastery of English vocabulary is one of the keys to success in understanding and using English well. Nation (2001) also suggests that good mastery of English vocabulary was facilitate communication and understanding of English texts. Therefore, it is very important for students to develop a good command of English vocabulary, because this was have a positive impact on students' ability to understand English texts and communicate effectively (Nation, 2001).

Vocabulary mastery is an important aspect of language, because it can affect understanding of the message conveyed. A broad vocabulary can help one understand the meaning of the words used in communication and convey messages clearly and precisely. In addition, mastery of vocabulary can also help someone in learning, especially in understanding complex reading content (McKeown & Beck, 2004). Under ideal conditions, students who have good vocabulary mastery was be able to overcome various challenges associated with understanding English and have the ability to identify, understand, and use vocabulary appropriately in various communication contexts (Graves,

2006). Students with good vocabulary mastery was also have high confidence in communicating in English and be able to use various words and phrases appropriately, so that the message to be conveyed can be clearly understood by listeners or readers (Laufer & Nation, 1999). In an ideal learning environment, students was engage in various activities that promote vocabulary development, such as reading diverse reading materials, participating in discussions, and interacting with native English speakers (Paribakht & Wesche, 1999). Their communication skills in English was give them an edge in learning and interacting in this increasingly connected global era (Gairns & Redman, 2011).

However, factual conditions were found which indicated that there were problems in the mastery of English vocabulary by students in English Village, Parit Baru village. It can be seen that students experience difficulties when they want to express the meaning of vocabulary in English. Their inability to communicate effectively in English is considered to be the main cause of this problem. When the researchers observed the students' vocabulary in English, they found that their vocabulary was still lacking, especially in terms of words related to everyday life. In addition, students also experience difficulties in adapting their expressions to the use of the English context. This shows that students do not have adequate understanding of the meaning of words in English, and lack of vocabulary is a major factor of this problem.

The causes of students' English vocabulary mastery problems can come from several factors. According to Ary (2018), factors such as uninteresting learning methods, lack of use of English vocabulary in everyday life, and students' lack of understanding of the meaning of vocabulary can affect students' low vocabulary mastery. Therefore, efforts are needed to improve students' mastery of English vocabulary in English Village Parit Baru. One way that can be done is to develop learning methods that are more interesting and oriented towards everyday life, so that students can become more accustomed to using English vocabulary in the right context. In addition, students also need to be given a deeper understanding of the meaning of

English vocabulary through various activities such as active reading, writing and speaking English. With appropriate and targeted efforts, it is hoped that students in English Village Parit Baru can improve their mastery of English vocabulary and be able to communicate more effectively in that language.

To overcome the problems experienced by students of English Village in Parit Baru Village, the researcher intends to implement the singing method as a teaching medium which is expected to increase the English vocabulary of students in Parit Baru Village. For this reason, a solution that can be applied is to use singing activities in learning English. According to research conducted by Ezeife and Okorie (2020), singing activities can help improve students' mastery of English vocabulary. This is because singing activities can make the learning process more fun and effective, so that it can increase students' interest and motivation to learn English vocabulary. By implementing singing activities in learning English, students can learn English vocabulary in a fun and interactive way. In addition, by exposing students to English vocabulary through singing activities, students can more easily remember the vocabulary and apply it in everyday life. What makes singing activities special is that these activities involve students' emotions and memories in learning. According to research, music has a positive influence on learning ability and memory, because music can stimulate emotions and memory in the brain (Juslin & Västfjäll, 2008). In addition, singing activities can make learning more fun and creative. In learning English, students can learn new vocabulary through the lyrics of songs they like. This makes learning more memorable and can help increase students' interest in learning English (Gromova & Sariçoban, 2017). Therefore, the use of singing activities can be an effective solution to improve students' mastery of English vocabulary in English Village Parit Baru.

B. Research Problems

Based on the background explanation above, the research problem can be formulated as follows:

"How can the singing activities improve English vocabulary mastery for students at the English Village of Parit Baru?"

C. Research Purposes

This study aims to find out how the singing activities can improve English vocabulary mastery in the English village of Parit Baru Village, Pontianak.

D. Research Terminology and Limitations

1. Terminology:

a. Improving

Improving is a process of improving or enhancing something. In this study improving means focusing efforts to improve or improve students' ability to understand and master English vocabulary. The goal is to help students understand and memorize English vocabulary better, so as to help them improve their overall language skills.

b. English Vocabularies

Vocabularies are terms that refer to vocabulary in a language. In this study, English vocabulary was be improved through singing activities.

c. Singing

Singing is the activity of singing a song or chant. In this study, singing is a method to improve understanding of English vocabulary.

The function of the singing method in this study is to help students memorize English vocabulary more easily and quickly. Through singing activities, students can practice and hone their language skills, especially in terms of understanding and memorizing vocabulary.

The procedure for singing activities in this study may involve several things, such as choosing a song according to the level of difficulty of the students, teaching students to understand the lyrics and meaning of the words in the song, and providing repeated exercises to make it easier to understand and memorize vocabulary. These activity

procedures may also involve fun and interactive learning activities, such as music games and group activities to reinforce students' social interactions.

d. English Village of Parit Baru

English Village of Parit Baru is a program or activity for learning English which is carried out in a village called Parit Baru. The aim of this program is to provide opportunities for students to learn English using different and fun methods, such as through singing activities. By participating in this program, students are expected to be able to improve their English skills, especially in terms of vocabulary.

2. Limitations:

The increase in students' English vocabulary in this study was limited by the following conditions:

- a. The vocabulary given is focused on vocabulary that is often used in everyday life.
- b. The research was only conducted on students from English Village Parit Baru.
- c. In the learning process only use the singing method.

E. Significances of the Research

1. Practical significances

- a. For students: Improving their English vocabulary through singing activities can improve their language skills and overall confidence in speaking and understanding English.
- b. For teachers: This research can provide practical insights and strategies for teachers to apply in their classrooms, making teaching and learning more interesting and effective.
- c. For schools: This research can contribute to schools' efforts to improve students' English skills and establish strong English programs.

d. For other researchers: This research can add to existing knowledge in the field of language teaching and learning and provide a potential reference for future research on similar topics.

2. Theoretical significances

This study examines the effectiveness of using singing methods in language teaching. The results of this study can provide useful information for teachers and policy makers in the field of language teaching. This can also provide insight for further research in the same field and the results of this research can provide new and useful information for teaching English.

F. Action Hypothesis

The use of singing activities as a learning method was significantly improve students' mastery of English vocabulary in English Village Parit Baru. This hypothesis assumes that through singing activities, students was be involved in repeating and contextually using English vocabulary, thus strengthening their understanding and mastery of the vocabulary. Thus, it is expected that the use of singing activities as a learning method was have a significant positive impact on increasing students' English vocabulary in English Village Parit Baru.

