

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

In Indonesia, English is the first foreign language. Many schools or courses include English as one of the subjects. English has four skills: speaking, reading, listening, and writing, and vocabulary as a component can be used to improve all of these skills. A lack of vocabulary is one of the most common issues students faced when learning and mastering English. One of the most common challenges students have when learning and mastering English is a lack of vocabulary. They are apprehensive about learning English because they want to master all skills in the language, including speaking, listening, reading, and writing. All English skills are built on a foundation of vocabulary. A group of user communities construct a vocabulary by combining letters to form words. Meanwhile, vocabulary can be viewed as words taught in a foreign language, according to Penny (1991:60) in Julita (2011)<sup>1</sup>. In a nutshell, vocabulary is a single letter that is translated into words in a foreign language.

Vocabulary is a tool for understanding and mastering English. Vocabulary is a key component in improving all aspects of English. Indeed, understanding language is a challenging task; it is not as simple back then, and it required a process. There are numerous elements that make it difficult for kids to master vocabulary.

First, kids' difficulty in comprehending and remembering words. Many pupils find it difficult to communicate because their language is limited.

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<sup>1</sup>Julita. *Improving Students' Vocabulary Through Clustering Technique At The Third Year of SMPN 1 Ladong (A Classroom Action Research)*. Unpublished Thesis of The Degree of Master of English Language Teaching. Makassar : Alauddin State Islamic University of Makassar. 2011.

Second, the lack of media use forces people to rely solely on voice as a mode of communication. The kids is uninterested and had trouble understanding the language.

Third, studying English was stilted or serious, causing students to become unhappy or fearful of expanding their vocabulary.

Fourth, kids' vocabulary is memorized due to a lack of control. It was easy for them to forget what words they had been taught or learned.

MTs Ubudiyah Pangkalan Brandanis a popular junior high school in Pangkalan Brandan. It is well-known among other schools. That school's quality is good, without a doubt, match its status. In fact, several issues remained, such as the students' capacity to communicate in English. When the researcher taught English there, he discovered that the students' competence was still low, and that increasing their vocabulary would require work. The kids were completely speechless, and it was difficult for them to say or write anything concerning terminology. The researcher did notice, however, that the students have the potential and ability to expand their vocabulary.

Applying Visual Media is one of the solutions. The use of visual media in vocabulary instruction will make it easier for pupils to comprehend, memorize, and be interested in learning vocabulary.

Visual media, such as photographs, posters, cartoons, and other forms of visual media, can be used to teach and acquire language. They were supposed to be more engaged and active in the process of acquiring vocabulary by using visual media.

Reference to the description above, then the researcher is interesting to lift a title "Improving Students' Vocabulary By Using Visual Media at MTs Ubudiyah Pangkalan Brandan".

## B. Problem Identification

Based on the background study above, there were two factors that affect student's vocabulary mastery: They were easy to forget the memorized vocabulary, and the students get bored in memorizing vocabulary monotonously.

### C. The Limitation of the Study

Based on the problem that the researcher have seen from the school that kids face in the classroom in learning English,. Adjective, person or profession, food, and verb are among them.

### D. Problem Statements

Based on the issues raised earlier, the researcher poses the following research question:

- 1) How was the implementation of Visual Media in improving the students' vocabulary at MTs Ubudiyah Pangkalan Brandan?
- 2) How was the improvement of students' vocabulary through Visual Media at MTs Ubudiyah Pangkalan Brandan?
- 3) Do visual media improve the student's vocabulary mastery?

### E. The Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the backdrop authors conducting this research were:

- 1) To get an idea of the response of students on the usage of visual media to increase their vocabulary.
- 2) To know the extent mastery vocabulary of English students of MTs Ubudiyah Pangkalan Brandan.
- 3) To prove that visual media could applied in learning vocabulary to increase ability of the students.

### F. The Significance of the Study

The findings of this investigation, which is conducted by the background author, would be relevant for:

#### 1. Teachers

Teachers acquire instructional strategies in teaching vocabulary that vary through the use of visual media, and the problems that were discovered throughout the process of learning English vocabulary could be overcome through the implementation of this classroom action study.

#### 2. Students

Because they were able to learn using entertaining and easy-to-understand objects that were explored via visual media, the findings of this study will be highly valuable for students to expand their vocabulary without recognizing it.