

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Vocabulary is also known as the common words that is used by particular person. It needs to be improved to support the process of communication to the society, especially for students. Vocabulary itself has been a center of learning the language. Vocabulary is one of linguistic features which influences the communicate competence. Teaching vocabulary is important to make students become more productive in applying the language that is learnt. The lack of mastering vocabulary will affect the students applying the language passively. It means that the students need to mastering the English vocabulary before mastering the language. They will be able to express their ideas or opinions clearly and effectively if they have mastered the vocabulary.

In this case, teachers have a big responsibility to teach vocabulary to the students in simple and easy ways. The technique and method should be acceptable to the students in different grades. Not only how to teach but teachers should be able to improve the students' ability and desire in learning English. The target is how to make the students express their knowledge and all of their understanding easily. When the students have mastering larger vocabulary, it will also help them to understand more of what they read and hear.

Learning vocabulary can be more effective if it has the relation to the context of learners world, so it will be more easier to do the practice or to do the communication.¹ Teachers have so many options and ways to improve students' vocabulary, the deal is teacher should be able to choose the appropriate one. The other considerations are

¹Kasihani Suyanto, (2007), English for Young Learners: Melejitkan Potensi Anak Melalui English Class yang Fun, Asyik dan Menarik, Jakarta: PT Bumi Aksara, hal. 47

the teacher should have mastering techniques in teaching and learning process. As we can see, the students' desire in learning English language is lower than we can imagine. They are feeling burden in understanding English language. They have set in their minds that English is kind of subject which is hard to learn. So, teacher need to find a way to break this mind set, and help students to build their potentions.

Common students are interest in learning in a group than learning individually. Teachers should utilize this chance to build up students' desire to learn. Game could be considered to make the students work together in their teams. It also can be effective way in teaching vocabulary. Game will break the students mind set that learning English should be monotone and flat.

Race to the Board game is one of the game that can be use in teaching vocabulary. The object of this game is to write the words or sentences, such as a thing, phrase, title any other objects. In this game, students will be challenged by thinking and memorizing the vocabulary in their minds as fast as they can. They also have responsibility in taking their team to reach the highest score. In the other side, Race to the Board game will improve the students' ability in memorizing the vocabulary.

To build students' ability in memorizing vocabulary, teacher could start with teaching specific vocabulary such as countable noun vocabulary. Students will not find any difficulties in memorizing countable noun vocabulary because they can also find this thing around them. Their eyes contact to the things around them will increase their memorizing ability of the vocabulary faster. They will not upseting their minds with the abstract noun vocabulary instead. However, when the students have mastering this level of memorizing countable noun vocabulary, teacher should increase the level of the difficulty by giving the medium one.

Therefore, based on the facts above, the researcher motivated to improve students' vocabulary of the Mts. Al-Washliyah Tembung by using Race to the Board game in academic

year of 2018/2019. The researcher choose eight grade of Mts. Al-Washliyah as the object of research. As the observation that has been done by the researcher that students in this class have difficulty in memorizing countable noun vocabulary.

B.Statement of the Problem

The statement of the problems can be determined as follow:

1. Students are less in mastering vocabulary
2. Students have less interest in learning English vocabulary
3. Students have difficulty in memorizing vocabulary
4. Teacher should start learning vocabulary by teaching simple vocabulary such as countable noun vocabulary

C. Research Questions

Based on the background of the study above, the research problems can be formulated as follow:

1. How is the implementation of Race to the Board Game to improve students' ability in memorizing countable noun vocabulary?
2. How is the improvement of students' ability in memorizing countable noun vocabulary by implementing Race to the Board Game?

D. Purposes of Study

Based on the formulation of the study above, the purposes of this research as follow:

1. To describe the implementation of Race to the Board game to improve students' ability in memorizing countable noun vocabulary.
2. To describe whether the students' ability in memorizing countable noun vocabulary improved after being taught by implementing Race to the Board game.

E. Significances of Study

The result of this research is expected to be beneficial for English students, especially in teaching English. In addition, this result of research is expected to be the guidance for everyone in constructing and using games to teach and learn vocabulary. Besides, it was expected that teachers will adopt this game in learning and teaching process.

F. Limitation of the Study

In this research, the focus of the investigation is on improving students' ability in memorizing countable noun vocabulary through Race to the Board game. The limitation of this study is just to find out the students' ability in memorizing countable noun vocabulary.