

## **CHAPTER 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

In this chapter the researcher presented the background of this research, the research question of this research, the purpose of this research that is in line with the research question, the research significance, limitation of the research, and also terminology in this research.

#### **A. Research Background**

English is a language that is very widely studied throughout the world. Almost all countries learned English because in this era the most important language that needed to be learned is English. The importance of English related to English is the language of communication between each country. English is an international language that is often employed as a second language by every country. Likewise, in Indonesia, English is the language that is used after the mother tongue and Indonesian. So that way learning English is important for every people in this era. Learning a language is complicated, particularly, it is a foreign language that we rarely hear every day. But it needed to emphasize that English is a language that should be learned in this era, as a necessity. In this era, everything would be more developed, as well as the language used. As a student in the current era, students are indeed required to learn English, because English was a foreign language that is used as a means of communication after the mother tongue and Indonesian itself, English is also the language used as an international

language and a means of communication with other countries. So, it is very important to learn English in this era.

Although English is very important to learn, in SMPN 04 Dedai which was this research conducted, a lot of students were still not interesting in learning English. Some factors make students did not interest in learning English, such as they were not motivated in learning, they felt English is a difficult language to learn, and also the techniques or methods that used in the classroom is not appropriate. The teacher should understand the needs of the students and the teacher should make the students interested to learn English. First, in teaching English, teachers should make the students understand what English itself is. The students should know that there were four skills in teaching and learning English, such as speaking, writing, reading, and listening. If the students would like to master English, the students should master these four skills. To master all of the skills in English the students need to master the basic component in English first, that is vocabulary. Vocabulary was the most important aspect that the students should learn first. If students need to master vocabulary, it will be easy for students to master four skills in English. The most important component in teaching and learning English was about vocabulary and vocabulary should be taught first.

When learning a language, vocabulary is the main component that students should master first. Learning a language is inextricably linked to learning vocabulary. Students cannot master a language without first mastering the vocabulary. Learning a language means learning vocabulary,

the students should learn the vocabulary from the language itself to master its language. The basic step of learning a language is learning vocabulary, without mastering the vocabulary it will be impossible to master the language. If students have learned a lot of vocabulary from a language itself, it will be easy for them to be able to learn and master the language. Thus, it could be said that learning vocabulary is an important part of learning a language.

The students need to learn vocabulary because it being a necessity when learning a language means that we also have to learn the vocabulary of that language and besides that, students will get many benefits from learning the vocabulary. First, the benefits of learning the vocabulary is vocabulary need to support all four skills and also grammar. When the students listen to something in English with a collection of vocabulary that the students have understood, the students could be easily get the meaning of what their hear. Likewise, with speaking, when the students were going to convey an idea or a concept then the students need a collection of vocabulary that they could choose to convey it. With a collection of vocabulary that the students master, the process of reading will be fun because the students have understood every word used. When writing the students could use the vocabulary collection to make up the ideas the students have. With excellent vocabulary mastery the students also will find it easier to use the structure and functions of grammar. So, vocabulary is very useful in helping students to master the four skills and grammar in English. Second, learning vocabulary is very useful to help us

communicate with a good vocabulary mastery, the students will easily communicate with other people if they have mastered the vocabulary, with a lot of vocabulary the students have it will help them communicate well. Third, with vocabulary mastery, children could master English easily, it could be concluded that vocabulary is the beginning to facilitate students in understanding and applying English in the world of education and communication.

In learning English, vocabulary was one of the most substantial things that students should master it well. Vocabulary could help students master all English skills as vocabulary has a great influence on all English skills. When the students want to master all of the skills in English the students should master the vocabulary first, the students need to master the vocabulary well because all skills in English are very closely related to vocabulary, vocabulary impact all of the skills in English. When students want to read something, students need to know the full meaning of the words in the text, so it means students need to master the vocabulary to help students read and help students understand the meaning of the text. When the students want to speak, the students should have a lot of vocabulary in their mind, so the students could speak fluently and correctly. When the students want to write something also the students should master the vocabulary well, so that the students could write everything that their want. The last the students should master the vocabulary well to help the students in listening ability, the students should master the vocabulary well so the students could have a good

listening ability, if the students master the vocabulary well, so when the students listen something the students could know and understand what other people say. It could be sum up that if students want to master English, students should first master the vocabulary.

The explanation above showed that, the most important thing that students should master first is the vocabulary. Students should have a good command of vocabulary because without a command of the vocabulary or if students have poor vocabulary fluency, students will have difficulty speaking, writing, reading and listening. If the students have a good command of the vocabulary, the students could acquire a different skill in English. Four English skills include speaking, writing, reading and listening, which are based on the vocabulary. The first step in learning English is learning vocabulary. Learn the vocabulary well and try to master the vocabulary well so that it is easy to master another skill in English.

Vocabulary is the basic step in learning a language, without mastering the vocabulary it is impossible to master the language itself. Vocabulary is a collection of millions of words in a language. Vocabulary is a list of words that a person knows. Students need to have and understand a lot of vocabulary of this language to master this language. Vocabulary is the basic element in language learning that allows students to master the language themselves. If the students master the vocabulary well, they will easily master its language. Vocabulary is an important element needed to master a language. Vocabulary needed to master a language because vocabulary is a

support to the four skills in English. Mastery of the vocabulary is really needed in all skills of English, when students want to speak, when students want to write, when students want to read and also listen, students should have a good vocabulary to support them in the four skills of the master in the English.

The importance of vocabulary learning is to help students master the language on their own. However, sometimes students find it difficult to learn vocabulary because students face some problems while learning vocabulary. There are some problems we will find when we are talking about the students' vocabulary mastery especially in SMPN 04 Dedai, such as: students lack vocabulary, students are bored of learning vocabulary, students have difficulty memorizing words, students feel lazy and inactive in study activities, and students feel that vocabulary is not real, it is important. Vocabularies still a problem in teaching learning English in this school. There were also some problems faced by the students in learning vocabulary in this school. First is because the mindset of the students that they feel learning vocabulary is something bored. Second, the students feel difficult in memorize the words. Third, students feel lazy in adding vocabulary because students' vocabulary mastery is still lacking. The students also not active to participate during the class, they cannot accept the lesson well. Sometimes the students also cannot give their full attention to the lesson. Vocabulary mastery is still being a big problem in learning English in this school. So, the teacher should change the students' mindset about learning vocabulary. The

teachers should emphasize that learning vocabulary is the first and the most important thing in learning a language. When the students have mastered the vocabulary well then, the students will easily in learn a language, especially when the students learn English, where English has a lot of vocabularies. It is easier for the students to learn the language such as speaking, writing, reading and listening when they have a lot of vocabularies.

Vocabulary is also related to memorize and understanding of the students about the words. Vocabulary is one of the problems in teaching and learning English. As mentioned above, students often face various difficulties in vocabulary learning, such as the students feel difficult in remembering the words, students usually lazy try to add their vocabulary because they feel that learning vocabulary is something bored and also the students cannot accept the lesson well and they do not active to participate during the lesson. Because of that, the vocabulary mastery of the students is very low. It is important that the teacher knows the problems that the students face, the problems that the students face, the teacher could help the students solve their problems and the teacher could also decide what actions to take in the classroom to improve students' capabilities.

Some problems above also occurred in SMPN 04 Dedai there were also problems in teaching learning English. The students' English skill was very low, they have low ability in every skill of English, such as speaking, reading, writing and also listening. After observed the problems, the cause of the students have poor ability in English was because they do not have

enough vocabulary, it could be said that the students have poor vocabulary proficiency. In this case, the students should first improve their vocabulary mastery to increase their English ability. The students' vocabulary mastery in this school was very low. Some problems in teaching vocabulary in this school are the students are lazy to learn the vocabulary because they feel bored during the class. The students feel difficult in memorize the words. The students were not interested in learning vocabulary and did not pay their full attention to the lesson, so the vocabulary process cannot go smoothly. Students also feel that they do not understand the material and do not actively participate in the class. This situation occurred because the technique or strategy used in the classroom is not suitable for the students.

In fact, the vocabulary problem was not the only problem that students at this school faced while learning English. The biggest problem was students had little knowledge of any domain of the English language. The reading, writing, listening and speaking skills of the students at this school are very low. While reading, students cannot understand the content of the reading text, the students have difficulty understanding the content of the reading text, and they have difficulty translating the meaning word by word in a text because the students do not master the vocabulary. In writing ability the students were consider have poor ability, students still couldn't write a paragraph well. Students found it was difficult to write because they did not master the vocabulary, it was make them confused about what to write. The lack of vocabulary mastered by the students prevented them from developing

the content of their writing. Students still lack speaking skills. The students in this class speak English very passively, the students are afraid to speak because they lack vocabulary. Students cannot say what they want to say. Students find it difficult to speak English because most of the time students cannot speak the English they want to say. Sometimes there are many ideas in the student's mind, but due to lack of the vocabulary, the student will calm down because the students do not know how to express what comes to mind. Even while listening, it is really difficult for students to hear new words that they may not be familiar with. Students will get confused while listening because for them the words they hear are new words that they are not familiar with. Due to the limited vocabulary that students know, it is very difficult for students to develop their listening skills. Even when translating, students have a hard time translating words. The limited vocabulary that students know means that students cannot translate words into English.

From the above problems, it could be seen that the cause of the problem due to the lack of vocabulary mastery of the students. Lack of mastery of student vocabulary is the main problem resulting in students' lack of skills in all four English language skills, including the ability to translate. So, to improve students' English skills in this school, the teacher should first improve the students' vocabulary mastery. If students' vocabulary mastery is not improved first, the students' English skills will not be improved either. It is clear that the ability of students in these four levels of English is poor as their vocabulary proficiency is also very low, so if their vocabulary

proficiency is very low, students will have a hard time learning English. Therefore, the researcher in this research focused on improving students' vocabulary mastery.

According to the above explanation, students need to improve their vocabulary mastery, as vocabulary has a good influence to improve students' English proficiency. Therefore, students should keep an eye on their vocabulary mastery and students should try to improve their vocabulary mastery. Improving student vocabulary is not easy. The teacher should design the method or techniques that suitable to the students and also suitable to solve the problems in the class. The techniques that will be applied in the classroom should be able to help teacher in teaching and also should be able to help students in learning, so, it could be said that techniques are an effective technique. With that in mind, it is important to use a new technique or medium to help students solve their vocabulary problems. In this case, the researcher chose the anagram as one of the relaxing ways to solve the above problem.

The reason why the researcher is interesting to do the research in SMPN 04 Dedai is because the researcher is interested in improving the vocabulary mastery of the students at this school. The problems of teaching and learning English in this school are also of interest to the researcher. The researcher wants to help students solve their English learning problem. The researcher also wants to help the teacher develop the correct techniques that can be used in the classroom to solve the problems of teaching and learning English in

that school. The researcher also expected and believes that the implementation of anagram techniques can improve students' vocabulary mastery.

In SMPN 04 Dedai, English lesson was still a problem for most students. The students think that learning English is a difficult and unpleasant subject. So, the teacher should try to change the mindset of students about learning English. The teacher should try to make students interested in learning English first, so that students will more easily accept the lesson when students feel interested in the lesson. To make students feel interested and enjoy during the class, the teacher needs to apply the right technique. Where the technique used should be able to solve several problems at the same time regarding learning vocabulary in the classroom. The techniques used should be able to cover two important things, namely, improving the teaching and learning activities in the classroom and improving the vocabulary mastery of the students. It is important to note that the techniques used should be adapted to the abilities of the student. Based on the abilities of the students in this class, the techniques that the teacher can use should be simple and easy techniques that can be understood by the students, but should be able to interest and enjoy the students during the class. The techniques that the teacher uses when teaching in the classroom determine the success of the teaching and learning process. Proper techniques will improve the results of the teaching and learning process.

The teacher needs to develop the proper techniques that can help students teach the learning process. The teacher should help students to cope with their profound difficulty in memorizing vocabulary. Therefore, the teacher has to find the right technique to use in class. The background of this research is to show that the anagram technique can improve students' vocabulary mastery. Anagram is the technique that was used in this research to help the students in master the vocabulary. Anagrams are considered helpful in solving all vocabulary problems in this class, anagrams can help teachers teach vocabulary easily and at the same time help students learn vocabulary in a fun way. The anagram technique is a very suitable technique for teaching vocabulary in this class, as it is a simple, easy, relaxed and fun technique that is easy for students to understand. This technique is a technique that is best suited to the abilities of the students of this school. This technique was chosen because it is adjusted to the abilities of students in this school, so that by using this technique students will not find it difficult to adapt to new techniques used in the classroom, because in concept this technique is a very simple and easy technique.

According to the problems that the researcher found in this school, Anagram is the best technique and appropriate technique that can be used in the classroom to solve students' problems. Anagram can help students to master vocabulary more easily. Anagram allows students to memorize the word faster than before. You can feel comfortable and happy during the class and you can easily learn the vocabulary with the help of anagram. Teaching

vocabulary using anagrams can improve students' vocabulary mastery. The researcher assured that implementing this technique in the classroom while teaching vocabulary through anagrams can improve students' vocabulary mastery. This technique could motivate students become active participants during class.

Anagram allowed students to improve their vocabulary mastery. The anagram technique is effective in helping students memorize the word because it makes it easier for them to memorize the word. They can be happy and excited during class because by using the anagram they can learn while playing. Students can improve their vocabulary in a playful way and will no longer get bored in class. Based on the problem that the students faced in this school, the researcher decided to use Anagram technique to apply in the classroom. So, the best solution to solve the students' vocabulary problems in this school is applying the Anagram techniques in the classroom.

## **B. Research Question**

Based on the background of this research, the research questions are as follows:

1. How can Anagram techniques improve vocabulary mastery of seventh grade students in SMPN 04 Dedai?
2. How can Anagram techniques improve the students' participation in learning activity of seventh grade students in SMPN 04 Dedai?

### **C. Research Purposes**

In line with the research questions of this research, the purposes of this research are as follow:

1. To recognize the improvement of students' vocabulary mastery through the implementation of Anagram technique.
2. To describe the improvement of students' participation in learning activities through the implementation of Anagram technique.

### **D. Research Significance**

Significance of this research is supposed to be useful:

- a. For students

Through the Anagram technique, the researcher expected that all students can improve their vocabulary mastery. Anagram technique can make all of the student actively in mastering the material because the students will be asked to rearrange the words one by one and it can make the students automatically memorize the words. Anagram techniques make it easy for students to enrich their vocabulary collection. Students will easily improve their vocabulary through anagram techniques. Anagrams are simple techniques that students can easily understand and use in the classroom. Students will have fun participating in class enthusiastically and actively. Anagram can improve students' vocabulary mastery and help students memorize the word easily in a fun way.

b. For English teacher

This research is designed to help teachers guide their students to improve student vocabulary proficiency. The researcher also expected that the result of this research can make positive contributions for all teachers. It is hoped that the result of this research can be a valuable source of information to improve the quality of the teaching and learning process of English. It is hoped that the result of this research will become a useful reference to improve the learning performance of students. The result of this research can serve as a reference for other English teachers to solve their problem of how to improve their students' vocabulary. The Anagram technique is useful for the teacher to help them in teaching vocabulary and to help students learn vocabulary with a fun method so that students can be active during class.

c. For other researcher

This research is useful for other researcher interested in the media in this research so that they can do the same research in different areas of focus. This research is also useful for the other researcher interested in teaching English in high school. The other researcher can obtain useful information from the results of this research and lead them to further research in other areas of interest. This research is expected to provide information, models, or references that will be developed for future research. The researcher also hopes that other researcher will be able to evaluate or modify this research and write more research for other purposes.

d. For STKIP Persada Khatulistiwa Sintang

It is expected that this research will be used to add references as material for further research in the future. It is also expected that the result of this research will become one of the most important reading materials to enrich the reference when writing thesis or to improve the knowledge of the teaching and learning process of English.

**E. Limitation of the Research**

Based on the problems that the researcher found and based on the purpose of this research, the researcher focused on improving the mastery of the students' vocabulary and improving the participation of the students in the learning activity by implementing the anagram technique to describe the seventh grade of SMPN 04 Dedai in vocabulary mastery.

**F. Terminology**

In line with the variable of this research, there were some terminologies in this research that are:

1. Vocabulary is an important aspect of English, vocabulary is a collection of words that a person knows, and vocabulary is also a collection of words that help to master four levels of English, such as speaking, writing, reading, and also listening.
2. Mastery is the ability to master something in depth. In this research, it is related to the ability to memorize words and understand them.

3. Anagram is one of the games that can help students to improve their vocabulary used in the learning process. Anagram is a word, phrase, formed by rearranging the letters of another.
4. SMPN 04 Dedai is located in the Dedai district, Sintang Regency. The subject of the research is the seventh grade. The problem with teaching English in this school is that the students do not master the vocabulary. Researcher are therefore interested in working with English teachers to determine and develop which techniques or methods are appropriate to use in the classroom so that they can help students improve their English skills.