

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer will present the research background, research questions, research purposes, research significance, limitations of the research, as well as the terminology which the writer explains in detail about the problems that the writer finds while in the field.

A. Research Background

English is an international language that is studied in various countries, especially in Indonesia. English is taught in junior high school just for introduce in the children English as a foreign language. Besides, it functions to give student basic knowledge of English so that they will do much better in junior high school. One of the basic in English is vocabulary, which requires four skills speaking, reading, writing, and listening. If student do not know anything about vocabulary, the four skills can also not be learned by student. In the teaching and learning process, vocabulary is the most important language and vocabulary can also affect learners' ability to learn English, especially in junior high school.

Vocabulary is known as one of the basic elements that has a big role in order to make the use of a language to be effective both in spoken and written. Furthermore, Vocabulary could a knowledge that study about word,

a part of word that give clues to the meaning of whole words. Based on this case, the vocabulary can be defined as a group of words that contains in a language and it has a role to build some sentences by using various word in any forms and have particular meaning also it depends on the category and function in grammatical.

Vocabulary mastery is the one of most important component in learning and teaching English, because vocabulary is one way to improve English skills. The more vocabulary that students know in any language, the better students can express their language. Therefore, the students need to learn vocabulary of English as much as possible because it plays an importance part in the learning process carried out in the classroom. Although English is a foreign language in this country but it is a necessary subject in every school. Thus, the students must expand their vocabulary.

A larger vocabulary will support four English language skills, such as listening, reading, speaking, and writing. If the students have low vocabulary mastery, it will impact to these skills. First, the students cannot become a good listener because in the case the students have never seen or heard a specific piece of vocabulary in a second language, it will be much harder to perceive the sound and the meaning. Second, the students will difficult to understand a text if they do not know the vocabulary used. Third, the students will difficult to express their idea, thought, feeling or even orally and written because they difficult to produce words.

Based on the explanation above, vocabulary is the most crucial element to learn because it is the foundation of a language. Thus, it is a lesson that must be learned first before getting to know other skills. However, it is no easy to learn vocabulary even though its lesson is only about words. It can be proven that many students have been studying English for a long time but still have lack of vocabulary and have low motivation to learn vocabulary. If a lack of vocabulary effects English skills, English skills that the students cannot master will affects the student's desire to learn English.

The students' desire in learning English is influenced by their ability to understand English. The more they understand a lesson, the more interesting the learning becomes. Likewise, the more they do not understand a lesson, the more boring the learning will be. It can be concluded that the foundation for understanding English is learning vocabulary.

Based on the pre-observation which conducted in SMPN 2 Belimbing, the writer found that most of students at eighth grade especially the students at class VIII B were need more understanding about vocabulary mastery and also student participation need to be improve in learning English. They need a lot of vocabulary to remember, so they can easily learn English at the next lesson well. And also student participation is important and needed to support the learning process in the classroom, so that students in the class will be more active, enthusiastic, and will be better prepared when participating in English learning.

In this case, student participation and vocabulary mastery need to be improved. Student participation is an assessment of a student's performance in a course outside of their assessments. Items that might be evaluated in student participation are engagement in class discussions, engagement in online discussions and student behavior in group settings. And also, student participation is first step, which the writer must give good and interested impression when do first learning although can improve spirit and also enthusiast into understanding materials, specially to improved vocabulary mastery that have learning , so, the student to be active in classroom.

The writer decided to do this research because the problems that occurred to the eighth grade especially at class VIII B. The writer concerned about the students' vocabulary and also the learning process especially in English subject. Most of the students were inactive in the classroom when learning English because they did not understand what they were learning.

Therefore, the writer offered a teaching technique to improve students' vocabulary mastery. He would implementation Total Physical Response to improve vocabulary because he believed that Total Physical Response is the technique that was interesting, fun, and easy to understand which can improve students' vocabulary mastery and make the learning process becomes interesting and enjoyable for both the teacher and the student. Total Physical Responses itself can be defined as a strategy that useful to increase the vocabulary mastery in which its implementation is coordination of commands, speech and action to find out the meaning of a

word or even form of unknown word. Memorizing the vocabulary taught is easier and students show a predisposition to learn when this method is applied.

So, the title of the research is The Implementation of Total Physical Response to Improve Student Vocabulary Mastery at VIII B Grade in SMPN 2 Belimbing. The writer has a purpose to solve the problem by boosting the students' vocabulary and make to be easy in learning English.

B. Research Questions

Based on the research background above, the research questions are going to formulate as bellow:

1. How is the students' participation in learning vocabulary mastery through the Implementation of Total physical responses at VIII B grade in SMPN 2 Belimbing?
2. How can Total physical responses improve the students' vocabulary mastery at VIII B grade in SMPN 2 Belimbing?

C. Research Purpose

Based on the research questions above, the research purpose are going to formulate as bellow:

1. To describe the students' participation in learning vocabulary mastery through the implementation of Total physical responses at VIII B grade in SMPN 2 Belimbing.
2. To explain the students' improve in learning through the Total physical responses at VIII B grade in SMPN 2 Belimbing.

D. Research Significance

The writer hopes that by raising the research with the title of the implementation of total physical responses to improve student vocabulary mastery at Eighth grade of SMPN 2 Belimbing. There are some expected benefits to achieve from this study. The result of this study is expected to give contribution to the writer, the English teacher, the students' and the Schools and also STKIP Persada Khatulistiwa Sintang as a institution of education. They can be described as follows:

1. For The Teacher

The Writer hopes that by using the total physical Responses as the strategy to improve the students' comprehension especially toward the vocabulary it can inspire the teacher to seek and use a simple strategy which it can give a big impact toward the student' learning process and to help the student to be easy in order to comprehend the material.

2. For the Students

The implementation of total physical responses is enabled the students to learn the material from the very basic thing in which they

can easily recognize vocabulary and understand foreign languages with instructions. Besides, the students are also going to be active in seeking the new word which they do not know by understanding instructions and movements they practice themselves.

3. For the Other Writer in the Future

By doing this kind of research, the writer hopes that it enables the other writer to get more addition of information and references especially for the next writer in the future which conducts the similar research. In addition, this writer is used to find out the suitable of teaching strategy or technique which it can be used by the teacher in order to enhance their students' ability and comprehension during the learning process.

4. For the English Education Study Program

This research is presented as a part of references or information for another student in the similar field in which it has a purpose to give a description toward the research activity especially for the before and after its implementation. Furthermore, this research is also used in order to enhance the accreditation of the study program in order to help the lecturer to product the student with a good quality.

5. For STKIP Persada Khatulistiwa Sintang

The result of this research is expected to become information and provide knowledge for students or the other writers in add the references and complete the library of STKIP Persada Khatulistiwa Sintang as a reader material especially in English language education study program.

E. Limitation of the Research

The limitation of this research is focusing to improve the students' vocabulary in which writer is going to analyze the problem which it is being the obstacle and trying to overcome it by using the total physical responses during the teaching and learning activity in the classroom. Meanwhile, this research is going to conduct in SMPN 2 Belimbing in which the subject of this research is coming from seventh grade.

F. Terminology of the Research

The terminology which the writer selects from the title is including of total physical responses, vocabulary, mastery and SMPN 2 Belimbing. Then, the explanation of each term can be seen as follow:

1. Total physical Responses

Total physical response is language learning which is based on the coordination of speech and action. It mean this method that uses motion to interpret the word. Total physical responses is a method of

teaching language or vocabulary concepts by using physical movement to react to verbal input. The process mimics the way that infants learn their first language, and it reduces student inhibitions and lowers stress. The purpose of Total Physical response is to create a brain link between speech and action to boost language and vocabulary learning. The technique is so recommended to improve students' vocabulary mastery.

2. Vocabulary

Vocabulary is an important aspect of English, Vocabulary is a list or collection of words or of words and phrases usually alphabetically arranged and explained or defined. Besides that, Vocabulary is known as one of the basic elements that has a big role in order to make the use of a language to be effective both in spoken and written.

3. Mastery

Mastery is the ability to master something in depth. In this research, the students have the ability in understanding and using the word and meaning. The larger vocabulary the students master, the better they perform their language.

4. SMPN 2 Belimbing

SMPN 2 Belimbing is located in the belimbing district, Melawi Regency. It has four classes that consist of class VII, class VIII A to VIII B, and class IX.