CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Research Background

English an International Language used by many people around the world. In this Modern era, the importance of English is improving as it serves as primary tool in many aspects of the global world, such as technology, business, education, and International communication. Therefore, the ability to speak English has becomes necessary skill for students to compete in the global era. For instance, many jobs, scolarships, and opportunities to abroad require proficiency in english giving students who master in competitive edge. By mastering English, students can easily understand information, communicate with people from various contries, and prepare themselves for a better future. As the world continues to develop and change, the ability to speak English also students adapt to ongoing global advancements. Curretly, English has become the official or dominant language in may countries and is often used as them medium of instruction in school and universities.

This global status indicates that proficiency in English opens up numereous opportunities for individuals, including access to higher education, better job prospects, and ablity to connect with people from diverse cultures. As a result, learning English has become a priority for many, as it not only enhaces their communication skills but also empowers the to participate in an increasingly broad global community. In summary, English serves as a bridge that connects

people across different countries, facillitating understanding, and collaboration in a world that is becoming more interconnected.

English pays a very important role in the world of education, as it is often used as them medium of instruction in many educational institution, ranging from elementery school to universities. In this context, English serves as a bridge that connect students and teachers disscussing the material. This interaction heavily relies on the ability of both parties to communicate effectively, making proficiency in enviroment.

In this meeting students and teachers exchange information, idea and questations, highlighting the importance of good communication in the learning process. For this process to run smoothly, teachers much be able to explain the material clearly and engagingly, so that students can understand it well. On the other hand, students also need to feel comfortable asking if there is something the do not understand, as questation are an essential part of learning. When students can communicate with teachers in English, they can more easily express their opinions, reques additional explanations, or discuss the topic being studied, which in turn enriches their learning experience.

Good communication between students and teachers is vital for creating a positive learning atmosphere. If students feel they can communicate well, they would more confident and motivated to learn. Conversely, if communication is hindered students may feel confused or frustrated, which can impede their learning process. Therefore, proficiency in English key to ensuring that this interaction runs smoothly and effectively, allowing students to achive optimal learning outcomes.

However, achive optimal learning result, students motivation also plays a crucial role in this process. Student motivation is an important factor encompasses various aspects, such as interest, goal, and the desire to achive success. There three elements are interconnected and contribute to the level of students engagement in the learning process. For example, when students have a high interest in a topic, they tend to be more enthusiastic about learning and actively participating in discussions, which turn makes them more woulding to aks questations and seek additional information.

However, motivation does not arise spontaneously it is influenced by external factors. Support from teachers is essential in this regard, as when teachers provide positive feedback, acknowledge students' effort, and create a pleasant learning enviorment, students would feel more motived to learn. Additionally, a positive learning enviorment, such as having supportive peers and adequate facilities, can also improve student motivation. The relevance of the subject matter to students' daily lives play a significant role if students see connection between what they are learning and their reel life experiences, they would be more motivated to understand and master the material.

With strong motivation, students with not only find it easier to understand English but would also be better prepare to face challenges in education and life outside the classroom. High motivation encourages students develop the skills necessary for success, both academically and in sosial interections. Therefore, creating a supportive and learning relevant learning environment is crucial to help students reach their full pontential. When students feel motived, they are more

likely to actively partcipate in discusscions, questations, and seek additional information, which in turn improves their understanding of their material being taught. Thus is important for educator to create inspiring and supportive learning atmosphere, so that students feel motivated to learn and contribute to the broader process.

Based on interview with English teachers at SMPN 01 Menukung and observations in this classroom, several issues faced by students in learning English have been identified. One of the main problems is that students require more motivation from with in themselves, which is evident from their low participation in learning, both during teaching sessions and in group discussions. It is important for students to have high motivation, as many of them are beginning to realize that learning English is exciting opportunity develop their language skills. With increased motivation, students would find it easier to understand various aspects of English learning, such as Vocabulary, writting, speaking, listening, and reading. When students are motivate, their partisipation in the learning process would also increease. When teacher ask or encourage students participate in class activities, more students would feel enthusiastic about engaging actively. Therefore, creating a motivation learning enviorment is crucial for the success of students in learning English.

Another issue that contributes to students' lack of motivation or need more motivation in learning English is their educational background, particulary those from rural areas where English is not tauht from an early age. Many students are encountering English for the first time when the they enter junior high school. This

presents a significant challenge from them as they must adapt to relatively new and more complex subject matter compared to other subjects. Their inablity to understand and communicate effectively in English makes them feel challenged. As result, students may feel lesson confident and require more motivation to learn, as they perceive themselves to be far behind their peers who may have been exposed to English earlier.

When students have the enthusiasm and desire to participate in learning, they tend understand the material being tought more easily. This enthusiasm encourages them actively ask quetations, engage in this discussions, and participate in various class activities, which in turn strengthenes their understading of English. However, in reality, there are still some students in the eighth grade at SMPN 01 Menukung who need more motivation to learn English. Some students may feel less confident or experience difficulties in understanding the material, leading to lower participation in learning. This can be attributed to various factors, such as their educational background, previous experiences with English, or even their attitudes toward the subject.

Therefore, it is important for teachers to create a supportive and motivating learning enviroment for students. This can be achived through more interactive approaches, the used of engaging teaching methods and providing positive feedback that can improvestudents' self confidence. In this way, it is hoped that students who were previously less motived can discover new inters and enthusiasm for learning English.

Based on the issue focus by eight grade students at SMPN 01 Menukung, it is evident that may students experience difficulties in learning English, primarily due to lack of motivation. Observation in this classroom indicate that when students feel the need for high motivation, it can encourage them to participate more in the learning process and help them understand the material better. To address this issue, the research has attempted to use Wordwall as a teaching aid. The use of Wordwall has proven effective in imroving students' learning motivation. During obsevation, many students appeared enthusiastic and actively participate when using Wordwall. This tool not only make learning more interactive but also helps students understand the material in a more enjoyable way.

Thus, in the implemantation of Wordwall as a teaching aid in English learning can be an effective solution to improvestudents' motivation and participation, allowing them to graps the material being taught more easily. This demonstrates that with the right appoach, students can be overcome the challenges they face and achieve progress in learning English. Wordwall an is educational game platfom that offers a variety of game types that can be tailored to meet learning needs. For example, educators can create quizzes, crossword puzzles, spinthe wheel game, matching games, open the box, flashcards, anagrams, or word search game, all of which can be accessed online. The ease of eccess and flexibility in its use make Wordwall a pontential tool for improving student engagement in the learning process. By using Wordwall in this educational context, students are enabled to interact with learning materials in a more creative and engaging manner.

Given the isssues outline earlier, to address the challenges present in the schcool, the reseacher has chosen the title "Improving Students' Learning Motivation By Using Wordwall Media Of Eighth Grade At SMPN 01 Menukung." This title reflects the writer's focus on Improving students' learning motivation through the use Wordwall, which expected to have positive impact on students' participation and engagement in English learning.

B. Research Question

1 How is Wordwall media improving the learning motivation of eighth grade students at SMPN 01 Menukung?

2 How is Wordwall media improving students' understanding and engagement in the learning process at SMPN 01 Menukung?

C. Research Purpose

1. By using the games available on Wordwall, students become more interested in learning and enjoy a fun learning experience because educational games are incorporated into the teaching and learning process.

2. By using the quizzes available on Wordwall as a medium to saw students' understanding of the material taught and to evaluate the content that has been delivered, educational game based quizzes engage students and encourage them to actively participate in the quiz games available on Wordwall.

D. Research Significant

This study is expected to provide benefits both theoretically and practically to students, teachers, schools, and future researchers. The following are the anticipated significances of this research:

1 Theoretically:

It is hoped that the results of this study would enrich the understanding of students and English teachers regarding the role of games in learning, considering that games offer many advantages and enjoyable ways to be applied in the process of learning English.

2 Practically:

In addition to providing theoretical contributions, the researcher also hopes that the results of this study would offer practical benefits to the following parties:

 a. For Students

This research provides direct benefits to eighth-grade students at SMPN 01 Menukung, particularly in enhancing their understanding and learning motivation. With increased motivation, students would be more actively engaged in the learning process, making it easier for them to grasp the material being taught. Through the use of digital learning media such as Wordwall, students can learn in a more interactive, engaging, and enjoyable manner, thereby reducing boredom during study sessions. The various educational games available on this platform are designed to help students understand difficult concepts more easily. Additionally, the use of Wordwall can also

improvecritical thinking skills, creativity, and problem-solving abilities, which are essential in both education and everyday life.

b. Teachers

Teachers play a crucial role in creating a conducive and enjoyable learning environment for students. This research provides new insights for teachers on how technology, particularly Wordwall media, can be utilized as a supportive tool in the learning process. By integrating Wordwall, teachers can deliver material in a more varied and engaging way, motivating students to learn more. Furthermore, this research can assist teachers in evaluating the effectiveness of the teaching methods they have implemented, allowing them to develop more innovative strategies that meet the needs of students in today's digital era.

c. For Other Researchers

This study can serve as a foundation for future research that aims to explore the use of digital media in education more deeply. Other researchers can expand upon this study with a broader scope, such as investigating the impact of Wordwall on various subjects, different educational levels, or combining it with other teaching methods to improvestudent learning effectiveness.

d. For STKIP Persada Khatulistiwa Sintang

As an educational institution responsible for training future educators, STKIP Persada Khatulistiwa Sintang can use the findings of this research as a reference in developing a curriculum that is more adaptive to technological advancements. Prospective teacher students can gain insights into the importance of using digital media in education and how to effectively implement it in the classroom.

Additionally, this research can serve as a source of inspiration for faculty and students in developing technology-based learning innovations that can be applied across various educational levels.

E. Research Limitation

This study focuses solely on eighth-grade students at SMPN 01 Menukung, meaning that the results obtained reflect the learning conditions and characteristics of students at that school. This implies that the research findings may not necessarily be applicable to other educational levels, such as students in lower or higher grades, who may have different levels of understanding, learning needs, and motivation patterns. Additionally, differences in school environments, curricula, teaching methods, and available supporting facilities in other schools may also affect the effectiveness of using Wordwall as a learning media. Therefore, while this study can provide an overview of the benefits of using Wordwall at SMPN 01 Menukung, the results cannot be generalized to other schools without considering the existing differences in each educational institution.

F. Terminology

In line with the variable of this research, there some terminology in this research:

a. Learning Motivation

Learning motivation refers to the internal and external factors that stimulate a desire and energy in individuals to learn. It encompasses the reasons or goals that drive a person to engage in learning activities, whether in an academic setting or through personal development.

b. Wordwall

Wordwall is a web-based learning media platform that allows users, such as teachers and students, to create and access various types of educational games and interactive activities. The platform provides various customizable templates for creating quizzes, puzzles, word boards, picture guessing games, and other types of learning activities.