CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

In teaching and learning of English language, one of component or sub skill that must be taught to the learner is vocabulary. Vocabulary is central and important to language learner, because words help to share the ideas and the words also help to understand other people's ideas. To listen, speak, read and write people using words. It can be said the students find difficulties in mastering English language if the students have limited vocabulary. With the limited vocabularystudents cannot communicate effectively or express ideas clearly.

Vocabulary is one of micro skill in English. It is very important to master this micro skill in studying English language. According to Pamintuan in Liu (2018:27) vocabulary is the building material of language for without it which a building will not be constructed; just as, without vocabulary, there are no possible ways to create sentences. If the learners just focused in structure without the vocabulary that will makes students hard to inform what want to say or write in English language. Vocabulary knowledge is often view as a critical tool for second language learners because a limited vocabulary in second language impedes successful communication (Alqahtani, 2015:22).If students are want to master English language skills such as listening, speaking, reading and writing, students need to have a large number of vocabularies. This means that the vocabulary have important role for mastering the English language. The students, who less in vocabulary will be difficult in understanding the text meaning, difficult to write their own idea, and unable to speak English. To communicate effectively students are need to know a large number of words meaning (Ferreira, 2007:12).

In the researcher view, many students in junior high school and senior high school are still have less vocabulary in English language, especially the first grade of junior high school.

Sometimes the students do not understand what the teacher says, because just a little of them know about English language. Moreover, the students are confuse and not confidence in English language. It is the factor of many students not good in English language. The students are not giving attention when the teacher explains the material in the class. Furthermore, they are just keep silent if the teacher communicates with them in English. So, most students just acquire a little basic vocabulary. The researcher needs to implement a method that can make students interested in learning and increase the English vocabulary mastery. Most of this situation is finding in first years of junior high school in Indonesia. Most students are not understood what the teacher said in English, and it is hard for the students to remember new vocabulary.

In improving the student vocabulary in teaching learning process, the teacher has an important role for planning the good learning activity. Teacher is the connectors of English language for allow students to improve the English language. Teacher is need to see many factors in teaching learning process in the class. The condition of the learners motivation is an important key for completed the good learning process acquired in the class. To make this situation will be happened the teacher must have the good method in teaching the English language vocabulary in the class. The good method in teaching English language will create good learning activity in the class. For increasing the motivation in learning the English vocabulary game is the best answer for that. Games are changing the student's mood and motivation in learning English in the class. According to Abdallah (2019:102) games make learning fun and relaxed.

Teacher have many kind of game can use in learning English language activity. Which one kind of game is crossword puzzle game. Crossword puzzle game is the good game to improve and increase new English vocabulary for the learner. According to Edward (2006; 74), crossword puzzle the activities that will help build vocabulary words in conversation.

Therefore, the researcher is suggesting crossword puzzle in teaching English vocabulary. Crossword puzzle can train the student's brain to recall the new words. Moreover, the students will learn English vocabulary by sharing with their friends to finish the crossword puzzle.

All about the explanation are create inspiration to researcher to make an action research, because the researcher wants to know how far crossword puzzle can improve students vocabulary mastery and suitable or not for students in SMPN 05 Padang, So the writer makes an action research with the title The Use of Crossword Puzzle to Improve Vocabulary Mastery at the Seventh Grade of the SMPN 05 Padang 2020.

B. Identification of the Problem

Based on the background, the researcher is identifies the problem students not interest in learning English language, because the students do not understand many English vocabularies. This problem will be solved by using crossword puzzle game.

C. Limitation of the Problem

In order to avoid any misunderstanding of the problem, the researcher would like to limit the scope of the study. The researcher wants to know whether crossword puzzle can improve the students vocabulary mastery. The material is limited to teach at seventh grade of SMPN 05 Padang.

D. Formulation of the Problem

Based on the problem limitation, the formulations of this study are:

1. How can crossword puzzle improve the vocabulary mastery for the seventh grade at SMPN 05 Padang?

2. Is crossword puzzle suitable for the first year students of the seventh grade at SMPN 05 Padang?

E. Scope of the Study

Based on the formulation of the problem, scope of this study are:

1. To find out how crossword puzzle can improve the vocabulary mastery for the seventh grade at SMPN 05 Padang.

2. To find out whether crossword puzzle is suitable or not for the first year students of the seventh grade at SMPN 05 Padang.

F. The Significance of the Study

1. For English teacher

This study can give the alternative method to help the teacher to increase student's English vocabulary.

2.For students

This study can assist the students to solve problem in vocabulary mastery and enrich vocabulary. It is also expected to be a useful input to help the students to improve their English language.

3. For further researcher

This study can help the further researcher who interest in research about vocabulary at Junior High School level and, the further researcher can get the basic information about the use of crossword puzzle game in this research.

G. Definition of Key Term

1. Crossword Puzzle

Crossword puzzle is problem design game to test a student's knowledge in, which words was to be written vertically and horizontally in spaces on squared.

2. Vocabulary Mastery

Vocabulary is the words in the language. The words also can be make up of two or three words or more to express the idea. Mastery is great skill or knowledge in do something. Vocabulary mastery is the knowledge in understanding the words.