

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Research

Vocabulary as a major component of language has been the object of numerous studies each of which has its contribution to the field. States that vocabulary learning is at the heart of language learning and language use (Laufer, 1997). In fact, it is what makes the essence of a language. Vocabulary learning is an intrinsic part of language teaching. that the most effective means of vocabulary learning is still unclear (De Groot, 2006).

In the literature of English language teaching and learning a recurring theme has been the neglect of vocabulary. It was often given little priority in language programs and was often left to look after itself and received only incidental attention in textbooks and language programs (Hedge, 2008). In the past language teaching, vocabulary learning, and teaching were given little importance. As (Moir, J., & Nation, P., 2008) write, at one time it was widely assumed that lexical instruction is not essential as it can happen by self; therefore, the teaching of vocabulary was not popular (Nation, 1990). However, nowadays, the significance of vocabulary and its significance in learning a language has become more accepted. (Griffith, 2006) points out, for example, that recently the significance of teaching vocabulary has been acknowledged.

A number of research studies recently conducted have dealt with lexical problems of language learners. Scholars such as (Allen, 1983) and (Bowen, 1985) have shown that lexical problems frequently interfere with communication; in other

words, communication breaks down when people do not use the right words. Therefore, there is an increased interest in vocabulary as a component of every language.

One way to add new words to one's vocabularies is by locating words in the dictionary and learning what they mean. But this is a slow process to increase word power. Another way is learning through vocabulary cards or flash cards. As we listen and read, we often meet new words by flash cards. Words lists and flash cards can be used for the initial exposure to a word, but most students continue to use them to review it afterward. One main advantage of flash cards is that they can be taken almost anywhere and studied when one has a free moment (Brown, 2000).

English in the system of language structure is very different from Indonesian language, pronunciation, vocabulary. Making effective and efficient English lessons carried out by teachers is not an easy task, so English teachers must be able to participate in training/educational and learning activities that are useful for smooth teaching and learning. The material must be presented according to the needs of students with the right method. Actually learning English, especially in memorizing vocabulary is a boring activity for students. This is the basis for researcher in conducting research using flash card media in learning so that they are able to build an atmosphere in the classroom so that students are enthusiastic in learning vocabulary. So that it can help teachers in applying this media in learning.

Teachers must provide approaches and methods that support student skill (Timumun, 2020). Vocabulary is the foundation of learning English. That's why learning is important. Learning vocabulary is important without grammar very little

can be communicated, without vocabulary nothing can be communicated (Thornburg, 2002). The secret to success in English as well as a strategy to increase English comprehension is vocabulary learning. English instructors collaborate with researchers to teach children vocabulary through media. There are several media that can be applied, one of which is flash cards.

Flash cards are a medium that is easy to apply, this media is used as a tool to convey messages and communication symbols (Herlina & Dewi, 2017). To successfully assist vocabulary instruction, flash cards are employed. Flash cards are information-storing cards that have been developed. More important information is easily stored on a flash card because its main purpose is to store information and make it easier (Amalia, 2018). Flash card can help students memorize vocabulary easily and this can be arranged in making vocabulary.

The statement above is in line with the opinion of Zainal as cite in Ratnawati. et al (2021), state that learning media is one of the learning tools used in the learning process as an intermediary tool in teaching and learning, so that learning objectives can be achieved effectively and efficiently. Flash cards are a form of learning media that contain pictures and words that can be resized to fit the students at hand. You may either purchase flash card material or create your own. This medium is a learning tool that enhances a number of skills, including vocabulary growth, independent training, and memory enhancement. Flash card software aids in the development of students' skills, particularly in vocabulary learning. Flash cards are used in language teaching as a teaching resource needed by a teacher to describe subjects and provide learning variations. Media is a means of conveying

information in the form of messages and content to students from an education and learning perspective (Naz and Akbar as quoted in Aulia, 2018). It also helps the teacher in explaining so that it is easy for students to understand.

## **1.2 Identification of the Problem**

Based on background of the study about the effectiveness of using Flash Cards toward the students' vocabulary mastery, the identification of the study involves:

1. The effects of students using flashcards in the vocabulary learning process.
2. Most students have difficulty understanding the meaning of a sentence.

## **1.3 Limitation of the Problem**

Based on the research background, this research is interested in conducting research that focuses on increasing the use of students' vocabulary by using flash cards at SMA Negeri 15 Muaro Jambi which consists of students including divided into two classes, namely X1 as an experimental class with a total of 17 students and control class X2 with 17 students. This research will focus on mastery vocabulary, which is in passive vocabulary that students will learn from what they learn from flashcards.

## **1.4 The Formulation of the Problem**

Is there any significant effectiveness of using flash cards Strategy Toward the students' vocabulary mastery at SMAN 15 Muaro Jambi?

## **1.5 The Purpose of Research**

The purpose of this study is to find out the effectiveness of using flash cards toward the students' vocabulary mastery at SMAN 15 Muaro Jambi.

## 1.6 Significance of Research

This research contributes some significant progress in teaching vocabulary for several parties, they are:

### 1. For Teacher

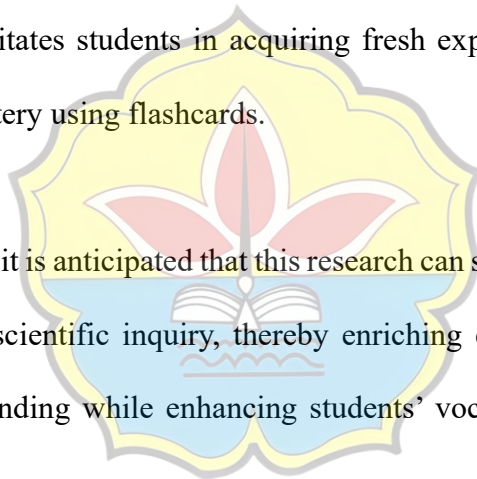
This study aims to furnish English teachers with valuable insights to aid in the selection of learning materials and the execution of an efficient strategy aimed at enhancing students' vocabulary mastery of using flashcards

### 2. For Students

This study facilitates students in acquiring fresh experiences to enhance their vocabulary mastery using flashcards.

### 3. For Researcher

For researchers, it is anticipated that this research can serve as a practical method for integrating scientific inquiry, thereby enriching education and fostering a deeper understanding while enhancing students' vocabulary mastery of using flashcards.



## 1.7 Definition of Key Terms

### a. Flash Cards

One strategy for learning vocabulary is the use of flash cards. A flash card is a cardboard consisting of a word, a sentence, or a simple picture on it.

### b. Vocabulary Mastery

Vocabulary mastery is knowledge in interpreting words. Not only how many words are known, but how the vocabulary can be used, being able to multiply words, understand words and be able to integrate words.

## 1.8 Basic Assumption

### 1. Vocabulary

Students have a difficult time learning English Vocabulary. One of them is intellectually remembering the vocabulary. They require something to help them remember vocabulary more easily. The teacher requires teaching material to help young students remember and master vocabulary. By using flashcard strategy, the students will be interested in learning vocabulary.

### 2. Flashcard Strategy

Students can learn a lot of information by flashcards. Flashcards have two sides with one side containing images, text, or symbol signs and the other side in the form of captions, answers, or descriptions which help remind or direct students to something associated with existing images on the card. So that they can learn a lot of information after being given flashcard learning.

