

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background of Problem

Vocabulary is one of English subskills that must be taught to the students because has an important role for all language skills. In other words, the first thing that has to be mastered by language learners in learning language is vocabulary. In listening, vocabulary mastery influences their understanding toward teachers speech, class discussion, and other speeches. The words that they choose in speaking affect how well they deliver a message. In reading, vocabulary mastery influences their understanding and comprehend the texts. In addition, dealing with writing, vocabulary mastery also influences how clear they convey their thought to the reader. In conclusion, vocabulary mastery takes an important role in equipping students to be able to communicate in English.

Vocabulary is a fundamental of language, which in any situation either it is in the form spoken and written language. Vocabulary knowledge is often viewed as a critical tool for second language learners because limited vocabulary in a second language impedes successfull communication. It is central to communicative competence and to the acquisition of a second language and really important element of the language that related to learn the four skills listening, speaking, reading, and reading. Underscoring the importance of vocabulary acquisition, Nation (2001) further describes the relationship between vocabulary knowledge and language use as complementary, knowledge of vocabulary enables

language use and conversely, language use leads to an increase in vocabulary knowledge.

In teaching vocabulary, a teacher should be able to guide student in learning process in order to get students interest to enrich their vocabulary because it's fundamentally important aspect of language development. So that mastering vocabulary is very important for students.

Knowledge of vocabulary, along with basic comprehension strategies, is the key to understand both spoken and written language. A language user who recognizes and produces diverse number of word orally has much greater chance of becoming a successful language user. There are many tools to increase mastery of vocabulary for students, for examples give some tasks about translate English to Indonesian texts and found and memorize some new vocabularies and use it in conversations.

Mastery vocabulary is one of important in communication both in written and spoken. All of communication skill integrate with vocabulary. A good vocabulary mastery was needed to have a good listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills. It means that mastery vocabulary plays important and dominant role in comunication and represent one communication ability level, higher number of vocabulary mastered it makes a better quality of words delivered by someone.

The researcher found most of the seven year students' problem of SMP 16 Pekanbaru are Firstly, the teacher still used a traditional strategy in teaching vocabulary. the teacher asks students to answer some tasks at the book without knowing a new vocab and just did it. It made students bored in learning process.

That is why researcher would like to conduct an experimental using electronic dialogue journaling by *whatsApp* in teaching vocabulary mastery, so the students active and also to participate as an audience. Secondly, the students are less interested in learning English. The students with limited vocabulary will have difficulties in learning and understanding a foreign language. When the students do not know the way how to increase their English vocabulary, they will lose interest in learning a foreign language. Mostly, the students of SMP 16 Pekanbaru have many subject of lesson, they should learn four subjects by day. The impact, the students not enthusiastic to learning more about english and the results the students scores are lower than minimum criteria of achievement (KKM) standard is 8.00. Thirdly, the students have problem to add their vocabulary mastery, lack of activeness in study English. The teacher has to give support to the students. Beside that, the teacher also prepare the materials that can attract the students to pay attention to the material. So that the teacher should be active in teaching vocabulary for students at elementary school.

Teaching vocabulary is not easy for students, but the students usually get bored of learning this subject. Therefore teacher should device a good exercise or a way of teaching vocabulary so that children will enjoy and understand the learning process well. Learning vocabulary at Junior High School can be done through many ways, such as dictionary, picture, guessing, electronic ,reading, ect.

One teaching strategy successfully being implemented in the high-technology environment of online education is that of electronic dialogue journaling, or e-journaling. E-journaling provides an opportunity for learners to

express opinions, ideas, and concerns about the course materials that would not be shared otherwise (Phipps, 2005). In other cases, Wang (1996) said use of e-journaling more efficient and practical than that of words especially for real exercise. Electronic dialogue journaling is a weekly written dialogue between the teacher and the student through the use of e-mail.

Based on the above reasons, the writer tries to reduce the problems of learning English deals with vocabulary and intends to find out what can be done to help them to improve their vocabulary and the writer feels interested to discuss about “ **The Effect of Electronic Dialogue Journaling Through WhatsApp on Students’ Vocabulary Mastery of The First Year Students at SMP 16 Pekanbaru**”. In her opinion, the effect of electronic dialogue journaling through WhatsApp on students’ vocabulary mastery will help students to overcome their problem in producing a vocabulary mastery with the right procedure and the good way teaching.

## **1.2 Setting of the problem**

The implementation of teaching vocabulary is not easy as the planning. Many problems appear when the teaching process is done. As mentioned above, there are some factors that cause the students have in vocabulary. Some problems above can be drawn up.

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journaling by *whatsApp* in teaching vocabulary mastery, so the students active and also to participate as an audience.

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### **1.3 Limitation of the Problem**

The researcher limits the problem in doing this research about change used the traditional strategies in teaching vocabulary to using Electronic Dialogue Journaling by *whatsApp* can be alternative way to enrich students' vocabulary. But in this research, the research only focuses to find out the effect of electronic dialogue journaling through *whatsApp* on students' vocabulary mastery in terms of wordclasses such as noun, verb, and adjective in synonym and antonym.

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

Based on the limitation of the problem, formulation into the following questions: Is there any significant effect of Electronic Dialogue Journaling by *whatsApp* on students' vocabulary mastery of the second grade at SMPN 16 Pekanbaru?

#### **1.5 Objective of the Research**

The objectives in this research is to find out the icreasing percentage on the ability of the students of SMP 16 Pekanbaru in performing vocabulary mastery (after Electronic Dialogue Journaling by *WhatsApp*). In particular, the objective of this research is to prove whether or not that Electronic Dialogue Journaling through *WhatsApp* can promote or increase the students' vocabulary mastery of SMP 16 Pekanbaru.

#### **1.6 Significance of the Research**

1. The writer: It is purposely to meet the requirement of completing the writer study of English study program
2. Students: Expected to give suggestion for more improvement to junior high school students in learning vocabulary
3. Teacher: Expected to help teachers in teaching vocabulary in junior high school because electronic dialogue jurnaling through WatsApp can be used as alternative way in teaching English vocabulary.

#### **1.8 Definition of the Key Terms**

1. **Vocabulary** is a list of words used in alphabetical order and without explanation of their meaning (Logman,2008). In this research vocabulary is one of the basic and important aspects in language.

2. **Electronic dialogue jurnaling** is a weekly written dialogue between the teacher and the student through the use of e-mail ( Wang, 1996).
3. **WhatsApp** is a learning platform used the groups in order to improve the accessibility of learning materials and the performance of learning activities (Ashiyan, 2016). According Yeboah, *et al.* (2014); Bouhnik and Deshen (2014) and Alsanie (2015), **WhatsApp Messenger** is a proprietary, cross platform instant messaging subscription service for smartphones and selected feature phones that uses the internet for communication.
4. **Vocabulary mastery** means the students have abilities in understanding using vocabulary. A person said to “know” a word if they can recognize its meaning when they see it (Cameron, 2001).
5. **Junior high school** is the second education level in Indonesia. Generally the students are aged from 13 until 15 years old. The students are learning third years in this level of education before learning at level.