

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

As one of international languages, many countries use English as second or foreign language. In education field, English has been taught and used in the classrooms. In Indonesia, English is introduced as a subject that the students have to learn. They are expected to be able to master the language. However, to master English is not easy, the students still get problem in learning the language even though they have been learning English for 6-12 years.

One of the common problems of the students in English is mastering vocabulary. According to Neuman & Dwyer (2009:385), vocabulary can be defined as words that must be known to communicate effectively; words in speaking (expressive vocabulary) and words in listening (receptive vocabulary). English language learners use the words they hear to make sense of the words they will eventually see in print. By understanding words and their connections to a concept and fact, learners develop skills that will help in comprehending text. On the other hand, for those who are learning English as a foreign language, vocabulary is needed to comprehend information in English. That is the reason why it is important to learn vocabulary.

Mastering vocabulary is very important for students in the teaching and learning process. It means that, if the students try to write automatically the students need to know about the meaning of the words. So, the mastery of vocabulary is needed to construct sentences that contain some messages for interacting in the target language, both written and oral communication. Beside that, vocabulary mastery is one of indicators that influence the students' skills in listening, reading, speaking, and writing.

However, learning English vocabulary is one of the common problems faced by many English learners. When they read some materials, they will find some unfamiliar vocabularies and after that the problem influences their comprehension. When they are speaking, they prefer to be quiet because they do not know what they have to say. When they are writing they seem getting problem to complete their idea because of some difficulties to deliver the idea and the limited vocabulary.

On the other hand, the students do not seem bringing and consulting a dictionary. Automatically, the students will get difficult to understand about the meaning of the word. In other words, the students' vocabulary is low because the students do not interested in memorizing the words and practice English in their daily life. So, the students have lack of vocabulary or the students do not know with the word.

Based on the phenomena, the English learners in English study program provided to study about vocabulary in context in order to prepare them to solve the problem in vocabulary. So, the students become aware to

use the vocabulary based on the context and also know that vocabulary has an important role if they want to master the English language. The students who know a lot of vocabulary then automatically they will get easier to express their opinions or ideas as well.

In English study of FKIP UIR, the students are provided vocabulary in context subject. This subject has important role to make the students have good understanding about some words in English based on various of communication contexts. Based on the researcher interviewed, the students faced difficulties about vocabulary in context subjects. Most of the students got problems for nouns, adjectives, and verbs which based on the context of situations,.

In this case, the researcher is interested in analyzing the vocabulary mastery of the students in understanding meaning of words based on the context. Then, the title of this research is **“AN ANALYSIS OF VOCABULARY MASTERY IN CONTEXT OF THE SIXTH SEMESTER AT ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION OF FKIP-UIR ON 2017/2018 ACADEMIC YEAR”**.

1.2 Setting of the Problems

Vocabulary has important roles towards the students' mastery in English. In other words, vocabulary is central to English language teaching, because without sufficient vocabulary students can not understand others or express their own ideas. Vocabulary is the basic comprehension in learning

language. It helps the students to understand what other people are saying and what she or he is reading.

Additionally, the students sometimes face the difficulty to distinguish adjective, adverb, and verb, for example, of vocabulary in context. Firstly, the example of vocabulary mastery for adjective, *She is ____ than me*. Next, there will be three options, they are: a) tall, b) taller, and c) talls. The answer a) *tall* is correct, but that more suitable is the answer b) *taller*, because the context of question used *than* based on comparison degree. Secondly, They are beautifully; it can be seen that is not correct the word *beautifully* as adverb, the answer is *beautiful* which is adjective. Instead, for those who are learning English as a foreign language, vocabulary is needed. It used to comprehend a lot of vocabulary.

Furthermore, vocabulary is the knowledge of words and their meanings. It means that, without establishing a strong vocabulary based first, comprehension and use of a language will not be achieved. In addition, the students should be able to recognise and use a word in different context. Based on the phenomena, the English learners in English Language Education provided to study about vocabulary in context in order to prepare them to solve the problem in vocabulary. There are some groups of vocabulary learned by the students, such as nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs.

1.3 Limitation of the Research

Due to some types of vocabulary learned by the students at the sixth semester of English Language Education of FKIP-UIR. Furthermore, it is necessary for the researcher to limit this study on analyzing the students' vocabulary mastery of nouns, verbs, and adjectives which are used based on the context of communication.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

In this research the problem is formulated as follows :

What are the level of vocabulary mastery in context of the sixth semester in English Language Education of FKIP-UIR on 2017/2018 academic year?

1.5 Objective of the Research

In line with the research questions above, the researcher formulates the objective of the research as follows :

To find out the level of vocabulary mastery in context at the sixth semester in English Language Education of FKIP UIR on 2017/2018 academic year.

1.6 Significance of the Research

The researcher expects that the result of this research gives contributions to some parties which are explained as follow:

1.6.1 For Learners

1. To help the students using English vocabulary based on the context.
2. To improve their understanding about meaning of vocabulary in context.

1.6.2 For Researcher

1. To motivate the researcher in learning English, especially in learning vocabulary mastery in context.

1.6.3 For Readers

1. To give the more information about English vocabulary in context to the reader.
2. To improve the vocabulary mastery of the readers in understanding meaning of words based on the context.
3. To provide source of information in term of vocabulary.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding about some important words used in this research, it is needed to define the key words :

1.7.1 Analysis is the study of something by examining its part and their relationship (Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary of current English, 2008:14).

1.7.2 Vocabulary can be defined as words that must be known to communicate effectively; words in speaking (expressive vocabulary) and

words in listening (receptive vocabulary) (Neuman & Dwyer, 2009:385).

It means that, the students have to know about vocabulary in context in order to prepare them to solve the problem in vocabulary mastery of nouns, verbs, and adjectives which are used based on the context communication.

1.7.3 Vocabulary Mastery In Context can be defined as understanding from context as a way of dealing with unfamiliar vocabulary in unedited selections has been suggested widely by L1 and L2 reading specialists (Dubin, 1993). Context means the situation where the word is use. It means that vocabulary in this here, the students have to be able to identify the meaning of the vocabulary use in academic context.