

## CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

### A. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Our government has stipulated that English is the first foreign language in Indonesia. So, English has been given more special attention, with a hope that we can communicate effectively with foreigners who speak English, as the main function of language itself, in delivering ideas or opinions from our mind.

Teaching English as a foreign Language has become problem for English teachers in Indonesia. This is due to the fact that English is a developed language which contains a great deal of different components of language compare with those of bahasa Indonesia.

Among other components of language are vocabularies, grammar, and pronunciation, where vocabulary is the most important one which has to be mastered and acquired by the students in learning a new language. Vocabulary learning has long been deemphasized in language teaching, much to the detriment of the students who have mostly been left to fend for themselves. We thoroughly agree with Hornby who states, "Vocabulary is a total number of words which (with roles for combining them) make up a language"<sup>1</sup>. This definition tells us not only the number of words one knows but also the rules for combining the words to make up a language. It means that vocabulary covers knowing the meaning of words and their uses in context.

Teaching English vocabulary is not easy for teachers. That is why the writer wants to share to the teachers that vocabulary has to be prepared for students from the beginning without neglecting other elements. Here, the writer wants to focus in teaching and learning vocabulary especially preposition.

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<sup>1</sup> A S Hornby, *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English*, (Oxford: Oxford : University Press, 1995), P.1331.



the important factors, a teacher can decide the most efficient and effective technique, media and strategy of teaching English. In the writer's opinion, there are other important factors that can support the success of the teaching and learning process; they are qualified teachers, good environments, facilities and appropriate media.

By using songs as a media, the writer hopes that it will be used as alternative technique in enhancing the mastery of preposition of junior secondary school's students. The students are given something new and different what they usually get in class. They are not only the object of teaching but also participants. In other words, the teacher makes the students active instead of being silent. And also the writer wants to change some assumptions that learning English is difficult, boring, and confusing for students. So, the objectives of the teaching learning process can be achieved.

According the above matter, the researcher is interested in conducting an experiment research on the teaching prepositions using songs. Here, the researcher gives some blank space paper of lyric.

From this technique the researcher wants to know the result of teaching prepositions using songs at eight grade of SMP Hj.Isriati Baiturrahman Semarang in Academic year of 2010/2011. I conducted at this school because many of the students are still confused and difficulty to study preposition.

## **B. REASONS FOR CHOOSING THE TOPIC**

- a) Vocabulary is one of the components of language that have to be mastered. By using song, it will make learning activities more interesting and there is repetition that enables students to imitate the words in that song.
- b) By mastering preposition, it will support students to produce sentences in various ways and can express their ideas or wishes.
- c) Song has become a part of our need that can not be separated in our life.

## **C. QUESTION OF THE STUDY**

The statements of the problem in this final project is:

How much effective is the use of song to teach preposition?

#### **D. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

The objectives of study are as follows:

- a) To investigate how students of junior secondary school use song in enhancing the mastery of preposition.
- b) To find out whether song is significantly more effective to students of senior high school in enhancing the mastery of preposition.

#### **E. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

The writer hopes that the result of the research will be useful to provide input to:

- a) Teachers

The result of the study is expected to be a kind of evaluation for teachers who frequently use monotonous way in teaching learning process. Hopefully songs can be an effective media that can be used in teaching vocabularies especially preposition in the classroom activities so that students are interested and more motivated in learning English.

- b) Students

By using songs students will be more interested and motivated in learning English, can enhance their knowledge or vocabularies especially preposition and also can take moral values or lessons from the songs.

#### **F. SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

The writer limited this study in preposition only by using songs to know students' understanding in preposition. This study will be conducted at the eight grade students of SMP Hj. Isriati Baiturrahman Semarang.

## G. DEFINITION OF THE KEY TERMS

### a. Effectiveness

Effectiveness means the capability of producing an affect<sup>4</sup>. The word effectiveness is noun from the word effective.

### b. Song

Song is a short musical work set to a poetic text with equal importance given to music and to the words. It may be written for one or several voices and it is generally performed with instrument accompaniment.<sup>5</sup>

### c. Preposition

Preposition is a word or group of words used before a noun or pronoun to show place, position, time or method.<sup>6</sup>

### d. Student

Students are people who are studying at the school, university or college. In this research students who join at SMP Hj. Isriati Baiturrahman Semarang 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

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<sup>4</sup> Wiktionary, "Effectiveness", <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Effectiveness#column-one>.  
30 January 2010

<sup>5</sup> The Encyclopedia Americana, Vol. 25, (USA: Glolier Incorporated, 1986), p. 220.

<sup>6</sup> A S Hornby, *Op.Cit.*, P. 911