CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Study

Vocabulary is one of the basic components in English that students should mastery it because without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed. Teaching vocabulary plays an important role in language acquisition because the mastery of vocabulary will help students in mastering all the language skills: speaking, listening, writing and reading. Vocabulary will make students practice the structure more easily. Finocchiaro says that vocabulary is useful for students in order to communicate in daily life and will strengthen belief that English can be used to express the same ideas or feelings they express in their native language.[1] Then, teaching vocabulary at the beginners' level is very important element of teaching English, especially for Indonesian students, by knowing more words children can be better to communicate with other people. If their vocabularies are limited they will have difficulties in learning and understanding the foreign language. When the students do not know the ways to increase their vocabulary they will lose their interest in learning foreign language.

Students, who want to improve their English, should master vocabulary. Vocabulary is the first and for most important step in language acquisition. It is also a core component of language proficiency and provides much of the basis for how well learners speak, listen, read and write.[2] In a classroom where students do not finding themselves comfortable with second language, language learning can be made interactive and interesting with the introduction of appropriate vocabulary exercises. Without an extensive vocabulary and strategies for acquiring new vocabulary, learners are often less

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[1]Mary Finnochiaro, *English as a Second Language: From Theory to Practice*, (New York: Regent Publising Company, Ltd, 1974), p. 38.

[2]Jack C Richards and Willy A Renandya, *Methodology in Language Teaching*, (New York: Cambridge University Press), p. 255.

achievement in using foreign language. Celce-Murcia and Olshtain state that "in current naturalistic and communicative approaches, there is a widely shared assumption that vocabulary will be learned automatically and indirectly without any explicit formal instruction".[3] In conclusion there are many ways in learning vocabulary.

Here, there are many factors that make the students' vocabulary low. They come from internal factors and external factors. The internal factors mean those from inside of the students themselves such as motivation, interest, intelligence, etc. And the external factors mean factors which are from outside that affect their learning process such as economic background, learning materials, and teachers' performance including their teaching methods.

In teaching vocabulary to the elementary students, the teacher should be more creative and be able to keep the students away from getting bored. As we know that teaching English to young learners is full of fun. In order to keep the students away from getting bored in learning vocabulary, the teacher should use an appropriate instructional media. This media should gain the students' interest in learning new vocabulary, such as radio, television, VCD, tape recorder, computer, etc. They are very useful for the teacher to achieve the instructional goals and the objectives of learning, besides as a tool to command students in teaching learning process. Allah said in the Holy Qur'an surah AL – Nahl 78:

> "Allah brought you out of your mothers' wombs devoid of all knowledge, and gave you ears and eyes and hearts, so that you may give thanks." [4]

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[3]Marianne Celce-Murcia and Elite Olshtain, *Discourse and Context in Language Teaching,* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2000)*,* p. 73.

[4]Muhmud Y Zayid, *An English Translation of the Meaning of the Qur'an*, (Beirut: Dar Al-Choura, 1980), p. 196.

In this study the researcher wants to examine a technique which is hoped will be a good method for teaching vocabulary to elementary students. Teaching English using VCD can be considered as one of the appropriate media. The use of VCD as media can be a choice for the teacher in teaching vocabulary in which the students are given a chance to study vocabulary in different way.

From those reasons above, the researcher wants to try to use Multimedia VCD as media for teaching vocabulary to elementary students. The researcher hoped that it will be an effective and interesting media in teaching vocabulary to the students, so they can enjoy learning English.

B. Reasons for Choosing The Topic

The reasons for choosing the topic are:

1. Vocabulary is very essential element in learning of foreign language, so it is very important to find out how to teach vocabulary using media to make students become interested in learning vocabulary.
2. The researcher wants to make the elementary students more interested in learning vocabulary through watching Multimedia VCD.
3. The researcher wants to know how good the students can master vocabulary through watching Multimedia VCD.

C. Statements of The Problem

1. How is the implementation of Multimedia VCD to improve students' mastery on concrete noun at the fourth grade of SD Islam Al – Azhar 25 Semarang?
2. How significant does the Multimedia VCD improve students' mastery on concrete noun at the fourth grade of SD Islam Al – Azhar 25 Semarang?

D. Objectives of The Study

1. To describe the implementation of Multimedia VCD to improve students' mastery on concrete noun at the fourth grade of SD Islam Al – Azhar 25 Semarang?

2. To find out how significant the Multimedia VCD improves students' mastery on concrete noun at the fourth grade of SD Islam Al – Azhar 25 Semarang.

E. Pedagogical Significance

On basis of the objectives above, the significance of the study can be useful for the teacher, the students, and the researcher. For the students: teaching vocabulary using multimedia VCD can give the students an experience in learning vocabulary and affect their interest toward English lesson. For the teacher: by doing this research, the researcher hopes that the result of the research will be useful to give contributions in enriching the teacher's strategy in teaching vocabulary to the students. Furthermore, the researcher will get some experiences and knowledge from her research and it will be useful in the future.

F. Limitation of The Study

In order to make the study easier and more appropriate, the researcher should decide the limitation of the study. This study is about Multimedia VCD to improve student mastery on concrete noun at the fourth B grade of SD Al-Azhar 25 Semarang in academic year of 2009/2010. The researcher wants to focus her study on the teaching vocabulary using Multimedia VCD and the improvement of students' mastery on vocabulary. Since the contents of the Multimedia VCD are various, the study is limited to the vocabulary about foods, part of body, and animal.

Here, there are many reason why the researcher chooses SD Islam Al – Azhar 25 Semarang become the object of this study. First, SD Islam Al – Azhar 25 is one of school that has a languange labolatory. It also one of good

islamic education school at Semarang that has criterian issued or Kriteria Ketuntasan Minimum (KKM) about 65%. Then, at SD Islam Al- Azhar English has been taught from the kindergarten. Finally, it is located at the strategy place.

In addition, the researcher focus her study at the fourth grade, because the use of a language labolatory was begun from fourth grade up to six grade. It is means that fourth grade is the first class that used a language labolatory in facilitating on teaching and learning. From the reason above, the researcher wants to know how effective the use of multimedia VCD in teaching vocabulary by using language labolatory.

G. Definition of Term

1. Concrete noun

   Concrete exists in a form that can be touched, fell, seen, etc., real and solid.[5]

2. Multimedia

   Multimedia are simply multiple forms of media integrated together, or more than one concurrent presentation medium (for example, on CD-ROM or a Web site).[6] In this case, the researcher will use VCD in teaching vocabulary that consists of three discs.

3. Mastery

   Mastery is a command of a situation, art or skill, and conquest.[7]

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[5]Frank, M., *Modern English, a Practical Reference Guide,* (New Jersey: Prentice Hall. Inc., Englewoud Cliff, 1972), p. 6.

[6]http://www.tech-faq.com/multimedia.shtml, retrieved on 10 January 2010

[7]C. Ralph Tailor, A.M, *Webster's World University Dictionary Encyclopedic*, (Washington DC: Publishers Company INC, 1965), p. 594.

4. Action Research

Action research is a process, which is done by systematically collecting data on teacher's everyday practice and analyzing it in order to come to some decisions about what her/his future practice should be.[8]   In this research there are many cycle that will be done by the researcher.

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[8] Michael J. Wallace, *Action Research for Language Teacher*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998), p. 4.