

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Research Background

In this world we were created as human, automatically every human has language to communicate with another. Allah create human in the world with various nations, ethnics, and customs. Even so the language, one country and another country have different language. Allah states about the variety of language in surah Ar-Rum verse 22:



“And of His signs are the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the diversity of your tongues and colors. Surely there are signs in this for all mankind. (Ar-Rum 22).¹

In surah above, Allah shows us the signs of His authority through differences of tongue. Tongue means a language. There are no people who have the same language in the world. It is influenced by the location. People who live in difference location have difference language. They have to cooperate with one another to complete the necessities in their life Language has important role in human life because language not only to communicate but also to convey the message can express and interpret something. According to *LONGMAN DICTIONARY OF APPLIED LINGUISTIC* language is system of human communication by means of a structured arrangement of sound (or their written representation) to form larger unit, e.g. morphemes, words, sentences.²

Certainly all people in the world have more than one language to convey their message, to express their ideas in oral, written, or signal

¹ Mahmud Y.Zayid, *the Quran: an English Translation of the Meaning of the Quran*,(Lebanon:Dar Al-Choura,1980),p.297

² Jack Richard, John Platt, Heidi Weber, *Longman Dictionary Of Applied Linguistic*, (England: Longman, 1985),p.153

language. Moreover many children perhaps the majorities in the world are exposed to more than one language in early childhood. Children who hear more than one language virtually from birth are sometimes referred to as 'simultaneous bilinguals', where as those who begin to learn a second language later is referred to as 'sequential bilinguals'. There is a considerable body of research on the ability of young children to learn more one language in their earliest year.³

Most of Indonesian has more than one language and differences language between them, Most of them use English as a second language. all of the people from over the world can communicate each other by using English because it is an international language used among them. It is identic with the Janet Holmes state in his book by saying:" A world language or international language is English language. It was used by people such as in economic, political and also education".⁴

In Indonesia English is one of subject to be taught in the elementary school because English has become an international language and used by most communities in the world so hopefully with give this subject earliest help students more interested to this subject and mastering it in order to when they being adult can interact with other people from another country because English is an international language. When teaching elementary school automatically teaches young learners, young learners' especially those up the ages of nine or ten learn differently from children, adolescent, and adults. They have a limited attention span; unless activities are extremely engaging they can easily get bored, losing interest after ten minutes or so. Their understanding comes not just from explanation, but also from what they see and hear and crucial have a chance to touch and interact with. Here role of teacher is very important, because teachers need to plan a range of activities for a given period and flexible enough to move on to the next exercise when teachers see their students getting bored. Teachers can also draw some

³ Pasty M.Lightbown and Nina Spada, *How Languages are Learned*,(New York: Oxford University Press, 1999),p.3

⁴ Janet Holmes, *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*, (U.K: Longman, 1992) p.51

conclusions about what a classroom for children should look like and what might be going on in it. Teachers will want the classroom to be bright and colorful with windows the children can see out of and with enough room for different activities to be taking places⁵. Beside teachers must manage the classroom teachers should have strategy to teach young learners may be teachers when teach young learners using some media for example song, picture, realia, etc to make children more interested to the subject.

Music and song are included as teaching media. The use of music and song in the classroom give positive stimulate to learner who learn a language. A piece of music can change the atmosphere in a classroom or prepare students for a new activity, it can amuse and entertain, and make a satisfactory connection between the world of leisure and the world of learning.⁶

Song is one of audio media that can be used to learn vocabulary, can establish condition which enables the students to acquire knowledge and skill. It make students are not boring in a classroom because they usually like song. By using songs as media to teach children, songs itself can create fun atmosphere to young learners and they can be more interested to the material.

First step when teachers introduce children about new language teachers must introduce the vocabulary of the language because vocabulary is important thing to learn new language and learners have to master it. And young learners have to be known by things in surround them.

Noun is one of the language components because noun is one of vocabulary elements that have to be mastered and acquired by the students in learning a new language. It should be mastered as well as the other language components and language skills. In learning process, students are expected to master a large number of nouns.

This statement appropriate with the Koran Allah said:

⁵ Jeremy Harmer, *The Practice of English Language Teaching*,(United Kingdom: Longman, 2001),p.38

⁶Jeremy Harmer, *ibid*, p.242.

وَعَلَّمَ آدَمَ الْأَسْمَاءَ كُلَّهَا ثُمَّ عَرَضَهُمْ عَلَى الْمَلَائِكَةِ فَقَالَ أَنْبِئُونِي بِأَسْمَاءِ هَؤُلَاءِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ

“ And he taught Adam the nature of all things, then he placed them before the angels and said:’ tell me the nature of these if you are right’.” (Al-Baqarah: 31)⁷.

Therefore, by mastering it, they will be able to communicate their ideas clearly, understand passages, and make simple composition. If the students learn adjective, verb, and adverb without learning noun, they will get difficulties because even a simple sentence which is grammatically correct has a set of nouns.

In the past, vocabulary teaching learning was often given little priority in second language program. But recently, there has been a renewed interest in the nature of vocabulary and its role in learning and teaching. Vocabulary is a core component of language proficiency and provides much of the basis for how well learners speak, listen, read, and write.

Vocabulary has relationship with words, according to Vygotsky word is a microcosm of human consciousness.⁸ young learners learn about new language and they do not understand about the vocabulary of the language it is a big problem that has to be solved by the teacher because if children have limit vocabulary they cannot say anything to express their idea. There is catch word from David Wilkins ‘without grammar very little can be conveyed, without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed’ this is how the linguist David Wilkins summed up the importance of vocabulary learning. If you spend most of your time studying grammar, your English will not improve very much. You will see most improvement if you learn more words and expressions. You can say little with grammar but you can say almost anything with words⁹. And in fact, young learners find difficulties to express their idea because they limit the vocabulary.

⁷ Mahmud Y.Zayid, *the Quran: an English Translation of the Meaning of the Quran*, (Lebanon: Dar Al-Choura, 1980), p.4

⁸ Scott Thornbury, *How to Teach Vocabulary*, (London: Longman, 2002), p.1

⁹ *ibid*, p. 13.

Based on the fact above, it is important to analyze the children's problem in vocabulary and also apply this method that can overcome the problem. This research will help the teacher to find method that can reduce the children's problem.

MI Miftahul Ulum is a school located in Mlonggo Jepara. The condition of students' English skills is low. This is caused by several factors such as limited library collection and most of the teachers used conventional method in teaching learning process. In addition, the environment of school does not support to study English because students believed that English is a hard subject to be studied.

From that case, the researcher conducted an action research to improve students' vocabulary power in noun using children song at the 5th grade of MI Miftahul Ulum Sekuro Jepara in The Academic Year of 2010/2011.

B. Reasons for Choosing the Topic

The researcher has chosen the topic of improving students' vocabulary power in noun using children song for the following reasons:

1. Vocabulary is important to be learnt because when we communicate with other people, we should have mastered it. By mastering it we can be able to communicate our ideas clearly.
2. Considering the importance of vocabulary, the researcher used songs as teaching media to support teaching learning process in order to make students enjoyable in learning vocabulary because most of the English teachers used a conventional method. Song is chosen because there are many vocabularies on the lyric of song.
3. The researcher concerned in doing an action research as methodology of research for the sake of effectiveness and efficiency in teaching English. By doing action research, the researcher intended to improve the quality of teaching method especially in teaching vocabulary.

C. Research Questions

1. Research Question

The research questions of the study, they are as follows:

- a. How is the implementation of English children songs to improve the students' vocabulary power in noun?
- b. How is the improvement of the students' vocabulary power in noun after being taught through using English children songs?

D. Objectives of the Study and Significant of the study:

The objectives of the study will be about:

1. To describe the implementation of using children English songs to improve students' English vocabulary power in noun.
2. To identify the improvement of students' understanding on vocabulary especially using English children songs as media

The result of this study was useful for students, teacher, school, and researcher:

1) For Student

By using song in teaching vocabulary, hopefully the students will be interested in English class especially in learning vocabulary and motivating students to improve their English vocabulary through English children songs.

2) For Teacher

By doing this research, the researcher hopes that the output of the study will be useful and to give contribution of developing English teaching especially in vocabulary.

3) For researcher

The researcher can know in more detail way how to teach vocabulary effectively for elementary school.

E. Scope of the Study

To limit the scope of the study, the writer will only discuss such as follows:

1. This study will be done in the 5th grade students of MI Miftahul Ulum Sekuro Jepara in the academic year of 2010/2011.
2. This study will talk about improving students' English vocabulary power in noun by using English children songs as media. It is done because most of students' lack of vocabulary and it can influence to master all the language skill.

F. Definitions of Key Term

1. Song as Media

Most of students have difficulties in learning English, because they believe that English subject is difficult. In that case, an English teacher needs to be responsive to the students' condition. The teacher should make students enthusiastic in learning English, Brown states that teaching is helping someone to learn how to do something and causing to know or understand.¹⁰ So, teacher as facilitator in learning process should learn creatively how to make students interest in learning. One of strategies that can be used by teacher is using media to support teaching learning process.

According to Arsyad, media is means that are used to convey teaching message.¹¹ Teaching media that are used by teacher to convey the teaching material to the students, there are some media available now. Here the researcher uses song as media to teach vocabulary

Song is a piece of music for accompanied or unaccompanied voice or voices or," the act or art of singing," but the term is generally not used for large vocal forms including opera and oratorio.¹²

¹⁰ H. Douglas Brown, *Principles of Language Learning and Teaching*, Fourth Edition, (NY: Pearson Education, 2005), p.7

¹¹ Azhar Arsyad, *Media Pembelajaran*, (Jakarta: PT Raja Grafindo Persada, 2006), p.4

¹² <http://wikipedia.org/wiki/Song>. accessed on 27/03/1010/17.27

Song influential to the teacher and young learners, as a teacher you can use song to create welcoming atmosphere, change students' mental, and to support young learners for learning. Song helps students connect with the material and memorize so much vocabulary.

2. English Vocabulary Power

Vocabulary is a set of lexemes, including single words, compounds words and idioms.¹³

Vocabulary is one of language component which have to be mastered by students in learning new language, students should have an adequate vocabulary to improve the four language skill. In listening, by having many vocabularies they can hear and understand all the words in oral communication easily. In speaking skills, they can cover all the words that they use in oral communication. In reading skills, they can understand all the words in written materials. And in writing skills, they can express their ideas, opinions, and feeling cohesively. The writing and speaking are language productions that belong to productive skills while listening and reading involve receiving the message that belong to receptive skills.¹⁴

When the students limited of vocabulary, they will have some difficulties in learning and understanding the foreign language.

The definition of power is the specific ability or faculty. So, the word of power is used to measure the strength of students' vocabulary. Vocabulary power is the ability of students to understand the English vocabulary.

¹³ Jack Richards, John Platt, and Heidi Weber, *Longman Dictionary of Applied Linguistics*, (United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press, 1995), p.370

¹⁴ Arnold, *Introduction to Applied Linguistics*, (New York New York: Oxford University Press, 2002), p. 40-41