

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

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. In that surely are signs for those who possess knowledge.” (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 is a system of arbitrary conventionalized, vocal, written and gestural symbols that enable members of a given community to communicate intelligibly with one another.² Nowadays language as a tool of communication and social control. Without language we cannot communicate, express our feeling and share with other people around the world.

English is a one of international language is used in many countries over the world including Indonesia. In Indonesia, English is the first

¹ Prof. R.A.H. Soenarjo, S. H., *Al-Qur'an dan terjemahnya*, (Jakarta), P.644.

² H. Douglas Brown, *Principles of Language Learning and Teaching*, (New York: Pearson Education, 2005), 4nd Ed., p. 5.

foreign language which has played important roles in the development of Indonesia; it is used as a means of communication when Indonesia wants to cooperate with other countries. It is also used as a national development. It is apparent that English in Indonesia is very important.

As the most important foreign language in Indonesia, English becomes one of the compulsory subjects taught in education institute. English is also considered as a difficult subject for the Indonesian students, because English is completely different from Indonesian language being look at from the system of structure, pronunciation and vocabulary. The government always made effort to improve the quality of English teaching. By improving the teachers' quality and other components involved in educational process, the English teaching in Indonesia improved time to time.

Teaching English in elementary school is useful. As we know that young students especially students in elementary school have big memory to memorize everything they learn. Thus, in elementary school, English is taught as an additional subject. As elementary school is the place for students to learn English for the first time, the students just learn the basic vocabulary. Vocabulary is very important to be mastered first since it is an essential means in conducting communication. Based on the reason above, the focus should be on the vocabulary in the elementary school. It can help them understand the basis of studying English and prepare to study English in higher level.

English teaching involves four language skills; they are listening, speaking, reading and writing. In teaching and learning a language, there are four aspects that support four language skills above such as: grammar, vocabulary, spelling and pronunciation that they are also taught in English teaching and learning process. English has important component that is vocabulary.

Vocabulary is major concern in elementary schools materials because vocabulary is an essential means in conducting communication.

Students who want to improve their English should master the vocabulary. Vocabulary is one of the important aspects in learning English. The mastery of it would be very helpful when one was learning foreign language having a great mastery on it; it would also facilitate him to comprehend the subject learnt in which it was in English. Vocabulary is used in any situation; it is in the form of spoken or written language. We should have an adequate vocabulary to improve the four language skills. Without grammar very little can be conveyed. Without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed.³ As the writer concluded that the quality of one's language skill depends on the quality and the quantity of vocabulary mastered, the more vocabulary he mastered, the easier to develop four language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) and learn English as second language generally.

Mastery of vocabulary is not an easy thing for students, especially for young learners, because young learners have limited ability in learning and memorizing the vocabulary. It is not an easy task for teacher to teach vocabulary, because of the limitation of students' ability. So the teacher needs to apply appropriate technique in the classroom. Beside appropriate technique teacher also must use interesting medium in learning activities.

Teaching learning process should be varied to make students feel fun during the process. In language learning, they need more than instruction and common from their teacher. This is challenge for the teacher to be able to motivate the students to pay attention. Hamalik says that "media can be used to motivate students in learning".⁴ The teachers' creativity in using teaching aid will increase the probability that the students will learn more and the knowledge will retain better in their mind. The researcher hopes that by using such kind of teaching aid, our students' will not be bored and learn English with full

³ Scott Thornbury, *How to Teach Vocabulary*, (London: Longman, 2002), P. 13

⁴ Prof. Dr. Azhar Arsyad, M. A., *Media Pembelajaran*, (Jakarta: PT. Raja Grafindo Persada, 2003), 1st Ed. P. 15

motivation. A good teacher has some media and he will select the efficient one in order the learners to be more interested in the lesson.

In teaching a language, a teacher might realize that teacher could not apply only one or two strategies to all levels. In reverse, teacher was required to be able to recognize the characters of the students and to select an appropriate strategy to them. It was not different from teaching English to elementary school students, the teacher was supposed to know that the students was so closed with something fun and enjoyable. So whenever the teacher taught, teacher had to be selective in choosing a strategy to introduce a learning material. A good teaching strategy would automatically facilitate to get students' interest in learning process.

Students in elementary school are still young learners. In this research, the researcher focuses on the students on fifth graders at SDN 03 Tengengwetan. Because the students' achievement of English subject in SDN 03 Tengengwetan is less than SDN 01 and SDN 02 Tengengwetan.

Usually students in young learners think that English is difficult. To teach vocabulary, teacher should be more creative and keep the students away from feeling bored. The teacher must be able to organize the students in teaching learning process. If the teacher cannot teach the students properly, the students will not enjoy their learning. Consequently, the teaching learning will fail.

As it is found in SDN 03 Tengengwetan, the teacher has some problems in teaching learning process. For example, the students are bored, afraid to learn, and still passive in the English class. It makes the students' achievement in learning vocabulary low. Their difficulties in learning vocabulary make their achievement fall below the standard.

The problem that may occur in teaching learning process may bring negative impact to the students; afraid to learn, passive, and bored. It makes the teaching learning process become useless. If the

teacher is not attractive, the students get difficulty in studying English. Besides, they also cannot respond the explanation of teacher. The students' mastery of vocabulary will be interested if the teacher uses suitable medium. If the media is used by the teacher are not appropriate, the students are bored and passive in learning process.

The writer looked that teacher of English subject on fifth graders at SDN 03 Tengengwetan still use conventional methods, the teacher only translates the words just monotone, so the students will easy to get bored and they will say that English is difficult. The teacher must be able to use strategies and technique in teaching and learning process.

Learning vocabulary can be done through many ways, such as: dictionary, picture, guessing, reading, game etc. To make effective techniques in teaching vocabulary especially common nouns, the teacher should create various teaching techniques to increase the motivation of students; one of them is using game "word find puzzle". Using game "word find puzzle" in teaching vocabulary is appropriate technique to apply in class because word find puzzle is one kind of medium that can help teacher draw students' interest and arouse their motivation in the teaching learning process more effective.

Games have been shown to have advantages and effectiveness in learning vocabulary in various ways. First, games bring in relaxation and fun for students. Second, games usually involve friendly completion and they keep learners interested.⁵

The facts above underline may intention to present teaching vocabulary especially teaching common nouns to fifth graders of elementary school by using game "word find puzzle". The students play the words that are taught by the teacher. So, the teacher should place a

⁵ Nguyen Thi Thanh Huyen and Khuat Thi Thu Nga, '*Learning Vocabulary through Games*', <http://www.teflgames.com/why.html,on> 11st January 2011

higher a priority on having fun in his teaching. The students are interested in game while they learn something through it.

So, the writer wants to do research on “The Effectiveness of Word Find Puzzle to Teach Common Noun for Fifth Grades of Elementary School” An Experimental Study to The Fifth Grades of SDN 03 Tengengwetan Siwalan Pekalongan sin Academic Years 2010/2011.

B. Reasons for Choosing the Topic

Some reasons for choosing the topic are as follows:

1. Teaching noun to the elementary school is not simple and easy case because teachers should be creative and able to select the appropriate technique and media.
2. Many teachers think that using media in teaching noun is not widely available, expensive, and waste much time. So, they teach through the media of learning vocabulary that are not suitable, and even some times without the media.
3. There are a lot of types of teaching media. In this study, the writer will discuss one of the visual media that is game. In this case, the writer is going to use word-find Puzzle in order to make the teaching learning process will be more interesting and helpful.

C. Definition of the Key Term

1. Effectiveness.

Effectiveness means the capability of producing an affect.⁶ The word effectiveness is noun from the word effective. Students are able to understand, mention and pronounce vocabulary about the material after being taught word find puzzle.

2. Word Find Puzzle

⁶ Wikipedia, “Effectiveness”, [Http://en.wiki.org/wiki/Effectiveness#column-one](http://en.wiki.org/wiki/Effectiveness#column-one). January 15, 2011

A word find puzzle is a word game that is letters of a word in a grid, that usually has a rectangular or square shape. The object of the game is to find and mark all of the words hidden in the grid.⁷

3. To teach Common Noun

To make effective teaching in teaching vocabulary especially common nouns, the writer should create various teaching technique to increase the motivation of students. By the end of the lesson, students are able to understand explanation about common nouns, mention vocabulary of common nouns (transportation, occupation and library) and mention and pronounce vocabulary of common nouns (transportations, occupations and library).

D. Research Question

The problems can be stated as follows:

1. How is the implementation of word find puzzle in teaching common nouns in the fifth grade of SDN 03 Tengengwetan in the Academic year 2010/2011?
2. How is the effectiveness of word find puzzle to teach common noun in the fifth grade students of SDN 03 Tengengwetan in the Academic year 2010/2011?

E. Objectives

The objectives of the study as follows:

1. To find out the implementation of word find puzzle to teach common nouns in the fifth grade students of SDN 03 Tengengwetan.
2. To find out the effectiveness of word find puzzle to teach common noun in the fifth grade students of SDN 03 Tengengwetan.

F. Significance of the Study

⁷ <http://dictionary.sensagent.com/word+search/en-en/> On January 15, 2011

This research is significance for the following reasons:

1. For the students

Hopefully the result will be beneficial for the students, so that the students can enjoy studying English by using games.

2. For the teacher

Especially those who teach at SDN 03 Tengengwetan Kab. Pekalongan in making be motivated to learn English and teaching vocabulary especially noun.

3. For the researcher

It is expected that it will be useful knowledge for the writer when she start her profession as a teacher in the future time.