

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

One objective of English teaching in Indonesia which refers to standard of content curriculum (KTSP) is to develop student's communication ability in four skills and components. KTSP is a curriculum that organized and implemented in each institution of education.¹ The four skills are: listening, speaking, reading, and writing and the components are: vocabulary, pronunciation, and structure/grammar. It means that students are expected to understand and express information, feeling, thought, develop knowledge, technology, and culture in English. Based on the curriculum, the language components (vocabulary, pronunciation, and structure) are taught integratively and communicatively in order to improve the skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. All of these are important to study for us.

Vocabulary is one of language component because all of language have words. Language emerges first as words, both historically, and terms of the way each of us learned our first language and any subsequent language. The coining of new words never stops. We are continually learning new words, and learning new meaning for old words. If we are not familiar with all, we may have found the text or sentences heavy going.

By studying vocabulary, many people can mastery the words or sentences correctly. Many people also can communicate on to another over long distances and periods of time because vocabulary is a part of language and language is media to communicate with another people.

Allah decrees in the holy Qur'an:

¹ Syaiful Ibad. *Model dan Teknik Penilaian pada Tingkat Satuan Pendidikan*, (Jakarta: Gaung Persada Press., 2008), p. 1.

اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ ﴿1﴾ خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ﴿2﴾ اقْرَأْ
 وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ ﴿3﴾ الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ ﴿4﴾ عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ
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“Read in the name of your Lord who created, created man from clots of congealed blood. Read! Your Lord is the Most Beautiful One. Who taught by the pen taught man what he did not know.” (Q.S. Al Alaq: 1-5).²

From the verse above, God gives remain for human in order to thanks to God everytime. He teaches us to communicate on to another people by using good language in appropriate with language structure correctly. Language is media to communicate, so human being needs to learn how to read, speak and write correctly. They can learn it in school or other educational institutions.

In presentation of English material, there are some elements in teaching students, especially in elementary school. There are namely phonology, vocabulary, structures, culture, literature, etc. From those elements, vocabulary is the one of important thing for students because it is used in daily activities. One of the part of English vocabulary that important to study is studying verb.

By mastering English verb, the elementary students are supposed to be able to gain valuable information and knowledge about their daily activities. However, it is not easy thing to do because English is difficult for Indonesian students.

In teaching process, teachers play a more important role. They should be creative to select teaching media and techniques to get students' interest and motivation in English learning.

The teachers are demanded to choose the appropriate ones to make class fresh and interest for students. Teacher can use media in English teaching, for the example is by using game. The teachers' creativity in teaching vocabulary by using game will increase the probability that students

learn more and the knowledge will retain better in mind. One of game to teach vocabulary is by using scrabble game.

Scrabble game is a board game to arrange the letter. It was introduced in 1948 by Hasbro. Scrabble involves creating words from tiles, each with a letter on. Scrabble may be the most popular word game around. To play scrabble, we need two to four players. The first player must make a full word from tiles in their hand. After that, each person have to create a word that overlaps one already on the board, a bit like words on a crossword puzzle.

The use of scrabble game in teaching verb may help in teaching since the teacher wants to realize the student's weakness in comprehending the language, especially in mastering English vocabulary. Through scrabble game, students also can enrich their vocabulary and study how to spell the word.

In line with the teacher's creativity for developing student's mastery of vocabulary, the researcher wants to help in teaching and learning process by using scrabble game in teaching verb. In this study, an action research is conducted with the fourth grade students of SD Al Azhar 25 Semarang in the academic year of 2009/2010.

B. Reason For Choosing the Topic

As noted above, the title of this study is "Using Scrabble Game to Improve Students' Mastery of English Verb with the Fourth Grade Students of SD Al Azhar 25 Semarang in the Academic Year of 2009/2010".

The researcher chooses this topic because of two reasons such as below:

1. The researcher wants to know the implementation of scrabble game in teaching verb.
2. The researcher wants to know the improvement of students' mastery of English verb by using scrabble game.

C. Statements of the Problem

Base on the background of study above, this study is focused on the statements:

1. What is the implementation of using scrabble in teaching verb will appropriate with the procedure of scrabble game in teaching and learning process?
2. Is there improvement of student's mastery of English verb by using scrabble?

D. Objectives of Study

There are two objectives of the study in this research, that are:

1. To describe the implementations of teaching verb by using scrabble game.
2. To find out the improvement of students' mastery of English verb by using scrabble game.

E. Limitation of the Study

This study is about scrabble game to improve students' mastery of English verb at the fourth grade of SD Al Azhar 25 Semarang in the academic year of 2009/2010. The researcher wants to focus her study on the implementation of teaching verb by using scrabble game and the improvement of students' mastery of English verb. The material of verb is followed the curriculum at elementary school, and the verb is about simple form and past form of regular and irregular verbs.

In SD Al Azhar 25 Semarang, English has been taught from the first grade until six grades and it is obligatory for students in this school. Because of this reason, the teacher must be creative to improve the teaching method in order to make students feel comfort and fun. The teacher allows to use teaching media and creative teaching method. By using creative teaching, the students will be easy to identify the vocabulary in order to be able to understand and communicate with other.

In this study, the researcher chooses the fourth grade students in SD Al Azhar 25 Semarang especially class IVA because English in fourth grade is still focus on basic vocabulary such as noun, verb, adverb, adjective, and other simple words. The researcher chooses class IV A as the object of study because she wants to help in improving students' mastery of English verb by using scrabble game. Beside that, the researcher wants to help in improving students' achievement at class IVA because there is decreasing of students' quality in studying English than other class IV. Because of these reasons, the researcher wants to help in improving students' mastery by creating in teaching method and using media that is scrabble game that students know it before as crossword puzzle.

F. Pedagogical Significance

Based on the objectives of study above, the significance of the study can be started as follows:

1. For writer

By doing this research, the researcher hopes that she will get some experiences and knowledge about her study and it will be useful in the future.

2. For Teacher

By doing this research, the researcher hopes that the output of the study will be useful to give contribution of developing English teaching in elementary school. By using scrabble, the researcher hopes it can help their students to identify the students' problem in memorizing English words . So, the students will get better achievement and able to enrich their vocabulary..

3. For Students

By using scrabble as an alternative method in teaching and learning process, hopefully the students will enrich their English vocabulary, in order to be able to communicate with other well.