

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **A. Background**

Vocabulary is an important basic skill for learning English, vocabulary serves as the foundation for the growth of essential language abilities like reading, speaking, writing, and listening. Consequently, person are required to communicate courteously both orally and writing for diverse purposes. The importance of vocabulary not only for learning written text but for the entire language learning process. The critical function of vocabulary mastery in foreign language learning and language proficiency is further highlighted. Can be concluded that vocabulary is a very important part of language, especially for the teaching and learning process.

Vocabulary is a building block of language and therefore it makes sense to be able to measure students' knowledge about it. Without adequate vocabulary, people cannot communicate effectively or express their ideas both in oral and written form. This supports the assertion that learning vocabulary is one of the most crucial components of learning English, even if one is unable to create strictly correct sentences. However, many students encounter challenges and limitations in English, with vocabulary being a primary hindrance. Struggling to interpret instructions, comprehend teachers' directions, and communicate effectively, students with limited vocabulary often face difficulties in learning the language.

The issue with learning English, particularly mastering vocabulary, is rooted in the teaching methodology. Numerous approaches focus on rote memorization for vocabulary acquisition. However, there are multiple avenues for enhancing students' vocabulary proficiency, including leveraging technological advancements like the Quizlet app on their mobile devices.

Internal factors, students have difficulty mastering vocabulary skills, do not have the motivation to memorize vocabulary, students' interest in learning English is still lacking, as well as cognitive abilities such as memory and information processing abilities. Choosing inappropriate learning strategies also affects students' ability to learn vocabulary.

Meanwhile external factors, teachers deliver less interesting learning material, still use conventional techniques, teachers provide less effective

media, student learning environment and lack of supporting tools. Apart from that, researchers obtained vocabulary mastery scores from the results of a pre-survey of class X SMK Muhammadiyah 3 Metro of Culinary Art. Vocabulary scores can be seen in the table below:

**Table 1. 1 Pre-survey Data Vocabulary Score at First Grade Culinary Art of SMK Muhammadiyah 3 Metro**

NO.	Categories	Score	Frequency	Percentages
1	Excellent	> 90 – 100	0	0%
2	Good	> 80 – 90	10	33.3%
3	Fair	> 70 -80	15	50%
4	Poor	> 60 – 70	5	16.7%
5	Failed	< 60	0	0%
Total			30	100%

**Source: English teacher of SMK Muhammadiyah 3 Metro**

From the data above it can be explained that 0% of students are categorized as excellent, 40% of students are categorized as good, 40% of students are categorized as fair, 20% of students are categorized as poor and 0% of students are categorized as failed. Therefore from these data it can be concluded that the ability of students' vocabulary still shows a percentage ranging from poor to medium.

Based on the problems above, students face difficulties in terms of vocabulary. When doing the exercises, students seemed to have difficulty answering the questions asked by the teacher, and some did not even understand the meaning of the sentences in the questions. That is because the teaching materials and learning media delivered and used by teachers are less interesting and effective so that students' ability and enthusiasm in learning vocabulary becomes low.

There are many ways that can be used to improve students' vocabulary. Using interesting applications is an important factor in creating a good atmosphere in class activities. Teachers must know how to attract students' interest and design materials and exercises that are easy for students to understand during class, so that they can be used in an interesting and effective form of learning.

Through the problems above, researcher offer media that might be able to build student motivation and understanding, and make classes more effective and interesting, one of which is by using the Quizlet application. Quizlet is a study application accessible on mobile and the web, enables students to engage with educational content through various media and games. It operates by employing user-created learning modules containing terms along with their definitions or descriptions. These modules, known as study sets, are delivered to students through diverse learning modes such as flashcards, games, collaborative activities, and quizzes. This facilitates rote learning environments, proving beneficial for mastering various subjects, particularly languages and vocabulary.

In this problem, Quizlet demonstrates significant potential as a valuable media in foreign language and vocabulary instruction. Consequently, researchers aim to investigate the integration of the "Quizlet Application" as a media tool in vocabulary instruction, aiming to foster enthusiasm and engagement in vocabulary classes for both teachers and students. The researcher is focused on conducting a research titled "The Effectiveness of Quizlet Application in Student Vocabulary Mastery at First-Grade Culinary Art of SMK Muhammadiyah 3 Metro."

#### **B. Identification of Problem**

Based on the background of the problem, it can be identified several problems as follows:

1. Students' difficulty with acquiring vocabulary proficiency.
2. There's a lack of enthusiasm among students for memorizing vocabulary.
3. Teaching media delivered by teachers are not interesting.
4. The instructional media used by teachers are not effective.

#### **C. Limitation of Problem**

There are much kind of media in teaching English especially in vocabulary, this makes researcher interested in doing this by measuring The Effectiveness of Quizlet Application in Students Vocabulary at First Grade Culinary Art of SMK Muhammadiyah 3 Metro.

#### **D. Research Questions**

Based on the problems described above the researcher formulate the following research question.

1. Is the Quizlet Application effective in students' vocabulary mastery at first grade Culinary Art of SMK Muhammadiyah 3 Metro?
2. Is there significant result of the effectiveness in students' vocabulary mastery with Quizlet Application at first grade Culinary Art of SMK Muhammadiyah 3 Metro?

#### **E. Research Objective**

Based on the problems that have been written above, the purposes of the researcher to conduct this research are:

1. To know whether the Quizlet application is effective in students' vocabulary mastery at first grade Culinary Art of SMK Muhammadiyah 3 Metro or not.
2. To find out whether there is significant effectiveness the Quizlet application implemented in students' vocabulary mastery at first grade Culinary of SMK Muhammadiyah 3 Metro.

#### **F. Research Scope**

The scope of this research is following

1. The research design in this research is experimental design.
2. The subject of the research is the first grade Culinary Art of SMK Muhammadiyah 3 Metro
3. The object of the research is Quizlet Application.
4. The place of the research is in the SMK Muhammadiyah 3 Metro.
5. The time of the research is conducted in the even semester 2023/2024

#### **G. Benefits of the Research**

1. For the students

The researcher hopes that this research serves as motivational encouragement for students to engage in vocabulary learning, fostering increased enthusiasm in the pursuit of English language skills, particularly in vocabulary acquisition.

2. For the teacher

The researcher hopes that this research can serve as a tool for teachers to assess and enhance the effectiveness of vocabulary classes by incorporating teaching media similar to those employed in this research.

3. For the researcher

The findings of this research can serve as a valuable reference, offering new insights and understanding to researchers regarding suitable methodologies in teaching English to future educators.