

## **CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION**

### **A. Background of the Research**

A student with special needs is a student who has a physical, emotional, behavioral or learning disability or a disability that requires additional or special services to participate in daily activities, including studies. According to Government Regulation no. 72 of 1991 concerning Special Education, children with special needs can be divided into 4 categories as follows: physical abnormalities which include the blind, deaf, and quadriplegic, mental disorders which include mild intellectual disability and moderate mental retardation, Behavioral disorders, Double disorder.

Mental retardation describes human functioning that is significantly below average because of limitations both in intelligence and adaptive behavior. Mental retardation is classified into four categories: slightly, moderately, severely, and profoundly. Learning new things and interacting socially might be difficult for those with intellectual limitations.

Mental retardation is also a part from the generation that must be given the opportunity to develop themselves according to its potential. One of them is getting an education appropriate level and ability because every citizen has the right obtain the same education both normal and children with special needs. Education for children in need specifically, it can be done in the family, community (non-formal), and at school (formal).

Teaching English vocabulary to students with learning disabilities can be difficult because they may have poor oral language skills, which directly affects their ability to understand academic text and participate in classroom discussions. However, there are several research-based strategies that teachers can use to effectively teach vocabulary to students with learning disabilities. The amount of English vocabulary of children with special needs can vary depending on the type of special needs and the child's and developmental level. Special needs include conditions such as developmental language disorders, learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorders, and others.

Vocabulary is important for the students because by having many vocabulary, so easily to construct more sentences. Most students from SLB find a serious to improve their vocabulary and this amount will increase with time and

learning. Despite possible learning difficulties, children with special educational needs can improve their language abilities with the correct approach and support.

Researcher discovered that mentally retardation had the lowest degree of vocabulary memorization in the base of the pre study. In comparison to humans as a whole, intellectual and cognitive talents are below average, making it more challenging to bind something. The pre-study of students' vocabulary scores that the researcher also carried out produced the following results:

**Table 1 Pra survey Data English Vocabulary Score**

No	Category	Score	Frequency	Percentage
1	Excellent	81-100	0	0%
2	Good	61-80	0	0%
3	Fair	41-60	0	0%
4	Poor	21-40	1	33%
5	Failed	0-20	2	67%
Total			3	100%

Source : English Teacher SLB Harapan Ibu

Based on the table it can be explained that 33% of student vocabulary scores are categorized as poor, 67% of students are categorized as failed. It was concluded in this class falls into low category of vocabulary.

Based on the preliminary data mentally retardation student at SLB Harapan Ibu struggle with finding ideas, students focus less on the teacher, there are still student who are busy with their own activities. Since learning is excessively repetitive, researcher advise utilizing digital picture series media.

Picture media is teaching media that is included in the kinds of visual media the digital picture series is an online picture series that aids in effectively conveying ideas and concepts to writers of stories. This digital picture series is offered in the form of digital media or online/internet media in order to create digital picture series media, as opposed to the picture series in general, which is only presented in the form of print media. This picture can be shown as a slide show, or as a series of pictures that can be seen in order.

The researcher was interested in creating digital picture series as a medium for vocabulary instruction because of its application to new technological concepts and the use of digital media. With the use a series of digital images is expected to increase the vocabulary at SLB Harapan Ibu. In contrast to picture series, which are exclusively displayed through printed media, digital picture series are displayed through digital media. The researcher created these media

by using computers or computer-related media, and they are currently being developed through online and internet media.

Based on the background above, the researcher interested to develop digital picture series as a media to improve vocabulary at SLB Harapan Ibu. The existence of the digital picture series is expected to be appropriate media to help students in learning vocabulary. The researcher is going to do the researcher entitled **“Improving Vocabulary Mastery Using Digital Picture Series at SLB Harapan Ibu”**.

### **B. Problem Identify**

Related to the background above, it can be defined that :

1. Low student learning outcomes in English vocabulary.
2. Students are busy with their own activities during learning activities.
3. Students less focus on the teacher.

### **C. Question of the Research**

Related to the background above, formulates a question of the research is: Does the Digital Picture Series can improve English vocabulary of Mental retardation students of SLB Harapan Ibu.

### **D. Objective of the Research**

The purpose of this study is to determine whether providing students with a set of digital images can improve their English vocabulary.

### **E. Significance of the Research**

This result on this research was expected to be useful for the teachers and students to apply the “Digital Picture Series” in the process to build a better atmosphere and student interest in the classroom activities.

1. For teacher, can be uses to help to teach students every lesson.
2. For student, learn vocabulary so that can be proficient in English, and learning vocabulary is more fun.
3. For researcher this study is not yet flawless, the researcher hopes that another researcher will be able to improve this research.

## **F. Scope of the Research**

The scope of this research was restricted to improve students vocabulary through of digital picture series of SLB Harapan Ibu. Researcher used digital picture to attract and improve student vocabulary. It only be focused on the use of noun.