

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Study

People cannot be separated from language. It can be proved from everyday conversation, of course there is the role of language that makes it able to communicate with one another, each point across. Not only in oral form, of course, is the language also used in written form.

For humans at anywhere in the world, certainly will not argue how important language for himself and his life. The progress of science and civilization of any nation, again, cannot be released with what we call language.

Through language, we cannot only communicate, but also to explore and to transfer knowledge to other humans. Through the language anyway, we can talk, and abstract the whole empirical experience, rational, spiritual and conceptually, structured, and systematic.

In short, the language is a gift of God that is truly extraordinary, both its function and its benefits. Without the language, knows what the world is. For humans, language is absolute. For humans, language is a sine qua non, one that should be there for him.

Language is very important to learn because it is a tool to communicate with others. "People use language to accomplish some function, such as arguing, persuading, or promising" (Mufidah, 2003). Besides that,

language is also to deliver message, express ideas, thought, and one's feeling to other. In this regard, Finocchiaro (1974) stated that "language is means by which results of human thought and action are passed on".

Allah SWT in His Holy Koran surah Ar-Ruum: 22 has also granted to our capability in communicating and interacting to each other as follow:

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ خَلْقَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَأَخْتَلَفُ الْأَلْسِنَتِكُمْ
وَاللُّوَانِكُمْ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّلْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٢٢﴾

At the end of this verse, Allah SWT says....." verily in that are signs for those who know. Yusuf Ali (1983) said that it can be understood from this verse that Allah SWT creates some variations of languages in order to be taught and researched by the human. It means that the creature needs an instrument to use in communication, one of them is language.

The other the Holy Koran, Allah SWT said, Surah an-Nahl: 103

وَلَقَدْ نَعَلْنَا أَنَّهُمْ يَقُولُونَ إِنَّمَا يُعَلِّمُهُ بَشَرٌ لِّسَانُ الَّذِي يُلْحِدُونَ إِلَيْهِ
أَعْجَمِيٌّ وَهَذَا لِسَانٌ عَرَبِيٌّ مُّبِينٌ ﴿١٠٣﴾

The verse says that people have to know each other and have a good relationship, then to get the aim in communication. Language is much needed, language is communication; English is the most widely used language in

international communication. At least that is the case today. There are many other languages in the world, but English has separate gap (barrier) in communication so much easier to understand.

There are many languages in the world that are used to communicate, one of them is English. In this globalization era, everyone is demanded to prepare a great resources for their life particularly in science and technology. Of course, to compete against a global demanding, the people should have an adequate knowledge and good skill. Therefore, mastering English language both oral and written English actively is a necessity for academic and global media communication requirement because it has become compulsory for everyone who wants to compete against the globalization era.

“English is one of the important language and used widely in the world. Firstly, English has functions as a scientific key, because a lot of science and also important books for studying exact and social science is written in English. Secondly, English is a medium language among nations, so that no wonder if a lot of nations learning English (Elan, 2006). In short, English has a strong reason to be used as an international language.

English in Indonesia is generally taught as a foreign language. The term '*foreign language*' in the field of language teaching different from the '*second language*'. Foreign language is a language that is not used as a means of communication in certain countries where the language is taught. While a second language is a language other than the primary, but became one of the languages

commonly used in a country. For example, English is the second language in Singapore. Mass media, communication, and discussion in the country often use English.

In Indonesia, English is one of the foreign languages beside Arabic. It has been taught from elementary school until university. The purpose of English learning at Indonesia school basically is to produce people mastery English perfectly that they are to be able to read and write very well.

Henry Guntur Tarigan (1994) said that “in learning English, there are four skills that must be developed and mastered by students. The four skills are listening skill, speaking skill, reading skill, and writing skill”. L. G Alexander (1975) also states, “the students must be trained adequately in all four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. If the teacher is to train his students in all four skills, he must make efficient of the time at his disposal. Students’ competency on the four skills above can be gained based on their ability in some subject matters, one of them is vocabulary.

The vocabulary mastery is one of the important things in English especially in writing and speaking. Because writing and speaking are part of the four skills that must be developed and mastery by students.

In learning English, vocabulary has a very important role to understand and express information, thought, feeling, and develop science, technology, and culture of the English language. Thus, English serves as a tool to communicate in order to access information other than as a means to foster

interpersonal relationships, exchange information and enjoy the aesthetic of language in British culture. The more vocabulary we have to be more easily we understand other people's speech or writing in that language, and the more easily the contents we can express our thoughts in that language orally and in writing. Conversely, the fewer the English vocabulary that we have, the more difficult we understand other people's speech or writing in English and will be more difficult it we reveal the contents of the mind in English, both orally and in writing. Which includes the ability of listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Students must master the vocabulary to be easy to use English; well it makes a sentence or conversation. Some English words are mastered; of course, reflect whether students are actually able to speak English or only a little English. Therefore students should learn more in the vocabulary in the English language because students are not English native and entering the era of globalization, better known by the free market requires every individual to prepare reliable resources, especially in the field of communication. In this case the role of vocabulary in English is indispensable both in mastering communication technologies as well as in interacting directly

Vocabulary is very important to learn, because the students are able to use many words to express their idea in target language. "The role of vocabulary in language learning is vital as children are still able to interact and convey their message by producing one-word utterance" (Mufidah, 2003). Therefore, vocabulary means a very basic skill that the students must have. Because of

having many vocabularies, the students can share their messages and feeling with the correct choosing of words.

There is a variety of ways through which we can introduce and/or teach vocabulary, one of them is by using picture. It is very common way that applied by the teacher to teaching vocabulary. Thus, it has been introduced to students since beginning level. Teachers also often give test about the students vocabulary ability with a test picture which students can identify the object or person in that pictures with words that correspond with the lessons that had been given previously. Pictures are easiest media to introduce and restate the whole teaching and learning in the form of tests to determine the depth of students understanding and vocabulary ability.

However, pictures are usually difficult for students to remember the name of object, they often get confused and make mistake in knowing the names of the pictures. This problem often caused by error in recognizing pictures. In recognizing the pictures of the previous vocabulary lessons in the classroom, students will know something or someone they had seen or heard before. Based on the reason above, the writer is interested in making a research entitled “THE STUDENTS’ ABILITY IN RECOGNIZING PICTURES IN ENGLISH OF THE SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS AT MTsN PADANG BATUNG SUNGAI PARING SOUTH HULU SUNGAI REGENCY ACADEMIC YEAR 2014/2015.”

B. Statement of Problem

Based on the background above, the writer formulates the problem is follows:

1. How is the students' ability in recognizing pictures in English of the seventh grade students at MTsN Padang Batung Sungai Paring South Hulu Sungai Regency academic year 2014/2015?
2. What are the students' errors in recognizing pictures in English of the seventh grade students at MTsN South Hulu Sungai Regency academic year 2014/2015?

C. Objective of Study

Based on the formulation of problems, the purpose of the research as follows:

1. To know the students' ability in recognizing pictures in English of the seventh grade students at MTsN Padang Batung Sungai Paring South Hulu Sungai Regency academic year 2014/2015.
2. To know the students' error in recognizing pictures in English of the seventh grade students at MTsN Padang Batung Sungai Paring South Hulu Sungai Regency academic year 2014/2015?

D. Significance of Study

The results that are going to be reached in this research are expected to:

1. The result of the research will be achieving a better result in teaching learning English at junior school.
2. Enrich the writer's knowledge and experience in learning more about English.
3. Give information and additional references for MTsN Padang Batung Sungai Paring South Hulu Sungai Regency to improve the methods and materials in teaching learning English.
4. Information and comparison for next research.
5. Enrich the literary sources of Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies.

E. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid any misinterpretation in understanding in this title, the writer will explain some terms in the title follows:

1. Ability is capacity of power (to do something physical or mental) (Hornby, 1987, p. 2). The ability that is discussed in this research relates to students' ability in interpreting pictures.
2. Recognizing means to know who someone is what something is when you see or hear them, because you have seen or heard them or it before.

3. Picture is painting, drawing, etc that shows a scene, a person or thing.

(Oxford, 2008, p. 330).