

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### **A. Background of Study**

English is one of the foreign languages that taught to students. It becomes a subject in every level of education such as in elementary school, junior high school, and also senior high school. Based on the explanation above, we can know and understand that English becomes an important thing for communication. Moreover Language has a fundamental means to send ideas, thought, feeling and emotion. Alwasilah (1993:19) says that “language is a method of conveying our idea to the minds of other persons”. The others can more easily understand our ideas, feeling, thought, and emotions if we express them using the language.

Language as a tool for communication, takes an important role in our daily activities, especially English as international language. Relate to Brown (1994:122) state that “English is increasingly being used as a tool for interaction among nonnative speakers. Well over one half of the one billion English speakers of the world learned English as a second (or foreign) language”. It can be said that the language really needed in our life because it is the complete expression of our minds, hearts and needs. Beside that we can improve our capacities of science, knowledge and technology; we can say that English is a foreign language as a bridge to get information of knowledge and other cultures. Written in Holy Qur’an Surah Ar Rum verse 22 as follows:

According to Harris (1969:9) language includes four skills, or complexes of skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing”. Speaking is the ability of conveying the message orally, writing is the ability of transferring the message in the written form, reading is the ability of catching writing message and listening is the ability of getting the oral message.

Many language learners regard speaking ability as the measurement of mastering a language, as Nunan (1991:39) state that “the successful in speaking is measured through someone ability to carry out a conversation in language”. These learners define fluency as the ability to converse with others, much more than the ability to read, write, or comprehend oral language. They regard speaking as one of the most important skill they can acquire, and they assess their progress in terms of their accomplishments in spoken communication. As follow in Qur’an Surah Al Kahfi verse 3 – 4:

Success of students in learning language is firstly determined by student's ability in speaking skill. The success of language teaching is also established by students' acquisition in speaking, because the primary function of language teaching is for interaction.

Moreover students consider English as one of a difficult subject to learn, especially in learning speaking, students' find some difficulties. But it is not hard to practice English if the learning environment supports us to speak English. Besides that, if we want to be able to speak English we have to practice it and we should have many vocabularies. Swan (in Nunan, 1991:51) suggests, "We learn to speak by speaking."

The main thing in learning a language is practicing by communicating with another in their daily language. To practice English, the students especially in Indonesia need a motivation and supported factors such as learning environment. Darul Hijrah Islamic Boarding School has become more suitable school in improving foreign language skill (English and Arabic) because in English teaching learning, they more emphasize in oral communication by practicing it every day.

At islamic boarding school of Darul Hijrah, students have many opportunities to practice their English, because they stay at language environment of boarding school. The discipline in this school required the students to speak English in their daily communication so that they are accustomed to speak English. Their speaking or daily conversation helped by vocabulary practice that held five

days a week. And they should be used the vocabulary that have given in their daily conversation.

Based on description above, writer decided to do a research. Therefore, title of this research is “**THE INFLUENCE OF VOCABULARY PRACTICE PROGRAM ON THE CONVERSATION OF THE SEVENTH GRADE FEMALE STUDENT AT DARUL HIJRAH ISLAMIC BOARDING SCHOOL BATUNG CINDAI ALUS MARTAPURA ACADEMIC YEAR 2012/2013**”.

### **B. Statement of Problems**

Concerning with the topic, the problem of this research can be formulated as follows:

1. How well is the students’ conversation of the seventh grade at Islamic Boarding School Of Darul Hijrah academic year 2012/2013?
2. How well is the students’ vocabulary practice of the seventh grade at Islamic Boarding School Of Darul Hijrah academic year 2012/2013?
3. How is the influence of vocabulary practice program on conversation at seventh grade student of female at Darul Hijrah islamic boarding school academic year 2012/2013?

### **C. Objectives of Study**

Based on the problem above, the purposes are:

1. To know how well the students vocabulary practice Program at seventh grade student of Darul Hijrah Islamic Boarding School

2. To know the students' conversation at seventh grade student of Darul Hijrah Islamic Boarding School
3. To know whether there is difference or no difference of vocabulary practice program in improving students' conversation

#### **D. Significance of Study**

The result of this research is expected to contribute to the field as follow:

1. As a feedback or input and further information for English teachers, especially English teachers at DarulHijrah boarding school.
2. As information, could be used by the other researcher to conduct a study of the same topic but in the different perspective.
3. Enriching of State Institute for Islamic Studies Antasari Banjarmasin library's literature.

#### **E. Definition of Key Terms**

##### **1. Vocabulary**

**Vocabulary** means the total number of words in language or all words known to a person (A S. Hornby, *Advanced Learners Dictionary of Current English*, New York:Oxford University Press, 1995, p.46). Thus, vocabulary in this research means vocabulary in English Language.

**Vocabulary Practice Program** is a program that be held five days a week at Darul Hijrah that organized by *OSDA(Osis Darul Hijrah)*especially Language Section.

2. **Conversation** According to Hornby(1974, p.188)"conversation is talking (of words, etc)used in characteristic of colloquial". The Dutch psycholinguistics, Willem Levelt in his book *speaking* as quoted by Matlin (1994, p.304), says:"Talking is one of our dearest occupations. We spends hours a day conversation, telling stories, teaching, quarrelling.And, of course, speaking to ourselves. Speaking is; moreover, one of our most complex cognitive, linguistic, and motor skill. Articulation flows automatically, at a rate of about fifteen-speech sound per sound, while we are attending only to the ideas we want to get across to our interlocutor." Conversation is one of the ways to practice their ability in speaking, because by doing the conversation, students can interact and communicate with their peer dan help students in acquisition process. And the practice is the amin key to acquire English.
3. **Seventh grade students** are the students who are in class seven or seventh grade at Junior High School of Darul Hijrah
4. **Darul Hijrah** is a place where research is done