

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

English is an international language that is used as a means of communication for people in everyday life and academic activities. According to Bimas, Netty, and Hajra (2020), English is a foreign language taught in elementary schools, junior high schools, high schools, and universities in Indonesia. According to Busran (2009), vocabulary is the content and function of language words that have been used and taught so that children can learn to "listen, speak, read, and write" in the future. According to Idham (2011), vocabulary is the most important foundation of language, the element of meaning that is the basis for forming larger systems such as sentences, paragraphs, and entire texts. From this point of view, the most important part of language teaching is vocabulary.

There are many students still experience difficulties in learning English, especially in mastering comprehension. This condition is usually experienced by junior high school students, so it is not surprising if they cannot communicate or speak well due to a lack of understanding. Lack of teaching materials and confusing principles and theories of understanding reduce vocabulary mastery and learning,

which is apparently influenced by complicated material (Rosa & Eskenazi, 2011). According to Allen (1999), lack of interest, lack of motivation, lack of self-confidence, teachers, and the environment are several factors that hinder students' ability to learn lessons.

Therefore, to master English, students must know four basic skills: writing, reading, listening, and speaking. Before mastering these skills, they must first master understanding English. Because in language learning, students really need skills in conveying and expressing ideas or understanding texts. In addition, students will experience difficulty understanding written and spoken language if their comprehension knowledge is low. Students will easily learn English if they know a lot of vocabulary. Language helps students communicate well and convey things fluently.

The significance of utilizing technology as an instrument in the educational process. According to Schmitt (2000), learning strategies aim to empower students and attract their attention to English language learning. In this study, research used a memory strategy using classical music to improve the ability to memorize English vocabulary for class VIII students at SMPN 2 Pasemah Air Keruh. Traditionally, memory strategies are called mnemonic strategies. Memory strategies combine newly

known words with previous knowledge. This strategy makes use of grouping or imagery in some way (Schmitt, 1997, p. 13). According to Nation (2001), the mnemonic strategy is a strategy for finding new words. Students use this memory technique to memorize the meanings of new words by conjuring up pictures in their minds. H. Douglas Brown stated that Mozart's classical music functions as a means of supporting learning. According to Campbell (1997), there is purity and simplicity in Mozart's classical music. The reason research use classical music is because it can provide many benefits for students, such as refreshing the mind, increasing concentration in learning.

Based on observations made at SMPN 2 Pasemah Air Keruh, research found that SMPN 2 class VIII students still experienced difficulties in mastering and vocabulary English. Apart from that, students also have difficulty remembering the vocabulary that has been explained by the teacher. This can happen when learning is taking place; students pay less attention to the teacher when explaining the material, so they have difficulty recognizing social roles, text structure, oral and written elements, as well as understanding the meaning of context such as adjectives, verbs, adverbs, and words. Based on the results of the researcher's interview with the English teacher at SMPN 2, it can be said that the English teacher at SMPN 2 has not

used a good enough comprehension learning strategy because they still use the traditional method, namely writing on the blackboard, and only focus on the lecture method without using other methods. It can be said that the continuous use of traditional methods will make students feel bored and ineffective. According to Setiawan & Wiedarti (2020), teachers must provide media that can motivate students and make them more interested in learning English.

Research investigated whether the increase in mastery of insight by using memory strategies that use classical music was significant or not and how effective the increase in mastery of understanding was by using memory strategies that used music. Therefore, research conducted preliminary experiments on class VIII students of SMPN2 Pasemah Air Keruh for the 2023–2024 academic year.

In conclusion, research have obtained quite a lot of information from this research, which is expected to help teachers maximize their teaching process and increase students' mastery of understanding through the use of memory strategies using classical music. Teachers should pay attention to how they can use memory strategies that use classical music to manage the classroom effectively so that students participate actively and collaborate with their classmates to improve their learning. It is hoped that

teachers can obtain more information from this research, so that they will be more effective in their learning process.

Based on the facts above, vocabulary is important in learning English. Vocabulary is like the soul of the English language. Therefore, to teach English effectively, research want to conduct research entitled **“The Influence of Memory Strategy used With Classical Music on Students' Capability in Memorizing Vocabulary”**.

B. Identification of the problem

Based on the research background above, the research is identified as follows:

- 1) Teachers lack of variety during the learning process so that it is monotonous, resulting in students feeling bored when learning English
- 2) Teachers use less visual learning media and use more manually
- 3) The teachers' strategies there have not been effective in increasing memorize vocabulary.

C. Limitation of the Research

To focus this research, the research limited this research to the influence of memory strategy used with classical music on students' capability in memorizing vocabulary.

D. Research Question

Based on the explanation above, the research formulated the research problem in this research: Is there a significant the influence of memory strategy used with classical music on students' capability in memorizing vocabulary?

E. Research Objective

The objective of the research that can be specified is to know the influence of memory strategy used with classical music on students' capability in memorizing vocabulary.”

F. The Significant of the Research

- 1) Theoretical Benefits
 - a) This research can provide additional knowledge in the field of education.
 - b) The results of this research can be used as a reference for further research.
- 2) Practical Benefits
 - a) For research, this research can provide answers and a deeper understanding of the influence of memory strategies used with classical music on students ability to memorize vocabulary.
 - b) For schools, this research can be a reference for improving the English teaching and learning process.

- c) For teachers, this research can be used as an English language teaching strategy.
 - d) For students, this research can help them memorize English vocabulary.
- 3) Further Research

The results of this research can be used as additional information regarding the influence of memory strategy used with classical music on students' capability in memorizing vocabulary.

G. Definition of Key Terms

There are several key terms that can be defined as follows:

1. **Vocabulary**

According to Alqahtani (2015:25), vocabulary is the number of words needed to convey thoughts and express the speaker's intentions.

2. **Memory Strategy**

According to Schmitt (2000), memory strategies were referred to as relating the word to some previously learned knowledge.

3. **Classical Music**

According to Mahatidanar and Nisa (2017), classical music can increase a happy mood and reduce mental stress.