

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of Study

Vocabulary is the first stage in any language learning. Vocabulary is important to be improved in language learning process. According to Richard Nordquist ([http:// grammar .com/Articles/Vocabulary defenition.html](http://grammar.com/Articles/Vocabulary_definition.html)). Vocabulary is all the words of a language, or the words used by a particular person or group. Kridalaksana (1993: 35) defines that vocabulary is language component which contain all information about meaning and using words in language which are possessed by a speaker, listener, writer, or reader.

In learning a foreign language, vocabulary plays an important role. It is one element that links the four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing all together. In order to communicate well in a foreign language, students should acquire an adequate number of words and should know how to use them accurately. Without vocabulary, students can't speak, listen, write and read. Commonly, students cannot compose a sentence or phrase in speaking even writing and reading because they are poor in vocabulary. Most of the students are lazy to memorize and increase their vocabulary, it causes some teachers cannot motivate them, some teachers cannot use good method, technique and strategy to teach them.

Based on the writer's experience in Field Teaching Practice (2011) in SMP Negeri 2 Galang, the writer found that English was one of the subjects that they hated. Because when they found the words, they did not know what the meaning the word itself. When they were ordered to open the dictionary to find the meaning from difficult word or a new word, there were only three or four students

did it and some of students were lazy to open their dictionary and just waiting until the teacher give the answer. The other problem were when the teacher ask us to speaking ,they're afraid to make mistakes, they didn't have confidence to speak up.

So, In teaching teacher needs to improve their students' vocabulary ability and motivates them. Teacher needs teach them with some method, technique and strategy and make the students to learn more. By using an interesting technique in teaching vocabulary, the teacher helps to improve students' vocabulary achievement.

A technique can help students to learn vocabulary easier than before. Brown (2001: 16) said that technique is any of a wide variety of exercises,activities,or tasks used in the language classroom for realizing lesson objectives.Personal Vocabulary Notes (PVN). Kurzweil (2002) conveys that "Personal Vocabulary Notes is a way of developing students vocabulary in a personalized way while encouraging them to become autonomous learners". In using PVN technique, students write some words which they do not know in their daily journals or note paper.Students have to get at least five PVN per class. If students do not manage to get five in class, they need to think of words they want to know outside of class. For the next meeting, students are hoped to know new words from their note papers and those words can improve students' English learning.

Based on the explanation above the writer is interested to conduct a research relates to teaching English vocabulary by using Personal Vocabulary Notes (PVN). Thus the purpose of this study is improving students' vocabulary achievement.

B. The Problem of the Study

In relation to the background of study, this research is addressed to the following question : Is the Personal Vocabulary Notes able to improve students' vocabulary achievement?

C. The Objective of the Study

The objective of the study is to find out whether students' vocabulary achievement can be improved when they are taught by personal vocabulary notes.

D. The Scope of the Study

Vocabulary has a very important in the use of a language, either spoken or written. As a student climbs up to a higher level of education, the vocabulary will increase accordingly. There are so many games and technique that can be used to improve teaching learning process of English, such as Personal Vocabulary Notes, guessing Word. To minimize the wide area, this study focuses on improving students vocabulary mastery by using Personal Vocabulary Notes.

E. The Significance of the Study

The result of this study is expected to be useful for the teacher to improve their teaching of English vocabulary. It is also expected to be useful for students increasing their vocabulary achievement.

The result of the study is important to those who are teaching vocabulary by using Personal Vocabulary Notes (PVN). The description of using PVN can give a better picture of the materials.

Therefore, this study will be useful for :

1. English teacher

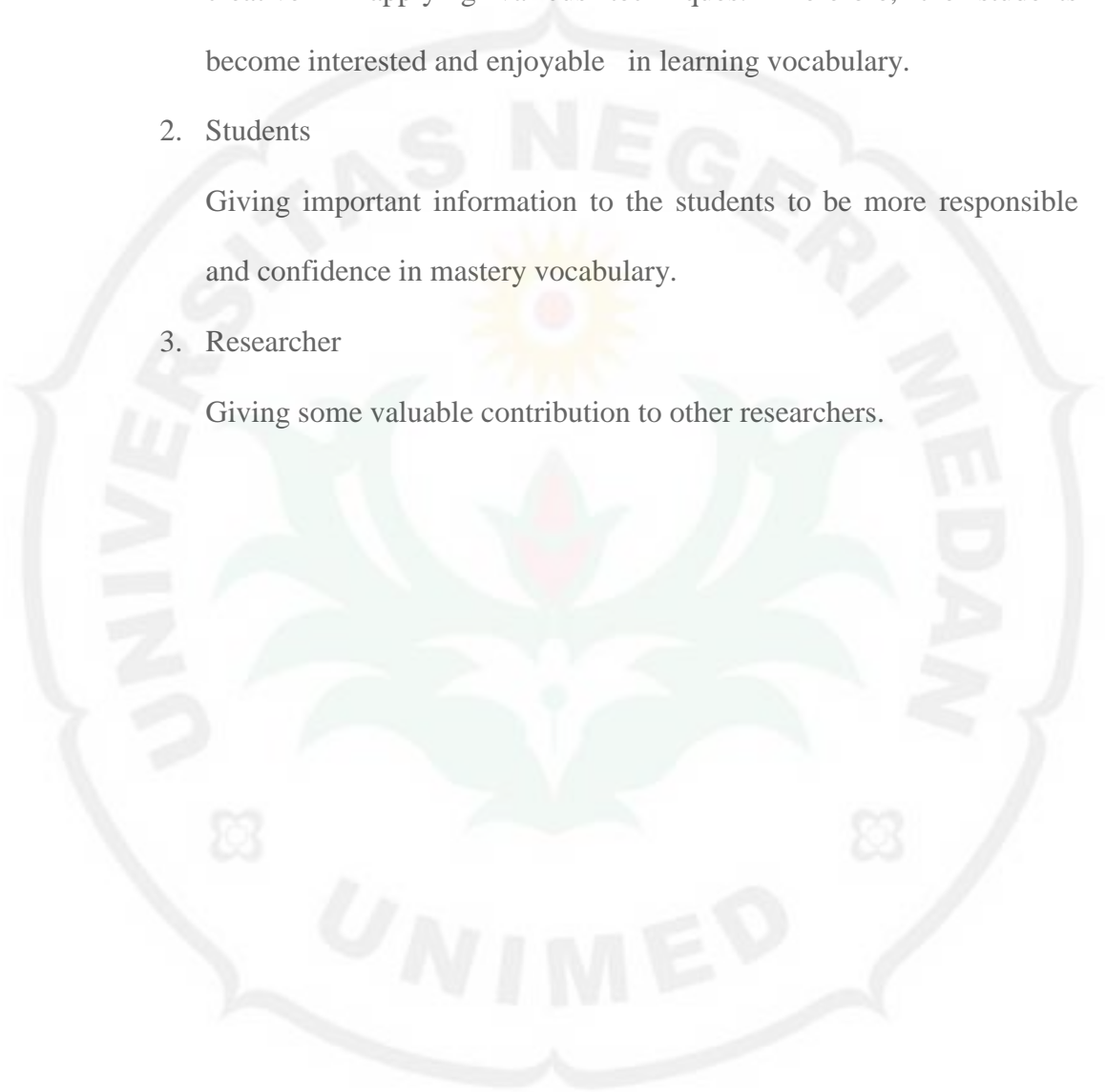
Enriching teacher knowledge, especially English teacher to be more creative in applying various techniques. Therefore, the students become interested and enjoyable in learning vocabulary.

2. Students

Giving important information to the students to be more responsible and confidence in mastery vocabulary.

3. Researcher

Giving some valuable contribution to other researchers.



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