

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

English competence becomes a necessity because it will be the basis for the higher level and prepare the students to face the globalization era as early as possible and vocabulary is very important to be mastered first since it is an essential means in conducting communication. Based on the reason above, the focus should be on the vocabulary in the elementary school. It can help them understand the basis of studying English and prepare to study English in higher level. By the English learning, the students are expected to have a language competence including listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. According to Burns and Lowe (1967:2) state that:

The language instruction in the elementary school does lay a foundation or groundwork for further refinement of the language skills at the secondary and college level and does provide a service for all the academic areas of work later pursued by the student.

Vocabulary is basic to communication (Krashen and Terrell, 1983:155). In the fast development of science and technology, people need to follow the latest information. This situation requires people to be aware of the important role of English as a language, which is broadly used to communicate a wide variety of information. The exchanges of information are influenced by media of communication such as television, radio, newspaper, magazine, internet and also books.

There are still many English teachers of elementary school who are very reluctant in creating interesting technique for teaching English to the students. They are very reluctant to use impressive and interesting educational media. They still focus only on the text book. They teach their students in a passive way. The students only sit and listen well to the teacher and then they follow the teacher's instruction. The technique is very monotonous. It makes the students less motivation and not interesting in studying English.

It is necessary to use media as teaching aids which can help the teachers in teaching and learning process. The use of media is aimed to enable the students to get lesson and give more enjoyable in classroom to encourage the students' motivation and students' interest to the lesson. Cartoons are one of some kinds of media that can be used by the teacher in the classroom. It will increase students' motivation and interest to study new words in English. The use of cartoon is related to the characteristic of the elementary school students as children who commonly feel interested in the something with attractive shapes and colors. Students also feel familiar with cartoon.

Based on the observation and interview in the teaching learning English lesson at the fourth grade of *SDN Ngemplak 01 Kartasura*, the teacher faced some sort of problems. The students feel that learning English is difficult, it is shown from 32 students there are only 12 students that get upper passing grade. The students are less motivated in studying English, it is shown from 32 students there are only 15 students that paid attention to the material

and many of them are preoccupied with themselves, chatting with other friends, and didn't paying attention to the materials. When they were given a text without any illustration, they fell bored and usually stop to read the text. They are not too interesting because the teacher just teach them with monotonous. Automatically, it influences their vocabulary. They also get difficulty in understanding the text because they still have limited vocabulary. Consequently, they had difficulty to do the exercises. From that phenomenon, the researcher tried to solve this problem by using cartoon so that the class can be more interest in studying English.

To make effective techniques in teaching vocabulary, the teacher should create various teaching techniques to increase the motivation of children; one of them is using cartoon. Teaching English using cartoon is an easy media of teaching foreign language to develop the achievement in English lesson. Cartoon will help young learners feel amused in certain learning situation and can learn the materials more easily. Cartoon can allow students to be creative and imaginative and also give students a sense of achievement.

English is the language that is being learned for the elementary students. By using cartoon, hopefully the students get more knowledge, information and more ideas in learning foreign language that is English. Teaching English using cartoon is an easy media of teaching foreign language to develop the achievement in English lesson.

From the explanation above, people can learn that cartoon have much contribution in teaching learning process, especially in teaching students at elementary school. Furthermore, the researcher is very interested in a research about teaching English vocabulary. In this case, the researcher uses cartoon as instrument in teaching English that may encourage the students to master English vocabulary.

Based on the reason above, the writer would like to do a research entitled *Improving Students' Vocabulary Using Cartoon for the Fourth Grade Students of SDN Ngeplak 01 Kartasura in 2011/2012 Academic Year*.

B. Problem Statement

Based on the limitation of the study, the writer formulates the following problems:

1. Can teaching vocabulary using cartoon improve the students' vocabulary for the fourth grade students of *SDN Ngeplak 01 Kartasura* in 2011/2012 academic year or not?
2. How is the implementation of teaching vocabulary using cartoon for the fourth grade students of *SDN Ngeplak 01 Kartasura* in 2011/2012 academic year?
3. What are the strengths and weaknesses of teaching vocabulary using cartoon for the fourth grade students of *SDN Ngeplak 01 Kartasura* in 2011/2012 academic year?

C. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem statement, the objectives of study in this research are as follows.

1. to know whether or not cartoon improve the students' vocabulary for the fourth grade students of *SDN Ngemplak 01 Kartasura* in 2011/2012 academic year.
2. to describe how the implementation of teaching vocabulary using cartoon for the fourth grade students of *SDN Ngemplak 01 Kartasura* in 2011/2012 academic year.
3. to identify the strengths and weaknesses of teaching vocabulary using cartoon for the fourth grade students of *SDN Ngemplak 01 Kartasura* in 2011/2012 academic year.

D. Limitation of the Study

The writer realizes that it is impossible for her to cope with all of the problems of English teaching and learning because of the limited time and capability. The writer focuses on the cartoon only as a media to improving vocabulary for the fourth grade of *SDN Ngemplak 01 Kartasura* in 2011/2012 Academic Year. This study focuses on the simple vocabulary especially vocabulary of fruits vegetables and animals, because of the discussion with the English teacher of *SDN Ngemplak 01 Kartasura* and those are the basic vocabulary for the next materials that would be learnt by the fourth grade students of *SDN Ngemplak 01 Kartasura* in 2011/2012 academic year.

E. Benefit of the Study

There are two kinds of benefits of the study; theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretical Benefit

- a. The finding of the research can be used as an input of English teaching learning process especially in teaching vocabulary.
- b. The result of the research is useful as the reference for conducting a research in English teaching learning process.

2. Practical Benefit

a. Students

The finding of the research is useful for students who learn English.

b. Teachers

The finding can be the source of important information to educator especially English teacher so that they have a new strategy to improve students' vocabulary.

c. Other Researchers

This research can help the readers or other researchers who want to carry out a research about teaching English using cartoon for elementary students.

F. Research Paper Organization

In conducting her research paper, the writer conducts her study into five chapters as follows.

Chapter I is introduction, dealing with background of the study, problem statements, objective of the study, limitation of the study, benefit of the study, and research paper organization.

Chapter II is underlying theory, including previous study, characteristics of young learners, definition of vocabulary, teaching vocabulary, procedure of teaching vocabulary, the definition of cartoon, teaching vocabulary using cartoon, theoretical framework, and action hypothesis, and performance indicator.

Chapter III is research method. It consists of type of the research, procedure of action research, subject of the study, object of the study, data and data source, method of collecting data, and technique for analyzing data.

Chapter IV is research finding and discussion. The research finding elaborates the procedure of teaching vocabulary using cartoon and the strength and weaknesses of teaching English using cartoon for the fourth grade students of *SDN Ngeplak 01 Kartasura* in the 2011/2012 academic year.

Chapter V is the last chapter; here the writer presents the conclusion and suggestion about the teaching English using cartoon at elementary school. Bibliography and appendixes are also enclosed within the chapter.