A. Background of the Study

English becomes important at the present day. Because of its importance English is taught widely at formal schools starting from elementary school up to the universities. Students are provided with opportunities to learn English. This will help them study some scientific books, which are written in English, or to get information from television, internet, etc. Thus, it can be said that English is a key to get success in many fields for many people from many countries in the world. English has become one of the important extra school lessons for first up to the sixth year students of elementary school. Many elementary schools have chosen English as one of the school subjects for their students. According to English curriculum, English teaching covers four skills, namely reading, listening, speaking and writing. The four skills above are supported by the learning of the language elements. They are structure, vocabulary, pronunciation and spelling. Therefore, vocabulary is one of the important language elements the students should master.

Vocabulary is the first component that must be learnt by students in learning language. It is the most important element to make someone understand the language better. Without sufficient vocabulary, we cannot communicate and express the ideas easily both orally and in written form.
Vocabulary must be learned since the beginning, that is, from elementary school in order that the students have chance to learn English.

On the other hand, it needs an attention way to teach children, especially teaching vocabulary as an essential means in learning English. Teaching vocabulary to children is not the same as teaching vocabulary to adults. They have different characteristic and motivation. Children have no self motivation and a need to learn English but adults are aware of the importance of learning English. Thus, they have self-motivation to learn the language. According to Allen (1983: 33) teaching English to the beginner needs techniques. The best techniques are using an approach which still has relation to their world. In a class, most of the students are passive because they do not know many vocabularies. The teacher uses old teacher centered method. After giving explanation, the teacher usually asks the students to answer the questions. So, when the teaching learning process, the student give not attention and feel boring at the vocabulary subject. Because of that, the teachers must have the ability to vary the teaching technique that focused on student. It is important to teacher in order to the students change to have pleasure in learning language.

The researcher is interested in SD N 03 Bejen, Karanganyar, because it is one of the elementary schools that have average achievement in English. There are some difficulties in using foreign language especially in vocabulary. In other hand, the students of SD N 03 Bejen, Karanganyar especially in the fourth grade also still find difficulties in vocabulary. The
students often forget new vocabularies after they get the meaning from dictionaries. And they also get difficulties when they write a new vocabulary correctly. It becomes common problems in teaching vocabulary. Therefore, the researcher wants to know about the method that used by teacher in teaching vocabulary, especially to the fourth grade students of SD N 03 Bejen, Karanganyar.

Based on the description above, the writer is interested in conducting a research in entitled **A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY ON TEACHING VOCABULARY FOR THE FOURTH GRADE STUDENTS OF SD N 03 BEJEN, KARANGANYAR IN 2011/2012 ACADEMIC YEAR.**

**B. Problem Statement**

Based on the background of the study, the writer states the problems as follows:

1. how is the process of teaching learning in SD N 03 Bejen, Karanganyar?
   a. what is the goal of teaching vocabulary on the fourth grade of SD N 03 Bejen, Karanganyar?
   b. what are the material of teaching vocabulary on the fourth grade of SD N 03 Bejen, Karanganyar?
   c. what are the method of teaching vocabulary on the fourth grade of SD N 03 Bejen, Karanganyar?
d. how is the classroom activities in the fourth grade students of SD N 03 Bejen, Karanganyar?

2. what are the problems faced by teacher in the process of teaching learning vocabulary on the fourth grade of SD N 03 Bejen, Karanganyar?

C. Objective of the Study

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

1. to explain the process of teaching learning vocabulary at fourth grade students of SD N 03 Bejen, Karanganyar. Specifically it is to:
   a. describe the goal of teaching vocabulary
   b. describe the material of teaching vocabulary
   c. describe the method of teaching vocabulary
   d. describe the classroom activities
2. to identify the problems faced by teacher in teaching vocabulary on the fourth grade students of SD N 03 Bejen, Karanganyar.

D. Limitation of the Study

In this research, the writer focuses on the process of teaching learning vocabulary at the fourth grade students of SD N 03 Bejen, Karanganyar in 2011/2012 academic year. The limitation is done in order to get the best result from the observation, especially about the process of
teaching learning vocabulary, the material in teaching vocabulary, the method that used by the teacher, classroom activities, the problems faced by teacher and the problem solve applied by the teacher in teaching learning process.

E. Benefit of the Study

The writer really hopes that this research may give the following benefits:

1. Theoretical Benefit
   a. The result of this research provides such useful information English teaching learning process, especially in teaching vocabulary.
   b. The result of the research can be used as the reference for those who want to conduct a research in English teaching learning process.

2. Practical Benefit
   a. For the readers
      The result may give more knowledge and information about teaching learning vocabulary.
   b. For the teacher
      The result of this research may help the teacher to solve the problem in teaching learning vocabulary.
c. Other researcher

The writer hopes that this research may be one of references for other researcher who conduct the same object with different perspective.

F. Research Paper Organization

In order to make this research paper easy to follow, the writer organizes the research paper into five chapters.

Chapter I is introduction. It consists of background of the study, problem of the study, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, and research paper organization.

Chapter II deals with underlying theories. It consists of previous study, notion of vocabulary, teaching vocabulary, vocabulary mastery, and the method of teaching vocabulary.

Chapter III discusses research method. It relates to the type of the research, subject of the study, object of the study, data and data source, method of collecting data, technique for analyzing data.

Chapter IV deals with research finding and discussion. It consists of the process of teaching vocabulary, the problem faced by the teacher in teaching vocabulary, and the problem solving used by the teacher. Discussion concerns with the research finding.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion.