

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of background of study, statement of problem, purpose of the study, hypothesis, scope and limitation, significance of study, and definition of key terms. Each section is presented as follows:

1.1 Background of Study

In learning English, vocabulary is an important element which links the four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing). Students should have a suffice number of words and understand the words' meaning. "Vocabulary learning is an essential part in foreign language learning as the meanings of new words are very often emphasized, whether in books or in classrooms. It is also central to language teaching and is of paramount importance to a language learner" (Alqahtani, 2015). Moreover, it is difficult for student in learning English without knowing lack of words because vocabulary can help them to comprehend what they are learning. According to Nihayah et al., (2013), limited words can influence the students and also make them feel confused in learning English. So, that is why vocabulary is necessarily needed because students will face difficulty in learning English.

Realizing the important of vocabulary in learning English, students should master the vocabulary because vocabulary will help them in understanding English. In this situation, students should spend their time to obtain more words which can help them comprehend English. It also makes students comprehend English easily. By mastering vocabulary, students can express their idea and information to other and comprehend what the other student share. Mastering

vocabulary is not only help students to express and comprehend information but also help them to obtain four skills in English (listening, speaking, reading, and writing).

In studying English, there are four skills that must be mastered by the students. They are listening, reading, speaking, and writing. Each skill has characteristic form one to another. For example, speaking deals the repetition of a simple pronunciation between speakers meanwhile writing consists of structure of letter formation which includes the organizing of sentence (Nunan, 1989). Furthermore, skills divide in two kinds which are productive skills and receptive skills. Speaking and writing are productive skills meanwhile listening and reading are receptive skills. Speaking which is one of the productive skills has very important role to deliver information in oral mode.

As one of the productive skills, speaking is directed to the way how to produce and practice it. Students need to do more practice in order to obtain the goal of the target skill and able to produce the speaking by themselves. It is aimed that student can speak without hesitation. According to Brown (2000:5), the thinking time of native and non-native speakers is very different because the most dominant of it is their hesitation in pronouncing the words. Therefore, in avoiding the hesitation, students need to do a lot of practice in order to reducing their hesitation.

Related to the explanation above, there are two previous researchers which were conducted research about correlation study. Firstly, Ika (2007) stated that there was a correlation between vocabulary mastery and ability in translating in English text into Indonesian. The result of her research shows a significant

correlation between vocabulary mastery and students' ability in translating English text into Indonesian. Moreover, Haniyyah (2013) who is the other previous researcher discussed about "Correlation between English Vocabulary Mastery and Internet Subject Mastery of Training Students of PATI at University of Muhammadiyah Malang 2013-2014". Based on her research, she found a significant correlation between English vocabulary mastery and internet subject mastery. This means vocabulary mastery can help the students comprehend and obtain the other language skill.

In line with the background of the study, the writer is interested to know how well the vocabulary mastery and speaking ability on third semester students of English Language Education Department at University of Muhammadiyah Malang. Furthermore, the writer would like to know whether or not about the correlation between vocabulary mastery and speaking skill on third semester students of English Department at University of Muhammadiyah Malang.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Related to the explanation above, the writer wants to know the correlation between vocabulary mastery and speaking skill to answer the problem.

Is there any correlation between vocabulary mastery and speaking skill on third semester students of English Language Education Department at University of Muhammadiyah Malang?

1.3 Hypothesis

Based on the problem above, there are two hypotheses of this study which can be stated as follows:

Ho : There is no significant correlation between variables.

(There is no significant correlation between vocabulary mastery and speaking skill)

Hi : There is significant correlation between variables.

(There is significant correlation between vocabulary mastery and speaking skill)

1.4 The Purpose of Study

Based on the statement of problem above, the purpose of the study is:

To know wheter or not the correlation between vocabulary mastery and speaking skills on third semester students of English Language Education Department at University of Muhammadiyah Malang.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is the correlation between vocabulary mastery and students' speaking ability of third semester students of English department at University of Muhammadiyah Malang. However, this correlation study is limited to only the third semester students of English Language Education Department at University of Muhammadiyah Malang.

1.6 Significance of the Study

There are several significances of this study as below:

1. The writer hopes this study to be beneficial for second language learners, so that they can increase their vocabulary. As a result, they can speak without hesitation better than before.
2. The result of this study is expected to be used for the second language learners to improve the technique in learning English vocabulary.
3. The result of this study is expected to be useful for other researchers who want to conduct research which related to the English vocabulary and speaking

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

- *Correlation Research*

In this research, correlation is defined as a method which is used to determine a relationship among variables in a single group (Ary, 2010:350).

- *Speaking Skill*

Speaking is an ability to deliver information orally on the spot (Harmer, 2000:269).

- *Vocabulary Mastery*

Vocabulary is total number of words which are already memorized (Nation & Newton, 1997, in Fajar, 2013). According to Ika (2007), mastery is an excellent ability in doing something. In this study, vocabulary mastery means an ability in knowing a total number of words

of a language. The ability is shown by the grade of vocabulary in the Students' Academic Report (KHS).

