

A STUDY ON STRATEGIES OF LEARNING VOCABULARIES EMPLOYED BY ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STUDENTS AT MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF MALANG

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Language is a thing that is important for every person all over the world, because without language people all over the world cannot communicate to each other. As we know that one of components in a language is vocabulary. That is why vocabulary should be mastered by the students in University especially in English Department. In this study the writer investigated the students' strategies in learning vocabulary. The purposes of this study were to know the kinds of strategies that were usually used by the students, to know the strategy that was most frequently used by the students and to know the student reasons to use these frequently used strategies.

Then the design used by the writer in this study was descriptive quantitative research design. It was used because the writer wanted to describe the strategies employed by the students and the students' reasons to use the most frequently strategy by the students in learning vocabulary. The sample that were investigated were class II-B second semester students in English Department of Muhammadiyah University of Malang in academic year 2004-2005.

After collecting and analyzing the data, the writer found that the average usage of the strategies used by the students in learning vocabulary in English Department was in high level (62%), if all strategies are 100%. The strategies employed by the students in learning vocabulary were 68% for cognitive strategies, 63% for meta-cognitive strategies, 60% for memory strategies, 65% for affective strategies, 50% for social strategies, 61% for mnemonic strategies and 71% for semantic strategies. Meanwhile from the seven strategies above, the most frequently strategies used by the students in learning vocabulary was semantic strategies (71%). Semantic strategy became the most frequently strategies used by the students in learning vocabulary because it was easy to understand the vocabulary, asked them for thinking and it made them to be creative by guessing the meaning of the words. In conclusions, the students employed all strategies because the average percentage of all strategies used by the students in learning vocabulary was 62%.