

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Teacher plays high role to improve students' comprehension. In a pursue of acquiring knowledge, instructions of teacher guide students to obtain information to fulfill their needs. These instructions such as reading material, completing tasks and exercises, and assessments. Material that is supplied by teacher depends on subject that is taught to students. Subject contains words that students must understand, so that they are able to pursue their career. For instance, English that contains many words.

The knowledge of understanding the lexicons and their denotations is not shaped briefly. According to Finegan (2015), language is made up of some elements. They are vocabulary that has meanings, sounds and syllables, grammar that adjusts phrases and sentences, and semantics which is a study of words and sentences meaning. For instance, spelling in English is infamously non-phonetic. Its appearance differs from its sound and vice versa. Rao (2018) also stated that without enough practice spelling a word correctly in written form, pupils may not be able to spell it even when they are familiar with some of its sounds. Without a thorough understanding of those three areas, language proficiency development might not progress as planned. As a result, numerous exercises are required of students in order to prevent spelling errors. The construction of the understanding is build inside people's mind through many ways. These procedures occur by consuming certain amount of time and take place on various environments. Education is one of the environments that provides learners a knowledge of vocabulary.

In order to acquire the knowledge of English vocabulary, students rely on teacher that provides techniques in teaching vocabulary. Teacher should apply techniques to help learners to understand English, especially in Indonesia where English is a foreign language. Also, the government of the country established different level of educations. The levels are elementary, junior high school, and

senior high school. Knowledge about technique of teaching English are essential for teacher, especially for young learners.

Young learners are not similar to adult learners. They are students who only consider of themselves, and still trying to make sense of the world. Because of their limited knowledge about world, they only have some knowledge of English vocabulary. They usually experience words that occur in communication with family and friends at school. Particularly in Indonesia where English is a foreign language makes it challenging for them to understand. Teaching English words to young learners must not only include meaningful activity. Technique of teaching should consider that the learners are individuals who seek interesting and engaging steps to acquire vocabulary.

One of the elementary schools in Bangko is SD Negeri 253/VI Bangko XII. Based on information by one of teachers in the school, Kurikulum Merdeka is used for first grade, second grade, fourth grade, and fifth grade. English subject has been an additional subject since 2008. However, it became main subject for first grade, second grade, fourth grade, and fifth grade in 2022 because of policy of Kurikulum Merdeka. Besides, English is taught to each class once in a week.

In summary, researcher believes that vocabulary is essential in a language. Vocabulary has important role to help young learners. Young learners can communicate well with decent understanding of vocabulary. In order to help learners to achieve the goal, teacher use techniques in teaching vocabulary. Teacher's techniques help learners to understand language, especially English because it is a foreign language. For that reason, the researcher wants to examine teacher's technique in teaching vocabulary to young learners in an elementary school Bangko.

1.2 Research Questions

Research questions are formulated to establish coherent result and help researcher obtain specific objective. The research questions of this study are:

1. What are teacher's techniques in teaching English vocabulary to young learners?
2. How does teacher utilize techniques in teaching English vocabulary to young learners?
3. Why does teacher apply techniques in teaching English vocabulary to young learners?

1.3 The Purpose of the Research

The purpose of this study is to investigate techniques that are applied by teacher in teaching English vocabulary to young learners of an elementary school in Bangko.

1.4 Research Limitation

This study focuses on teacher's techniques in teaching vocabulary to young learners in an elementary school in Bangko. In other words, there may be different techniques of teacher in teaching vocabulary to young learners in other school. Besides, the study involves teacher who teaches English to first grade. The findings may be different based on grades of young learners.

1.5 Research Significance

The significances of the study are as follows: Hopefully, the researcher would gain understanding about techniques of teacher in teaching vocabulary to young learners. This study is expected to provide overview for related study in the future. Also, teacher can gather information about techniques in teaching vocabulary to

young learners. The knowledge of techniques can assist teacher to decide appropriate techniques to teach English vocabulary to young learners. As a result, students can understand English vocabulary appropriately.