

ABSTRACT

Feriyanto, Gilang. 2025, *The Correlation Between Mother Tongue and English Vocabulary Acquisition of EFL Students Grade 8th at SMPN Tebo*. Thesis, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Universitas Jambi, in the Academic Year 2025/2026. The first supervisor is Failasofah, S.S., M.Pd., Ph.D., and the second supervisor is Dra. Radiatan Mardiah, M.Hum.

Keywords: *Mother Tongue, English Vocabulary, Correlation, EFL Students*

This research aims to determine the correlation between the use of the mother tongue and English vocabulary acquisition of eighth graders at SMPN 9 Kabupaten Tebo. This correlational quantitative research involved 30 Grade VIII-C students at SMPN 9 Kabupaten Tebo in the odd semester of the 2025/2026 academic year. Data were collected through a mother tongue questionnaire and a multiple-choice English vocabulary test. The questionnaire, adapted from Irene et al., 2023 and vocabulary test were taken from Sonora.id for eight graders, which had been validated and reliability tested (Cronbach's Alpha = 0.952; KR-20 = 0.647). This research shows a significant positive correlation between the mother tongue and English vocabulary acquisition, with a correlation coefficient value of 0.752. This research is expected to provide a foundation for further research to develop more inclusive and contextually relevant learning strategies.