CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter explains the background of the study, the reasons for choosing the topic, the statement of the problem, the objective of the study, the hypothesis of the study, the limitation of the study, the significance of the study, the definition of key terms, and the organization of the study.

1.1. Background of the Study

Learning English in Indonesia has been developed extensively because English is a worldwide language and it as a compulsory subject at schools. In learning English, vocabulary as one of the language elements which is reviewed as very important factor in increasing English besides lexical and grammar. Vocabulary is language learning element that has to be built and developed by native or non native speaker.

In mastering the vocabulary, the thing that learners need to prepare is knowing and understanding many words meaning. Stahl and Nagy (2005:5) state that a person who knows more words can speak, and even think, more precisely about the world. Learners who know more words can speak fluently and easier because they master the vocabularies.

In learning English, there must be media to support. The media must be available to reach the goals of mastering English itself, for example book, television, radio, newspaper, dictionary, magazine, internet and others. By reading

English articles or stories, learners will find more new words. Learning English is not only by reading something but also by listening English music or watching English movie.

A dictionary has an important role in learning language. It is a media that makes learners easier in finding the meaning of the words. With the technology development nowadays, it has brought digital dictionary that can be installed on gadget. This innovation is more practical than manual dictionary. Now, learners can access dictionary anywhere and anytime.

Online dictionary offers a lot of advantages compared to manual dictionary. The advantages are it is easy to carry around, it is easier in finding a word, the sound is available, it has updated new words, and it has extra information on the database. Online dictionary has been rapidly expanding for these five years. New online dictionary apps is updated every month. Some apps have been downloaded more than five million users, such as *Google Translate, Kamusku, U-dictionary, Oxford Dictionary, iTranslate,* etc.

In order to improve the learners' vocabulary mastery, several previous researchers have tried different strategies such as by using dictionary, word wall, song lyrics, etc. For example there is a research by Shufen Huang and Zohreh Eslami (June 2013) entitled; The Use of Dictionary and Contextual Guessing Strategies for Vocabulary Learning by Advantaged English-Language Learners. To prove the effectiveness of dictionary usage for learners' vocabulary mastery, the researcher is interested in doing research with the same topic, which is the relationship between the use of online dictionary in learners' vocabulary mastery.

This research took English Education and English Literature students of UNISSULA as the participants.

1.2.   Reasons for Choosing the Topic

Appraising the importance of dictionary as learners' aids to learn English in finding a word meaning and develop their vocabulary mastery, the researcher will conduct a research with the topic "The Relationship between the Use of Online Dictionary in Learners' Vocabulary Mastery.

The researcher is interested in carrying out this research because of three reasons, they are:

a. Vocabulary is the basic element in learning language that needs to be mastered by learners. It is the first element that learners need to acquire. Therefore, it is not to be memorized but to be improved.

b. Online dictionary is a new type of dictionary that has changed the old dictionary. As an upgrade for printed dictionary, online dictionary offers a lot of advantages for the users. Online dictionaries are easy to access by everyone.

c. Students' vocabulary mastery is one of the main factors of students' ability in mastering English. The easier students acquire vocabulary, the easier for them to master the language.

1.3.   Statement of the Problem

The statement of the problem in this research is "is there any relationship between the use of online dictionary with learners' vocabulary mastery?"

1.4.   Objective of the Study

The objective of this research is to find out the correlation between the use of online dictionary to learners' vocabulary mastery.

1.5.   Hypotheses of the Study

The hypotheses of this research are:

H_0: there is no significant correlation between the use of online dictionary and learners' vocabulary mastery.

H_1: there is a significant correlation between the use of online dictionary and learners' vocabulary mastery.

1.6.   Limitation of the Study

This research focused on the use of online dictionary dealing learners' vocabulary mastery.

1.7.   Significance of the Study

This research hopefully gave some benefits for:

a. Students

The research motivated students in using online dictionary dealing with their vocabulary mastery.

b. Teacher

The result of the research can be considered as an alternative media in improving students' vocabulary mastery.

c. Next researcher

The next researchers got information and knowledge about vocabulary mastery by using online dictionary.

1.8.   Definition of Key Terms

This research has key terms as key words for readers in understanding the topic, they are:

a. Vocabulary mastery is knowledge involves knowing the meanings of the words and therefore the purpose of a vocabulary test in to find out whether the learners can match each word in their own language (John, 2000).

b. According to Hoetomo M.A (2005:10), online dictionary is online references that accommodate words and idioms with the meaning.

1.9.   Organization of the Study

This research is divided into three chapters that facilitate the readers in understanding the topic.

Chapter I consists of the background of the study, the reasons for choosing the topic, the statement of the problems, the objectives of the study, the hypothesis of the study, the limitation of the study, the significance of the study, the definition of key terms and the organization of the study.

Chapter II consists of review of related literature. The chapter discuss about the literature as sources of the study. They are textbook, English articles, dictionary and review of the previous studies.

Chapter III is about research methodology. This chapter discuss about the research design, data sources, instruments of the study, data collection procedure, procedure of the study, procedure of data analysis and validity investigation.

Chapter IV provides the analysis of result and discussion. This chapter discuss about the respondent, the analysis of instrument's validity and reliability, test analysis, and the discussion of research finding.

Chapter V consists of conclusion and suggestion of the research.