

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of background of the study, reason for choosing the topic, research question, research objective, and research significances.

1.1 Background of the Study

Education plays a central role in the formation of quality human resources (HR). The excellence of human resources can be achieved through the implementation of education as the main pillar in the advancement of science and technology. Education is considered a communication process that involves the transfer of knowledge, values and skills throughout life, which takes place not only within formal educational institutions such as schools, but also outside their scope.

Education within the school environment has a deeper and broader significance than just the teaching process. Teaching in this context, emphasizes efforts to transfer knowledge from teachers to students, while education involves two-way interactions between teachers and students, as well as the internalization of character values in the learning process. Each individual student has unique characteristics, and it is the responsibility of a teacher to understand these characteristics in order to facilitate an effective teaching-learning process in the classroom. According to Barnaba & Tou (2014) argue that “by understanding individual student characteristics, a teacher can develop learning strategies that suit the needs and potential of each student”. It is very important to understand in developing the quality of student learning.

The provision of English language learning aims to provide the knowledge and skills necessary for students to understand, interpret and communicate messages in English properly. According to Muspawi et al. (2020) argues that “English language learning in schools has a

strategic role in preparing the younger generation to face global challenges in this era of globalization". Thus, students will be able to more actively and effectively participate in cross-cultural communication, access global resources, and expand their range of horizons and future educational and career opportunities.

The progress of the student's learning level greatly influences the student's motivation to learn. Therefore, it is important for teachers to choose learning media or tools that suit the needs and interests of students. This will have a direct impact on the level of skills possessed by students after the learning process takes place. However, in reality there are shortcomings in the learning approach taken by some teachers. One of them is the lack of checking students' reading skills. For example, teachers often do not provide enough opportunities for individual students to demonstrate their reading ability orally, or to evaluate their understanding through writing activities.

To learn English vocabulary to seventh grade students of MTS Hasyimiyah Kalisidi, more effective efforts need to be made. The way that can be used is by using learning media that attracts students to learn English better. The media can be in the form of flashcard media which has been proven effective in helping students master English vocabulary. Flashcard media is one type of learning media that can make a significant contribution to the learning process of English vocabulary (Mustika, 2023). Through flashcards, students can learn vocabulary in a more interactive and fun way. This media can help students remember vocabulary better, and assist teachers in providing English vocabulary material to seventh grade students of MTS Hasyimiyah Kalisidi more efficiently.

Rosida & Ritonga (2023) argued that "Flashcard media is a sort of visual media that children may view and read". The use of flashcard media can help students learn English

vocabulary with designs in the form of picture cards or with material models as desired. Flashcard learning media not only makes learning more interesting and fun, but also increases interaction and cooperation between groups. Through individual and group activities using the media, students can collaborate with each other in completing the assigned tasks. In addition, the use of flashcards also helps strengthen students' memory of the vocabulary they have learned, so they can more easily remember and apply it in various situations (Rahma, 2014). The novelty proposed by this study is that it focuses on learning by using flashcards in classroom learning activities and not to measure student improvement. This study also highlights students' perceptions in using these media.

1.2 Reasons for Choosing the Topic

The reason for choosing this topic is because it is important not only to focus on the results of student improvement, but also to focus on how flashcards can be used in various learning activities to see student perceptions. It is hoped that with the use of flashcards students can be more enthusiastic in learning and not only used with student worksheets , especially in learning English vocabulary.

1.3 Research Questions

Based on the results of the above background, researchers want to conduct research on the use of flashcards to learn English vocabulary to seventh grade students at MTS Hasyimiyah Kalisidi. The following are the main problems in this study, including :

1. How are the flashcards used to learn English vocabulary to seventh grade students at MTS Hasyimiyah Kalisidi ?
2. What are the students perceptions on using flashcards in learn English vocabulary to seventh grade students at MTS Hasyimiyah Kalisidi ?

1.4 Research Objectives

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the objectives of this study are :

1. To describe the use of flashcards to learn English vocabulary to seventh grade students at MTS Hasyimiyah Kalisidi.
2. To explain the students perception in using flashcards to learn English vocabulary to seventh grade students at MTS Hasyimiyah Kalisidi.

1.5 Research Significances

Research on the use of flashcards to learn English vocabulary to seventh grade students at MTS Hasyimiyah Kalisidi is expected to provide benefits to :

1. Theoretical Benefits

The results of this study are expected to provide input on the importance of English language education in terms of the methods used in student learning. As well as a medium used for learning English vocabulary to students, so that it can be useful, especially in the field of English language teaching.

2. Practical Benefits

This research can be useful to add insight and experience for researchers and is expected to gain active, creative, and fun learning experiences for students, also as a consideration for schools in developing appropriate learning programs to develop students' knowledge abilities.

3. Pedagogical

The results of this study are expected to show that the use of flashcards in teaching English vocabulary can be used for classroom learning and help students in learning English vocabulary.