

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Vocabulary as one of the language elements has a very important role in foreign language learning. Language skills and other language elements will not develop without good achievement of vocabulary. It is called the basic foundation of language skills, as Alqahtani (2015, p. 21) pointed out that vocabulary is the main part of language learning and also as one of the important language elements. Therefore, students should master a great number of vocabularies to make them easily reveal their ideas, emotion, and desires in English and express their opinions.

Regarding to the importance of vocabulary, most students still have difficulties to master it. Limbong (2012, p. 224) stated that if students' vocabulary is poor, they will not be able to express their ideas, thoughts or even they are difficult to comprehend what people communicate to them. This is in line with the researcher's observation at the SMP 6 PSKD Depok. She found that most students in the school were lack of English vocabulary.

To encourage students to develop their vocabulary, teacher should find the strategies that motivate them to memorize English vocabulary. One of strategies used is using a media and use them in English conversation. Hendrawaty (2015, p. 160) believed that teacher and students need media to solve out the difficulties in learning

vocabulary. It can be interpreted that teaching media can be used to develop students' vocabulary.

A large number of teaching medias can be implemented by the teacher to improve students' vocabulary. Zahro (2010, p. 19) classified teaching media into three kinds, they are: (1) Visual Aids, media that can be seen such as picture, flashcard, newspaper, etc.; (2) Audio Aids, media that can be heard such as radio, music or song, tape, MP3 player, etc.; (3) Audio Visual Aid, media that can be seen and heard such as video clips, film, TV news, etc.

Based on the classification, the researcher tried to investigate the use of song as a media to improve vocabulary. Murphey (1992) believed that English song is useful teaching media in learning of vocabulary. By using the song in learning English, it could increase the students' interest in learning vocabulary, and teaching vocabulary using song invites the students to be engaged in their daily activities.

Furthermore, the process of teaching vocabulary using song can be very fun for the students. Nurkhaeni (2010, p. 5) found out that by applying English song as a media in teaching vocabulary, it makes students enjoy in learning process. Students will be success in learning if they enjoy the process. Song can make them more fun in learning English. Millington (2011) further said that the lyrics of the song will make the students can memorize vocabulary easier. It helps students remember easily.

Therefore, in this study, the researcher would like to investigate "students' perception on the use of English songs on English vocabulary development.

B. The Problem of the Study

The problem in this study was: What is the students' perception on the use of English songs towards English vocabulary development?

C. The Objectives of the Study

The goals of this study were to investigate the students' perception on the use of English songs towards English vocabulary development and to compare the perception of seventh and eighth grade.

D. The Significances of the Study

The researcher hoped this study could give useful information and contribution to the English teachers and researchers as follow:

1. To teachers, this study hopefully provides necessary information for maximizing the use of English songs to develop student's vocabulary mastery.
2. To researchers, the result of this study could provide useful information for conducting researches on the same area.

E. The Scope of the Study

Due the researcher's time and budget constraints, the participants in this study were limited to the seventh and eighth grader of SMP 6 PSKD Depok. In addition, data were collected through questionnaire and interview at one point in time.