CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

Vocabulary is the most important component language teaching for young learners. Therefore, the teaching of English vocabulary has a very essential role in enabling Indonesian students to master English as their foreign language. According to Richard and Rodgers (2001), vocabulary is one of the important elements of language proficiency that becomes the basis of how well learners speak, write, listen and read. Vocabulary teaching and learning were often given little priority in second language programs, whereas without a good mastery of vocabulary, learners may be discouraged in using the language learning in daily activities such as watching English program, listening to the radio, reading English book and so forth. Improving vocabulary using short stories is really good, in which student will make some of list of vocabulary that they do not understand the meaning. They will find it in a dictionary, of course the meaning must be appropriate with the context of the story. So, students have many choices in using the meaning according to the text.

Short stories are an exciting and ever-evolving form of storytelling in the digital age. A short stories talks about author expression to anything about life experience concerning with human imagination. As literary work, short stories become an interesting thing for people to read and talk. The function of story is to entertain and to develop mental experience. Stories also play important role in developing

vocabulary of learners. It is argued that students who read widely have expansive vocabularies (Blachowicz & Fisher, 2004). Stories allow us to use our imagination to possibly engender new option and hopefully act with foresight, "to explore our own minds of others, as a sort of dress rehearsal for the future" (Cron, 2012). Thus, short stories may make the students enthusiasm to developing their vocabulary in order to understand the whole story. Short stories is a teaching media that can facilitate the students to learn more about vocabulary.

The author takes two previous researches as a support to the research. First, it is the research conducted by Setyani (2009) this final research was about the use of short stories to develop student's reading comprehension skill for the eighth grade students at SMP Negeri 4 Jepara in the academic year of 2008/2009. In order to achieve the objective of the research, in her study designed an experimental research and chose pre-test post-test control group design with one treatment for this study. She took two classes, one as an experimental group and the other as a control group that consist of 34 students each group. To obtain the data, she carried out three steps. The first step was pre-test and the second step was treatments. At the end of the activities or the third steps, it was used the post-test as an assessment test. In analyzing the data, she used statistical analysis with t-test formula. The value of the t-test was calculated by using SPSS program and the result will be attached in the appendices. The result of this study showed that the students in the experimental group got the better development in the average scores than the control group in reading comprehension test.

Second previous research by Ghoorchaei (2016) this study aimed at investigating the effect of using short stories on enhancing vocabulary learning of Iranian intermediate EFL learners. The design of the study is of quasi-experimental pretest-posttest. The participants were in two classes each of which had 25 students. One of the classes was considered as the control group and the other one was considered as the experimental group. After the treatment period, a posttest was given to both groups to see if there was a significant difference between the two groups. The magnitude of sig (2-tailed) on posttest was 0.01 that is lower than 0.05. Therefore, the difference is significant and the experimental group outperformed the control group. This can be attributed to the effect of using short stories on improving vocabulary performance of learners. The results have some implications for language teachers and materials developers.

Based on the background above, the author was interested to study students' perception of using short stories of learning vocabulary in the city of Jakarta.

B. Problem of the Research

Based on the background of research, the author conveys the research problems as follows: "How is the students' perception toward the use short stories of learning vocabularies?"

C. Objective of the Research

Having a lot of vocabulary is very important in learning a foreign language. Therefore, it is recommended to find an easy and interesting method to teach vocabulary in foreign language learning. Thus related to the research questions, the aims of this research is "To investigate the students' perception toward the use short stories of learning vocabulary".

D. Scope of the Research

Due to the limitation of budget and time the researcher limit some aspects on place, time and participants of this study. This study focused on students' perception of learning vocabulary using short stories. The data collected through questionnaire and interview method as instruments. Questionnaire and interview given during the class activity.

F. Significances of the Research

Through this research, the following benefits are expected:

1. Theoritical Significances

The author hoped this research beneficial not only for the author herself but also for teacher and students: 1) for the teacher, the result of the research provides an insight of the implementation short stories of learning vocabulary; 2) for the students, the result of this research could be motivate them to improve their vocabulary by reading short stories.

2. Practical Significances

The author hoped this research are provide benefits to all parties involved in this research including: 1) for the author, the result of the research is expected to be useful to find the effect of using short stories in learning vocabulary; 2) for the further research, the result of this research can provide a basis for conducting researcher on the same area.