CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

English is an international language; hence it is so important to master that language. In the globalization era, people have to study all language skills in English, such as reading, listening, writing and speaking. That’s why English is taught to junior and university students. It aims to facilitate their skills in work places, business, and others.

Learning a new language cannot be separated by practicing vocabulary and pronunciation (speaking). Carter and McCarthy (1988 p. 1) points out that the study of vocabulary is the heart of language teaching and learning, in terms of the organization of syllabuses, the evaluation and provision of learning resources. Regarding this statement we should acquire as many new vocabulary as possible. To master the new vocabulary is not an easy task, especially by learners of English as a foreign language. It is not like mother tongue.

Such case frequently occurs to the students at the school. The teachers teach them new vocabularies, and the students are asked to memorize them. In fact, there are many students got difficult to acquire them.

Furthermore, the teaching – learning process is often performed by using the traditional method. It means the teaching is a teacher’s centered. The teachers teach
vocabulary in one day. The students just listen and are passive. Of course, this method is very boring.

In order to achieve the goal, teachers should be able find the effective way or good technique to teach vocabulary. There are many effective techniques to teach vocabulary such as using games, pictures, movie, and songs. One of them is by using songs.

There are many songs written in English and mostly people love listening to music. The technique is so easy to run and can create enjoyable atmosphere. Students in the class also have the same feeling. They like singing even though they cannot sing properly, or pronounce the words correctly. They just enjoy the music tunes. If the singer is their favorite singer, students will follow and are confident to sing her/his song. For example, Lady Gaga, a very young word star who has been followed by more than 2 millions.

In this research, the researcher tried to see the significance of using songs to help students increase their vocabulary. Due to the enjoyable atmosphere songs can create intended to use songs in teaching as one of the variables of this research. It was expected that through this research teaching English, especially vocabulary using song can meet the goal of students learning and vocabularies.

Through some literary searching, the researcher found some researches have been conducted in vocabulary teaching area using English pop songs. Both of them is a study by Kustina (2009) who investigated students’ Improving Student’ Vocabulary
Mastery Through Listening English Song of the Eighth Year Students of SMPN 25 Semarang 2009/2010. The result of the study revealed that there was a significant improvement of the students’ ability in vocabulary through English song. Riyanto’s (2006) study also revealed that the fifth graders of primary students at SDN 1 Surodadi Kedung Jepara were enriched in vocabulary when taught using western songs.

Compared to the researcher’s, the two previous studies had similarities and difference. The two studies and researcher’s used songs as variables in teaching vocabularies. The difference remained on the subject and the method. The two previous were primary students and in the action research methods.

B. Problem of the Study

Based on the description in the background of problem, the researcher formulated the problem in this research as: “Is there any significant effect on using English song in teaching vocabulary to the tenth graders of SMA Dharma Putra, Jakarta?”

C. Objective of the Study

The objective of this research was to see the effects of using English popular songs in teaching vocabulary to tenth graders in SMA Dharma Putra, Jakarta.
D. Significances of the Study

The research was expected to provide information and contribution to the students, teacher and researchers:

1. Students: It can motivate students’ interest in vocabulary learning.
2. Teacher: It equip teachers with alternative technique in teaching vocabulary by using a song as a media.
3. Researchers: It provides a basis for conducting researches on the same area for other researchers

E. Scopes of the Study

The scope of the study, the researcher was focused on the following aspects:

1. The research was conducted to the tenth grade students of Dharma Putra Senor High School in the Academic Year 2012/2013.
2. This research used English-pop songs related to student’s vocabulary.
3. The vocabulary covered only: adjective, verb, noun and adverb.
F. Operational Definitions:

1. Songs: Teaching aids which enable students to understand, and remember the new vocabulary.

2. Teaching: The process to deliver knowledge or information accurately that can improve the students' achievement.

3. Vocabulary: The collection of words covering adjectives, verbs, nouns, and adverbs that has meaning that can be used by the students to make sentences.