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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

English is an international language that is very important to study because it is used in the world communication. People know it as a foreign language and also as a second language. Usually, students in Indonesia have known English since kindergarten until senior high school. It is a long time to study English. In contrary, most of the students still consider that English is difficult lesson, especially in vocabulary mastery. In school curriculum, English becomes one of the subjects in national examination. Thus, students must study hard about vocabulary because it is an important element in English learning. By having vocabulary mastery well, students will be easy to accept the teacher's explanation.

The vocabulary is not a skill in English but it is just a language component. It does not include in SMA curriculum as the main subjects in English learning. It is usually just discussed after teaching a language skill, for example after students read a text. Teacher needs to discuss vocabulary in order that the students understand or comprehend the text that they read. This relationship seems logical, to get a meaning from what they read, students need both a great many words in their vocabulary and ability to use various strategies to establish the meaning of new words when they encounter them. Students who do not have large number of vocabulary or effective word-learning strategies often struggle to achieve comprehension.



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Derivation is the formulation of a new word or inflectable stem from another word or stem. It typically occurs by the addition of an affix. The derived word is often a different word class from the original. The knowledge of them as well as their meanings can help the students enlarge their vocabulary. According to Sabrony (1986:83) once the students know the meaning of particular prefix or suffix, they have the clue to the meaning of every word beginning with the prefix or ending with the suffix by analyzing the significant parts in the word. According to Nation (1990:39) one advantage of using affixes knowledge for vocabulary learning is that it can help learners in learning unfamiliar words by relating them to know words or know prefixes and suffixes.

Senior High Boarding School Darel hikmah Pekanbaru uses School Based Curriculum (KTSP) in the process of teaching and learning English. English is taught two times a week and the minimum of criteria passing grade of this lesson is 75. This school also has English study club which is used by the students to improve their English skills, the school not only provides enough facilities such as language labororium and English books in library. one of the teachers of English is appointed to be the chief of language division in Darel Hikmah Islamic boarding school Pekanbaru. Language division itself has function to improve students' English and Arabic competences by conducting several programs such as English and Arabic week, vocabularies memorization, conversation for daily activities, speech coaching, writing announcements and etc. it is known that English lesson is given over to the students to get a better achievement. However, most of the students still got difficulties in developing their vocabulary.

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The problem of the students above could be seen from the following phenomena:

1. Some of the students had difficulties in mastering the vocabulary.
2. Some of the students did not understand what the teacher's instruction.
3. Some of the students were not confident to show their ideas in learning English.

Based on the problems illustrated above, thus, the researcher is interested in researching the problems above into a research project, **“The Correlation between the students’ Knowledge of Derivational Words and Their knowledge of Vocabulary at MA Darel Hikmah.”**

B. Problem

1. Identification of the Problem

Based on the description above, the researcher identified the problem concerning with students’ knowledge of derivational words in increasing their vocabulary mastery:

- a. How was the students’ knowledge about derivational word?
- b. How was the students’ knowledge about the vocabulary?
- c. Why did some of the students still feel difficult in putting the derivational words in a word?
- d. Why were some of the students still confused in using appropriate derivational words in a word?



2. The Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problems above, this research only focuses on the students' knowledge of derivational words and their knowledge of vocabulary at MA Darel Hikmah Pekanbaru.

3. The Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation of the problem previously, the researcher would like to formulate the research questions as follows:

- a. How is the students' knowledge of derivational words of the second grade at MA Darel Hikmah Pekanbaru?
- b. How is the students' knowledge of vocabulary of the second grade at MA Darel Hikmah Pekanbaru?
- c. Is there any significant correlation between students' knowledge of derivational words and their knowledge of vocabulary of the second grade at MA Darel Hikmah Pekanbaru?

C. The Objective Significance of the Research

1. The Objective of the Research

- a. To know how students' knowledge of derivational words of the second grade at MA Darel Hikmah Pekanbaru.
- b. To investigate how students' knowledge of vocabulary of the second grade at MA Darel Hikmah Pekanbaru.
- c. To find out the significant correlation between students' knowledge of derivational words and their knowledge of vocabulary of the second grade at MA Darel Hikmah Pekanbaru.



2. The Significance of the Research

In common, this research is expected to inform about the importance of the students' derivational words and their knowledge of vocabulary and to give a positive contribution and accurate information about the correlation between students' knowledge of derivational words and their knowledge of vocabulary at school and give information to the teacher about the difficulties that will be faced by the students in learning English subject. Then theoretically, these research findings are also expected to support the existence of the theories regarding the correlation between students' knowledge of derivational words and their knowledge of vocabulary. Practically, these research findings are also expected to give contribution and information in increasing knowledge. Besides, these research findings are also expected to give contribution for teaching and learning process in MA Darel Hikmah Pekanbaru.

D. The Definition of Term

In order to explain and avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation about the title and the content of the research, the researcher defines the terms used in this research as follows:

1. Correlation

Correlation is the connection between two things in which one thing changes as the other does (Oxford University Press, 2003: 94). Dealing with it, correlation defines as a statistical test to determine the tendency or pattern of two (or more) variables or two sets of data to vary consistently (Creswell, 2012 p. 338).

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2. Knowledge of Derivational Words

According to Laure Bauer (2003 p.14) a derivational is one which produces a new lexeme from a base.

3. Vocabulary Knowledge

According to Grolier (1981: 112) vocabulary is a list of words and often phrases, usually arranged alphabetically and defined or translated a lexicon or glossary. All the words of language, the sum of word used by, understood by, or at the command of a particular person, social group, profession, trade or the like.

Vocabulary is the stock of words used by people or particular uses or person, or a list of collection of the word of a language, book, author and branch of science or the like, in alphabetical orbder and defined (Webster, 1981: 2560).

E. Reasons for Choosing the Title

The reasons why the researcher was interested in conducting this research are based on several consideration:

1. The problems of this research are very interesting and challenging to be researched.
2. This title of this research is relevant with the researcher as a student of English Education Department.
3. As far as the researcher is concerned, this research title has never been investigated by any researchers.