

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents an introduction of the paper. It covers the background of the study, identification of the problem, and the aims of the study. The last present about the significance of the study

1.1 Background of the Study

Learning English is not an easy thing that every people can do. There are so many things that should considered in learning English that are grammar, pronunciation and vocabulary. According to Irnasari & Kristie (2012) when foreign language learners studying English language the most fame aspect is vocabulary. In the process of learning English, one of the challenges from student's foreign language is vocabulary.

Vocabulary is one of basic skill in learn of foreign language especially in English language. Hanson & Padua (2011) states that a receptive vocabulary refers to words that we understand through reading and listening and a vocabulary refers to words we use to communicate in spoken and printed language. In improving the ability with one of English language, it takes some creative and effective strategies for the ability in order to increase vocabulary optimally. Besthia (2018) added that vocabulary learning strategies became a part of language learning strategies, it is very important in language learning and consequently realize this strategy is important for teachers and students. Learning vocabulary is one of the important parts in learning languages especially for the English Foreign Language (EFL) context because vocabulary is kind of adjective, object and others that is used by someone in a language to write or speak from one word to another word which makes it a sentence that used in a particular context. According to Gu (1994) as

Cited in Zhang (2011) in the process of developing a language that has been mastered, the most important part is being able to understand general vocabulary.

Secondary school students already familiar with English language learning. Especially for students in the last year of secondary school must learn more to get the good score in the last examination, because English language become one of compulsory subject for the last examination. Students in the last year in a short time will step on to the level of college. Therefore, it is necessary to know what strategies are used in learning existing and newly acquired vocabulary when learning English. Many objects around that can be used as a tool to help students to improve vocabulary skills not only from subjects that they learn in the school, there are some other ways such as reading text from subtitle, listening while the native speaker speaks in English. If in the process of learning vocabulary can be well observed, it will be easy to apply it in communication and writing. Therefore, some strategies are needed in order to learn the new words that can improve in the learning process.

There are many researchers that study about vocabulary learning strategies in a several years in English as a Foreign Language (EFL) context, such as: Wei (2007) for university context, Yunhao (2011) also for university context, Irnasari & Kristie (2012) English education context, Subon (2013) used vocational school for the context. The researcher observed how students in a senior high school Sleman, then the researcher found a new finding especially in vocabulary knowledge, the students lack of vocabulary knowledge. However, the research is rarely done in an EFL context, especially in Indonesia secondary education context. To fill this gap, the researcher conducted the study on the

issue about vocabulary learning strategies used by the students in a senior high school Sleman especially for students in the XII class.

1.2 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the background that mentioned above, the problem of this research is formulated in the following question: How is the profile of vocabulary learning strategies used by students in a senior high school in Sleman?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Related to the issues investigated, the aims of the study to describe the profile of vocabulary learning strategies used by students in a secondary school in English as a foreign language.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The significance of the study in theoretical ground is to introduce domains vocabulary learning strategies that can be developed as EFL learners while learning English language in face up to national examination. This study can help students to know the vocabulary learning strategies used, so that they can evaluate their learning strategies in learn vocabulary by themselves.