

**Students' Ability in Vocabulary Mastery of English Education Major at
Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Tarbiyah Muhammadiyah Tanjung Redeb**

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Abstract

This paper mainly discusses the students' ability in vocabulary mastery at Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Tarbiyah Muhammadiyah (STITM) Tanjung Redeb. The current paper draws presents the teaching and learning process by presenting the importance of plenty vocabulary mastery and the present situation where English plays important role in globalization era. The design study is proposed based on quantitative descriptive in STITM Tanjung Redeb, Berau Regency of East Kalimantan. The participant was 19 students in second semester major in English education. The data collection was test and data analysis was scoring, mean, median, mode. The finding of this study was the performance on posttest show that the rating scale of students' ability in vocabulary is very good, the students obtained good ability.

Introduction

English language has extraordinary positioning since it is as international languages, many aspect of live cover of it, moreover in education field. The fact that, in Indonesia itself, English has been learnt in some level of education from kindergarten level to university level. This condition shows that English plays important role as international tool of communication.

Learning English as foreign language (EFL) for Indonesian students is full of challenge because every single language has its own rules and uniqueness, English does too. Such as there are four macro skill of English skills and among other must be mastered. They are listening, speaking, writing, and reading. Speaking and writing involve language production, so they are regarded as productive

skills. On the other hand, listening and reading involve receiving message, so they are regarded as receptive skills. In each skills involve vocabulary, so vocabulary mastery is being basis knowledge in mastering English and to develop the plenty vocabulary it is needed the emphasizing on part of speech too. However, during English instruction for college students, which are by no means sufficient in terms of class periods, part of speech instructional has functioned as a serious problem due to various reasons. As a result, the teacher ought to shoulder the big responsibilities of probing into the problem and trying to find a solution.

The other side, learning English as Second Language (ESL) for Indonesian students plays very important and need the emphasizing in plenty vocabulary as Jumariati (2010) said that vocabulary learning is the important aspect in learning a foreign language. Students will improve much if they learn more words and expressions. According to Richard (1997) it's vital to know a lot of words if you want to make progress in a foreign language. Even if your grammar is excellent, you just won't be able to communicate your meaning

without a wide vocabulary. Since English is not our national language, it is not easy to learn it. Many student or learners find problem in mastering it. One of the basic problems is lack of vocabularies. Vocabulary is really important element of the language to be concerned with in order to master the four language skills.

Refers to the background, the research problem is formulated in specific problem as “What is the students’ ability in vocabulary mastery of English Education Major at SekolahTinggiIlmuTarbiyahMuhammadiyahTanjungRedeb?”

Review of related Theories

Definition of vocabulary

Learning language cannot be separated from learning vocabulary. Vocabulary supports the speaker to express their opinions, ideas, and feelings in communication. To know what vocabulary is, the following are definitions about vocabulary. According to Kamil and Hiebert (2007) in their article, they broadly define; vocabulary is knowledge of words and word meanings. Richards (2001:4) says that vocabulary is one of the components of language and one of the first things

applied linguists turned their attention to. Meanwhile, Hornby (1974:959) defines vocabulary is a total number of words which make up a language with definition or translations. According to the definitions above Researcher concluded that vocabulary is a word that a person know in a particular language and one of components of language that has a meaning and definition.

The important of teaching vocabulary

It is undeniable that vocabulary, like grammar and phonetics, plays an important role in mastering a foreign language. Teaching vocabulary plays important role in language acquisition because the mastery of vocabulary will help students in mastery all the language skills; listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Vocabulary will make the students practice the structure more easily; it is useful for the students in order to communicate in daily life and will strengthen belief that English can be used to express some ideas or feeling they express in their native language (Finocchiaro 1974: 38). The other reason is that a large vocabulary helps the English learners in studying other English subjects such as

Sociolinguistics, Psycholinguistics, Business Correspondence, etc. It will help them to understand and define many concepts, ideas, expressions that they get in such subjects. It is stated by Bella Fiore (1968: 1) "The larger the vocabulary you build up, the better able you are to define and refine the expression of the images and ideas". Moreover, she said "The more words you master richer become you thought process and the better you distinguish between shades of word meanings, the subtler grows your expression of ideas". In conclusion, vocabulary learning is an unseparate thing from language learning because whenever people think of it, they usually think of vocabulary learning and vocabulary mastery. It is a key for the English learners to get a success in their learning process.

The linguist Carter (1987) summed up the importance of vocabulary learning. His view is echoed in this advice to students from a recent course book by Gairns & Redman (1986), innovation, said "If you spend most of your time studying grammar, your English will not improve very much. You will see most improvement if you learn more words and expression. You can say very little

with grammar, but you can say almost anything with words!”. However, vocabulary teaching has not always been very responsive to communicative advantage in developing an extensive vocabulary.

Arnaud&Bejoint. (1992), also state “There are always vocabulary items to be learned in all book of learning in the classroom besides reading, structure, dialogue, and pronunciation. There are always words lists, footnotes on reading and word exercise”. Students receive information about language from variety of sources in their environment and in the classroom: The teacher, the next book, recordings, other students, reference books, and so on. This input has to be worked on for acquisition. It is generally acknowledge that acquisition involves a number of processes. Moreover, the fact shows that vocabulary is very important not only in language learning, but also in social, professional, and an intellectual life. It is because vocabulary is a vehicle of thought, self-expression, interpretation, and communication. Those who have more vocabulary automatically have wider-knowledge than those who have less.

From the explanation above it is concluded that vocabulary is a core component in language learning. With a limited vocabulary, people have a limited understanding in term of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. They will also be able to express their ideas freely with that knowledge. From this statement, we can infer that vocabulary plays an important role in everyday life.

Vocabulary mastery

Vocabulary is crucial to be mastered by the learner to understand the language. Mastering vocabulary is needed to express our ideas and to be able to understand other people ideas too. According to Harmond and Keser (2009) defines mastery as complete knowledge or complete skill. The other word, mastery means complete knowledge or great skill that makes someone a master in a certain subject. The specificity of any individual’s vocabulary knowledge depends on the person and its motivation, desires, and need for the words (Hatch and Brown, 1995). Vocabulary mastery refers to the great skill in processing words of a language. It is an individual achievement and possession (Schmitt, 2000). For that reason the biggest responsibility in increasing knowledge

is in the individual itself. The achievement in plenty vocabulary mastery requires their own motivation and interest on the word of a language.

Based on the definition above, we can conclude that vocabulary mastery is an individual's great skill in using words of a language, which is

The design of this work was descriptive quantitative. So, the approach of this research is quantitative research especially one short case study design or mentioned by pre-experimental design, and the design was conducted on one group sample only. This study was conducted on Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Tarbiyah Muhammadiyah, Tanjung Redeb in academic year 2018. It is located at Jl. Jendral Sudirman, Tanjung Redeb District, Regent of Berau, East Kalimantan Province. The subject was all personal in second semester of English Education Major and it took 19 participants. The specific object of this research is the students' ability in plenty vocabulary mastery. The procedure of data analysis is activity to analyze and calculate the collected data. The data collected by the means of the test instrument have been analyzed differently based on specific purposes. Here several steps were done to

acquired based on their own interest needs and motivation. Vocabulary mastery plays an important role in the four language skill and it has to be considered that vocabulary mastery is one of the needed components of language.

Research Methodology

administer the data by using statistical tools below:

1. Scoring

To score the test, the researcher used scoring standard technique from Arikunto:

$$S = \frac{R}{N} \times 100$$

Where :

S = The score

R = The number of correct answer

N = Total number of the test item.

2. Mean

Mean or average is the result of a number of sectors with the number of respondents. The calculation of the mean is a simple calculation because it only requires the sum of the number and the number of respondents (n). Here is how to calculate the value of the mean score.

$$\bar{X} = \frac{\sum X}{n},$$

Where:

x = Mean

Σ = Summation

N= Number of score or measure

3. Median

Scale	Verbal Interpretation
80-100	Excellent
60-79	Very Good
40-59	Good
20-39	Fair
0-19	Poor

the largest to the smallest right in the middle if the observation is odd, or the average of both observations in the middle when the observation is even.

from Antonio to present the existing students' mean performance. The following table is the rating scale

4. Mode

Mode is the value that often appears or with the highest frequency. Mode does not always exist, this happens if the frequency of all data is the same.

Table 1. Rating Scale

Finding and Discussion

The median is a set of data that has been sorted from the smallest to the largest or

The succeeding data on the table is the students' score on posttest after having the several treatments.

Those score were basis to find what students

Students' ability in vocabulary mastery of the second semester of English Education Major at STITM Tanjung Redeb.

Table 2. students	1	80	11	50	Score of the
	2	80	12	60	
	3	85	13	80	
	4	50	14	80	
	5	80	15	60	
	6	60	16	60	
	7	50	17	50	
	8	80	18	60	
	9	60	19	50	
	10	60	Σ	1235	

Table 3. The Mean, Median, Mode

Observation	Mean	Median	Mode
Posttest	65	60	60

As shown on the table above, Summation of students' score was 1235. Posttest finding on the mean score was 65, the value of median is 60, and the value of mode is 60. The performance on posttest show that the rating scale of students' ability in vocabulary is very good, the students obtained good ability.

Conclusions

The objective of this work was to find out what the students' ability in

vocabulary mastery of the second semester at STITM TanjungRedeb is. The success of this work was supported by some technique in teaching process beside the students' consciousness that language is an important aspect in human life. It is means of communication the persons to the others. The people need language to looking for and give people benefit information. Communication hold the most important aspect of the language, listening or reading cannot occur

without communication. People need a language as a communication to express their feeling, thought and desires. Besides To face the challenges of the globalization era, every learner must be prepared both physically and mentally. In addition, the students' ability to communicate international is required to win the fierce competition in this ere, so, the mastery plenty vocabulary is needed.

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