CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

One of the world languages used by many people for communication is English, which is now considered as an international language. Thus, many countries and people in the world now learn it. However, each country has its own reason to treat English whether as the first, second or foreign language. Broughton (1978: 4) presents varieties of English, namely: those of first language situations where English is the mother tongue (MT), as in the USA or Australia, English as the second language (SL) situations, where English is the language of commercial, administrative and educational institutions as in Ghana, Singapore, Philippines.

In Indonesia, English is learnt as a foreign language and not as a second language. English language is taught as a compulsory subject for Elementary school, Junior High School and Senior High School, and also elective subject in the Academics or Universities.

In order to master and use English correctly, students need to know all components of language skills and elements. There are four components of language skills, namely, listening, speaking, reading, and writing and three language elements, grammar, pronunciation, and vocabulary. Someone is able to read, listen, speak, and write well, when they have sufficient knowledge of grammar and vocabulary. These elements do influence student's mastery of the language being learnt.

According to Jackson and Amvela (2000: 11) "Vocabulary is the total stock of words in a language". Having rich stock of vocabulary can help learners to speak the language, write in the language and also able to translate. For example, they translate

a text in Indonesian language into English or in English into Indonesian language. Vocabulary is an important aspect of language and also vocabulary has an important role to play, that is to be used to make sentences. If learners do not know how to expand their vocabulary, they gradually drop their interest in learning the language.

Indeed, translation is considered better to do if one has a rich stock of vocabulary. Translation typically has been used to transfer written or spoken source language texts to equivalent written or spoken target language texts. Translation is very important as a tool to learn foreign language. It can be integrated into daily classroom activities to help the students in improving language skills and language component especially vocabulary. Students that have a good ability in translation, certainly they will be easy to translate the text or what people express and say in their languages. So that, students able to know the purpose or the meaning of text, and also what people say in their languages.

In teaching and learning English as a foreign language, students' vocabulary mastery cannot be separated from translation activity. Learners have to be able to understand the words. Anyway, they will not be able to understand what will they translate if they do not understand the language used in those media. Lack of vocabulary is the major one problem faced, whereas in fact vocabulary mastery is something that influential of translation process.

Based on the background above, this research is done for the intention of exploring how significant the vocabulary mastery and students' translation are. Accordingly, the writer would like to make a study under the title **"Correlation Between Vocabulary Mastery and Translation Ability from Indonesian Text into English of the Seventh Grade Students of SMPN 1 Kupang in the Academic Year 2015/2016".**

1.2 Hypotheses

Hypothesis is statement about relationship between two or more variables that are being studied. Based on the statement of the problem and objective of the study, there are two hypotheses in this study as follows:

1. H_1 (alternative hypothesis)

    There is correlation between students' vocabulary mastery and their Indonesian-English translation ability of seventh grade students at SMPN 1 Kupang in the school year 2015/2016.

2. H_0 (null hypothesis)

    There is no correlation between students' vocabulary mastery and their Indonesian-English translation ability of seventh grade students at SMPN 1 Kupang in the school year 2015/2016.

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the problem stated above, the objectives of study are:

1. To identify the vocabulary mastery of the seventh grade students of SMPN 1 Kupang in the school year 2015/2016.

2. To identify the translation ability of the seventh grade students of SMPN 1 Kupang in the school year 2015/2016.

3. To identify the correlation between vocabulary mastery and translation ability of the seventh grade students of SMPN 1 Kupang in the school year 2015/2016.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The result of this study will be benefit as providing additional knowledge about vocabulary and translation study for the English teachers, students and for other researchers.

1. For Teachers

    The result for this research will be useful as a reflection in order to increase and develop their method in teaching vocabulary relating to its importance in their translation ability.

2. For Students

    Based on the finding of this study, the students will be motivated to practice vocabulary by translation more than they did before. It also will encourage them to learn English by improving their vocabulary mastery through some fun ways. In addition, by improving their vocabulary mastery, they will be able to increase their translation ability.

3. For the Readers

    The writer hopes that this study can be useful as the source of their reference and it is also useful to inform the readers about the correlation between vocabulary mastery and ability in translating Indonesian text into English.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study is about vocabulary and translation. The writer limits her study on the correlation between vocabulary mastery and translation ability of the students. This study is generally to find out whether there is a correlation between one test and another test.

1.6 Definition of Terms

There are some terms used by the writer which are related to the study in order to help the reader understands the meaning of this study as a whole.

1. Correlation

   Correlation is a statistical relation between two or more variables such the systematic changes in the value of one variable are accompanied by systematic changes in the other (Lewis, 2011). Here are the correlation between vocabulary and translation.

2. Vocabulary mastery

   Vocabulary mastery is all about words (McCarthy, 2010: 1). In this case, vocabulary is an essential and basic component of all uses of English language. of a particular language.

3. Translation ability

   Translation ability is the reproduction in a receptor's language the closest natural equivalence of the Source Language message, first in the terms of meaning, and secondly in terms of style (Nida and Taber, 1982: 12). In this study, translation ability means the sentences produced by the students in the Source Language.

4. SMPN 1 Kupang

   SMPN 1 Kupang is a state Junior High School located in Kupang city.