

## **Chapter One**

### **Introduction**

#### **Background**

According to Hornby (2010), vocabulary is all the words that a person knows or uses. Words are basic structure chunks of language. In fact, words play important role in communication. Therefore, if we want to be communicative, knowing words is the first thing to do.

Some students think that dictionary is useful to find the words or vocabulary. Vocabulary is necessary for students in order to learn structures. Students study using Oxford dictionary and Cambridge dictionary in order that students comprehend English words and learn to talk fluently. In addition, the students study vocabulary through dictionary in order that the students become mastery of language. Students can read a dictionary everywhere, for example at home, library, classroom, and so on. Students whose major is English education must know words, find the meaning, understand the use of words, and enrich their vocabulary.

Based on the writer's observation, there are many students who usually open a dictionary and it makes their vocabulary mastery good. In the write's personal experience, the researcher usually reads a dictionary via mobilephone and dictionary book to search and know easy and difficult English words so that the researcher can speak English. Additionally, when the writer studies in the college, some lecturers inform that dictionary is important in learning the language and also they ask students to use dictionary in order to knowing easy and difficult English words. For example suggest, Connery, obligation, etc.

Most students of ELED UMY look up a dictionary to find the meaning of words and translate English words into Indonesian words and vice versa. The students also use

dictionary to improve their vocabulary. Therefore, the researcher wants to figure out whether or not the frequency of using dictionary to study English can improve English vocabulary mastery. For this reason, the researcher wants to do the research in this topic with title “the correlation between the frequency of using dictionary and students’ vocabulary mastery”.

### **Statement of the Problem**

Based on the background, it has been emphasized by the researcher’s experience that the use of dictionary is important in learning a language. Also, it has been proven by the researcher that the more he uses dictionary in learning English, the more English words he knows. For this reason, the researcher assumes that students’ vocabulary mastery depends on how often students use the dictionary in learning English. As a result, the formulated question is: “Is there any correlation between the frequency of using dictionary and students’ vocabulary mastery?”

### **Research Question**

In this research, there are three research questions that are:

- How frequent do students of ELED UMY use dictionary in the process of learning English?
- How is the ELED UMY students’ vocabulary mastery?
- What is the correlation between the use of dictionary and students’ vocabulary mastery at ELED UMY?

### **The Objectives of the Research**

The objectives of my research study are:

- To investigate the frequency of ELED UMY students' use of dictionary in the process of learning English.
- To examine the students' vocabulary mastery of ELED UMY.
- To find out the correlation between the use of dictionary and students' vocabulary mastery at ELED UMY.

### **The Significances of the Research**

The result of this research study is expected to be beneficial for the people that read this research study, especially for the students, teachers, and researchers.

**Teachers.** Teachers can obtain benefits from this study because the findings of the problems faced by students before learning vocabulary via dictionary are provided. From this research study, the teachers can observe the problems and find the best strategies for students in learning vocabulary. The teacher can use exercise for the students before learning vocabulary via dictionary.

**Students.** Students can use the information for the basis of their use of dictionary. From this research study, the students can learn a dictionary and search English words and Indonesian words. The student can translate English words and Indonesian words.

**The Other Researchers.** Researchers can use the information for the references for future research relevant on the use of dictionary in relation to vocabulary mastery. From this research study, the researchers can gain the vocabulary and comprehend English words and Indonesian words in learning vocabulary. The researchers can improve their English vocabulary and English word.