

## **Chapter One**

### **Introduction**

This chapter discusses the introduction. It contains background that explains the reason why the researcher does this research, statement of the problem, limitation of the problem, research questions of the study, purpose of the research, significance of the research. Furthermore, it discusses the statement of the problem, and outline of the research.

### **Background of the Research**

Speaking skill is very important in students' lives. Although all of the English skill has its own role in students' life, some researchers have their own preference for the skill that they think a bigger role than others. Bahrani and Soltani (2012) stated that speaking is the most crucial part of the language learning process because the aim of teaching speaking skill is always having effective communication. To have efficient communication, students have to make communicant understand about what they speak.

One of the aspects of making speaking effective and efficient communication is vocabulary. For English as Foreign Language (EFL) students, vocabulary is very needed to know the meaning of the word. Alqahtani (2015) declared that vocabulary learning is an important part of learning a foreign language as the meaning of new words. He also emphasizes that lack of vocabulary is being one of the obstacles in learning English, especially for EFL learning. This is in line with Boonkongsean's (2012) statement that vocabulary is an inseparable part of the four language skills. Even though they have good grammar and pronunciation, they will have no good communication if they don't know the meaning of words. Vocabulary has to be one of the

materials that the school need to be focused on teaching student except for grammar and other skills.

Understanding the importance of English vocabulary for students, many schools apply any method to teach English vocabulary for their children. Islamic boarding school also has its own way of teaching English for their students. As a boarding school, students have 24 hours in a day, therefore Boarding school can teach English for their students, inside and outside the classroom. Modern Islamic boarding schools apply strategies to enhance student English skill, such as bilingual program, vocabulary enrichment program, and public speaking. As one of modern Islamic boarding school, this school applies all of these programs in their boarding school. This Islamic boarding school at Yogyakarta has their purpose to help students gaining the bilingual program they applied in their school, so they make the program in helping students understanding the meaning of words called vocabulary enrichment program.

Vocabulary enrichment program aims to teach the students about new words and encourage the students to use these new words in speaking and writing (Styles, Stevens, Bradshaw, & Clarkson (2014). In this Islamic boarding school, this program gives students two or three vocabularies six days a week. It means students should have many words along joining this program. Students should have good English speaking skill. However, based on the researcher's observation as a teacher, the researcher found that some students are still confused in looking for the meaning of some words. The right strategies should be used to solve the faced problem. Students have to know the best strategies for solving the problem. Boonkongsean (2012) stated that vocabulary learning strategies play a key role in vocabulary learning. It means the student's chosen strategy is very important to bring them success in their learning. This is the reason why researcher interested in investigating the role of the vocabulary enrichment program

in student's speaking skill and it observes through their problems and strategies as the steps that bring their success.

In addition, why this research should be conducted, there are many research take vocabulary as the study, but Majeed (2000) said that many issues related to vocabulary have not been answered. Some researchers have investigated the study of vocabulary program inside the classroom and not many of them investigate the program outside the classroom. By all of these reasons, the researcher wants to investigate the role of VEP, the problems of the program and the strategies of the students in facing the problem of the program in an extraordinary program such as this.

### **Statement of the Problem**

From the background, we know that speaking skill is very important for students. Many schools in Indonesia has improved their curriculum to create some programs to improve students' English speaking skills including boarding school. One of the programs implemented in this Islamic boarding school at Yogyakarta as one of boarding school in Indonesia is a vocabulary enrichment program. If we see how important vocabulary in improving speaking skill, this program is very good at improving students' speaking skill. However, we still do not know how this program implemented in this school. The researcher found that students are still confused in looking for the meaning of words while speaking. There are three identified problems found by other researchers in vocabulary learning: pronunciation, spelling and grammatical form faced by the students and some of the students. The pronunciation is difficult for EFL students because the differences between spoken and written in English. For example the word that has differences in spoken and written are the words with silent letter: listen, honor, and honest. It is related with he next problem in spelling. As said previously, that Indonesian and English has different written

and it makes students hard in writing the word in correct written. The example problem from the difficulties in grammatical pattern is the affixation. Students are confused by the word formed by suffix and prefix. Students have to know the suitable strategies for such current problem and it is rarely found the same study then researcher was interested in conducting this research.

### **Limitation of the Problem**

There are many programs in improving students' speaking skill applied in this school. The routine program applied are bilingual program, public speaking and vocabulary enrichment program. This research focuses on the role of the vocabulary enrichment program because this program aims to help the students in the bilingual program which means that this program affects the other program. Vocabulary enrichment program aims to teach students about vocabulary for their speaking and writing. This study focuses only on the role of VEP in improving speaking skill because speaking was most crucial skills among the four main skills of English.

There are four aspects related to the implementation of the program. The implementation related to benefits, weaknesses, problems and strategies. This research focuses on the role, problems faced and the strategies that have been made to overcome the problems. It is because as stated by Boonkongsean (2012) vocabulary learning strategies play a key role in learning vocabulary. This research only focuses on students and teacher as the subject of the study because this research wants to investigate deeply and help students in reaching their goal to have good speaking skill. The other reason is many pieces of research has taken the strategies of the teacher in teaching vocabulary as their study. The other problems from the teacher view are needed to see deeply about the preparation of the program.

## **Research Question**

According to the background of the study this research has three research questions that are going to be answered:

1. What are the roles of the vocabulary enrichment program in improving student's speaking skill?
2. What are the problems of the program in improving students' speaking skill?
3. What are the strategies have been made by students to overcome the faced problem to improve their speaking skill?

## **Purposes of the Research**

This research has three purposes. The purposes of this research are:

1. To explore the role of the vocabulary enrichment program in improving student's speaking skill.
2. To find out the problems of the program in improving students' speaking skill.
3. To investigate the strategies have been made by students to overcome the faced problem to improve their speaking skill.

## **The significance of the Research**

The results of this research are expected to have some advantages as follow:

**For students.** One of the purposes of this research is to investigate the challenges faced by students in vocabulary enrichment program and their strategies. Hopefully, this research can solve students' problem in this program, and reveal the strategies used by other students. The student maybe can use the strategy used by other students who have the same problem.

Boonkongsean (2012) stated strategies is the key to get success in learning vocabulary. Students have to know many strategies that can be used and bring them to the success of learning.

**For the teachers.** This research can be one of the evaluations for the teacher in teaching this program. The teacher can know the challenges faced by their students, and they can teach their student more focus in the most problem faced by students.

**For the institution or school.** This research can be one of the evaluations for the school in doing this program. The institution can see the problem of the program and do the evaluation and fix some regulation that cause the problem in the program.

**For the other researcher.** This research can help another researcher that has a related topic with this research in the future. It can be their reference in writing their research that relates to the topic of this research. Hopefully, it can be one of their options in finding the resources about the vocabulary enrichment program in developing students' speaking skill. In the end, the researcher hopes that this research can be one of the ideas of another researcher to do their research.

### **Outline of the Research**

This research consists of five chapters. The first chapter is an introduction that contain background, problem statement, limitation, research questions, purposes, the significance of the research and outline. The second is about the literature review that explains the theory that related to the topic of this research. The third is explaining about the research methods that consist of research design, data gathering, and data analysis. The fourth chapter is the main chapter that presents the finding and the discussion. The last chapter discusses conclusion and recommendation.