CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

English is an international language which has been used and learned by many people in the world. Many countries use English as second language. It is also compulsory subject at school. In Indonesia, English is used as foreign language. In learning English, vocabulary is one of the important elements that should be learned and mastery by the students. Language cannot be separated from vocabulary because it is the key and the basic aspect in language. Without vocabulary language is useless.

Vocabulary is a component of language that maintain of all information about meaning and using word in language. Vocabulary become one of the important things in English teaching and learning because without vocabulary will find the difficulties in understanding the language, especially in understanding English subject. Like speaking, to speak or communicate with other people can help them in many ways.

In learning vocabulary, sometimes learners get problem in memorizing it, they can memorize it but it is easy to forget it. To learn vocabulary the learners also need to know word classes or part of speech used in each language, such as noun, verb, pronoun, adjective, adverb, preposition, conjunction and interjection.

Through mastery vocabulary students can convey their ideas easily. It will be easy for them to learn four skills (listening, reading, speaking and writing) by acquiring sufficient vocabulary. They can also have confidence and bravery to share their knowledge with other. It is impossible for students to use language without mastering vocabulary.

In teaching vocabulary, there are some ways that teachers can apply to make learners to memorize vocabulary easier. Without appropriate ways in teaching vocabulary, learner will forget the vocabulary that the teachers have given to them. Teachers can use in teaching vocabulary is games. By using games, learners will not be bored during the teaching and learning process. In using games, the teachers should choose one of the games that suitable with the context where they are.

There are no difficulties and reasons for the students not to learn vocabularies because of the lack of facilities, because this game does not need expensive equipment or complicated preparation to practice, just clap their hands and say the word. Based on the explanation above, word clap game is one of techniques in teaching vocabulary because this technique will be easier for the students to figure out the meaning of the target word, and to memorize it. It is also fun so that the students will find that learning language is enjoyable. Thus, this technique can effective be used in teaching vocabulary.

In reference to the explanation above and strong desire of finding the solution of these problems, the writer has motivation to do the research in improving students' vocabulary mastery through word clap game. The writer wants to make a classroom action research to know the process of the implementation through word clap game and also the improvements of students' vocabulary mastery. In this case, the writer will do an action research entitle "*Investigating Students' Vocabulary Mastery at SMP Negeri 17 Tobelo North Halmahera of North Maluku*".

B. Scope of the Problem

This research focuses on investigating students' vocabulary mastery at SMP Negeri 17 Tobelo in North Halmahera of North Maluku

C. Statement of the Research

What are students' vocabulary mastery at SMP Negeri 17 Tobelo North Halmahera of North Maluku?

D. Objective of the Research

The objective of the research is to know students' vocabulary mastery at SMP Negeri 17 Tobelo.

F. The Significance of the Research

a. Theoretical Significance

The result of the research is to enrich the literature of teaching method especially in teaching English vocabulary.

b. Practical Significance

The result of the research provides useful information concerning the students' strategy in mastery vocabulary. It will be useful both teachers and students. For teacher, the outcome will contribute to the increasing of teaching English, especially in teaching vocabulary. It will also help the students to increase their motivation in learning vocabulary.