

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF USING ENGLISH SONGS TOWARDS STUDENTS' VOCABULARY MASTERY AT THE ELEVENTH GRADE OF SMAN 1 TEMBILAHAN HULU**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This quasi-experimental study examines the effectiveness of using English songs to enhance vocabulary mastery among eleventh-grade students at SMAN 1 Tembilahan Hulu. The research design involved two groups: the experimental group (class XI MIPA 2) and the control group (class XI MIPA 3), with 32 and 34 students respectively, totaling 66 students. The primary objective of the study was to identify significant differences in English vocabulary mastery between students taught using song media and those taught using conventional methods. Additionally, the study aimed to evaluate the overall effectiveness of using songs as a teaching medium for vocabulary enhancement. Data collection involved administering pre-tests and post-tests to both groups to measure vocabulary mastery before and after the treatment. The experimental group received instruction through English songs, while the control group continued with conventional teaching methods. The data were analyzed using SPSS 27 for Windows, focusing on hypothesis testing and discussions to draw meaningful conclusions. The results revealed a significant improvement in the vocabulary mastery of students in the experimental group compared to those in the control group. The average pre-test score for the experimental group was 22.50, which increased to 45.77 in the post-test, while the control group's average score increased from 21.34 in the pre-test to 32.98 in the post-test. The statistical analysis showed a significance level of Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed) 0.001, which is less than the threshold of 0.050, indicating a statistically significant difference. These findings suggest that the use of English songs as a teaching medium is more effective than conventional methods in enhancing vocabulary mastery among eleventh-grade students at SMAN 1. Tembilahan Hulu. The study highlights the potential benefits of incorporating music into language instruction to create a more engaging and effective learning experience for students.

**Keywords:** *English songs, Vocabulary mastery, Educational effectiveness*

## **INTRODUCTION**

English is regarded as the first foreign language in Indonesia must be learned by the students from primary school until university. It means English is very important subject at every level of education. In fact, English become the only foreign language which is included in National Examination (Ujian Nasional) from Junior High School to Senior High School. Moreover, there are lots of book sources written by English in the university level. Thus, learning English has been an important thing to do.

Effective communication and expression are made possible by the extensive and different variety of words and phrases that make up the English vocabulary. Words from various fields, including science, technology, the arts, culture, and daily life, are included in the English vocabulary. With its broad vocabulary, English gives speakers and students a wealth of terminology to express ideas and feelings and have complex discussions. English vocabulary lays the foundation for efficient communication across various settings and cultures, whether basic or complicated, technical or informal. It correlates with the argument made by Faliyanti and Arlin (2018: 94) that students must learn vocabulary since, without it, their comprehension of listening, reading, speaking, and writing would be restricted. Therefore, while teaching and studying English, vocabulary mastery must be given high attention.

English vocabulary is essential for successful speaking because it enables people to communicate their ideas, express their thoughts, and have meaningful discussions. Speakers may express their message with clarity and accuracy by using the most exact and relevant words while using a vast vocabulary to explain their message. It enables speakers to inspire strong feelings and establish a connection with their listeners. Language diversity broadens the range of ideas one may address, enabling exciting and educational conversations on various subjects. Additionally, a wide vocabulary helps speakers modify their language to fit various social circumstances, whether formal or informal, formal or casual, boosting their capacity for successful communication in various settings. In the

end, a practical understanding of the English language's vocabulary enables speakers to express themselves elegantly, developing persuasive and confident communication abilities.

One of English components that have to be taught to the students is vocabulary. Vocabulary is also science of to be mastery of vocabulary the way to communicate such as linguistic competence, socio cultural competence, and functional competence. According to Santosa, et.al (2020: 162) the foundation of information that students require to master is vocabulary. It implies that vocabulary is a crucial component of language acquisition and that without it students would struggle to properly acquire other abilities. Low vocabulary mastery also makes people unable to express the opinion properly.

One of the objectives in teaching English to Indonesian people is to enable student to read and understand books written in English. In order students can produce many sentences in written or spoken form. The students also could be to pronounce the vocabulary correctly. However, in reality, based on my experience when doing PPL at eleventh grade students' of SMAN 1 Tembilahan Hulu, on October – December 2022, the researcher observed students' writing and students' score on English subject. It was found that most of the students had low mastery in vocabulary, this can be proved by the fact that one of the students wrote the following sentence. In the other words, without a proportional amount vocabulary, anyone will get trouble in his or her reading, listening, speaking, and writing.

Mastering vocabulary is not easy, because English vocabulary for daily living requires more times, it is more difficult to master by foreign learners that English grammar. In addition, to help student in mastering English, many teachers have used different methods and technique for the same purpose, to understand, to learn, and to remember vocabulary more easily. But, sometimes the technique that used by the teachers such substitution drill and memorizing words make the student tend to be passive in developing sentence.

Every school has many problems about vocabulary. First, students are too lazy to study vocabulary because they think English a foreign language. Second,

the students could not memorize vocabulary well. Third, they feel difficult when they faced test because they just have little basic vocabulary. One of the solutions to export vocabulary mastery is using songs as media.

Nowadays there are many types of media for teaching vocabulary to the student, the one instruction media is English song. The use English song can improve the quality of vocabulary in teaching learning process. Using English song in students' vocabulary mastery in considered to be able to make the students easier to master vocabulary without pressure but fun. It is supported by Maneshi (2017: 1382) proposed that students learn vocabulary by memorizing repeated cycles of words in a song by listening to music for a certain amount of time. One of the strategies which can fulfill these requirements is by using English song. Using English song also would instantly motivate students to learn the language as are they able to listen the songs as well as read the lyrics projected on the screen.

In order to synchronize the learning materials with song application, the researcher will choose songs that is using words, phrases, and sentences with specific themes, contextual songs related with lesson material, and the songs are sung happily and quick intonation. This research is hoped to provide useful information about English song for teacher and students.

Based on explanation above, the researcher wants to English song is effective to improve students' vocabulary mastery. Thus, the researcher will focus on the effectiveness of the English song towards students' vocabulary mastery.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **Vocabulary Mastery**

Vocabulary is one of the language components which should be mastered by English learner. Vocabulary is also important in English teaching and learning. Imansyah & Kurniawan (2019: 16) said that the entirety of the words that make up a language is its vocabulary. One of the most important aspects of teaching a language is vocabulary development. Students must constantly acquire new words as they study grammar and language sound systems.

Learning language cannot be separated from learning vocabulary.

Vocabulary is the most important component language because it affects the four language skill, there are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Related in to the importance of vocabulary learning is central to language acquisition, whether the language first, second, or foreign. Generically, vocabulary is the knowledge of meaning of words.

To achieve the purpose of language learning, specific attention must be paid to language learning. It is also necessary to teach English language elements like vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, and spelling to assist the development of the four language skills. One must pick the right language to convey their ideas while crafting a sentence in addition to understanding grammar and pronunciation rules (Nursita et.al, 2022: 40).

Learning language cannot be separated from learning vocabulary. Vocabulary supports the speaker to express their opinions, ideas, and feelings in communication. Vocabulary is most important component language because it affects the four language skills, there are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Related in to the importance of vocabulary learning is central to language acquisition, whether the language first, second, or foreign. Generically, vocabulary is the knowledge of meanings of words.

According to Bai, Z (2018: 854), “English vocabulary in language learning refers to the words and phrases that are used in the English language”. Vocabulary is an essential component of learning a second or foreign language, including English, as it is the building material and the basic of language. Effective vocabulary learning in English language learning involves a combination of techniques and strategies that cater to the needs and preferences of individual learners.

In addition, according to Fauziaty& Harmer (2015: 2), Vocabulary influences the successful learning of the English language, especially as a foreign language. Vocabulary is a part of language components and is consisted of the words that are used in language communication, both orally or written. It means that, vocabulary is one of the important components of language to communicate.

Meanwhile, mastery in English language learning refers to the level of

proficiency and competence that a learner has achieved in the English language. It involves the ability to use English effectively in various contexts, including speaking, listening, reading, and writing (Azhari, 2016: 218). Mastery in English language learning is influenced by various factors, including the learner's first language (L1) skills, learning strategies, exposure to the language, and the use of effective learning tools and techniques (Hariyanti & Purwandari, 2022: 580).

Vocabulary mastery is an important aspect of English language learning, as it is the building material and the basic of language. The aspects in vocabulary mastery include able to pronounce word correctly, able to spell or write words, meaning of words, and able to use words in a sentence.

From the statement above, it shows that vocabulary is the basic of language. It is words that can be used by individual speakers and is a very important tool to master a language. The vocabulary of a person is defined either as the set of all words likely to be used by the person when constructing new sentence.

Vocabulary mastery is not only knowing the words and its meaning, but also knowing about how the words sound and how the words sound and how the words are used in the context. Mastering vocabulary means have complete knowledge of a set of words that are used by a person. Vocabulary mastery is competence to know words and meaning. The student are not only hoped to know the words but also their meaning.

## **English Song**

### **Definition of English Song**

According to Dewi & Asep (2019: 17), song is the skill of arranging tones or sounds in sequences, combinations, and temporal relationships. Musical instruments are typically used to create sounds that have rhythm or rhythmic sound.

Song is one of teaching media that can be used to teach any material, it may be used to create a more relaxing in learning foreign language. It also can be used to teach vocabulary because in the lyrics of song there are several kinds of vocabularies. Song, based on the Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (2008: 423)

“Song is short piece of music with words that you sing.

In Indonesia, most of students have difficulties in learning English. They are less motivation in studying English because they believe that English is difficult material. In that case, an English teacher needs to be responsive to the students' condition. The teacher should make students enthusiastic in learning process, Durrotun(2019: 21) states that a song is a piece of music with lyrics that is created for human vocalization. A song is a teaching tool that may be used to any subject and can make learning a foreign language more comfortable.

Due to the variety of vocabularies found in song lyrics, it may also be utilized to teach vocabulary. So, teacher as facilitator in learning process should think creatively how to make English can be learnt well and make students interested in learning. One of the strategies that can be used by teacher is using media to support teaching and learning process.

### **Procedure Teaching English Song**

In this research, the writer will apply song lyrics in teaching vocabulary of verbs by modifying the procedures used by Hendraswari (2016: 21). The procedures as follows:

- 1) Introduce the lesson as an easy and enjoyable way to learn any words.
- 2) Ask the students to work and pairs.
- 3) Hand out a sheet of the content of paper is words.
- 4) Let the students listen the song.
- 5) Ask the students to circle the word that they listen. The students must listen carefully in order to make out the exact word being song.
- 6) Repeat the song 3 times until the student finish circle the word.
- 7) Checks their word one by one. After the teacher finish checks their work. The teacher gives a copy of song lyric.

From the procedure above, the researcher assumes that students will be easy to understand the material and easy to memorize the vocabulary also will not feel bored in the classroom.

### **The Advantages and Effectiveness of Song in Teaching and Learning Process**

There are many advantages in using songs in the language classroom as follows:

- 1) Songs and music can be used to relax students and provide an enjoyable classroom atmosphere
- 2) Songs contain examples of colloquial speech. The natural language of songs as opposed to the artificial language in many textbooks, so it takes language input.
- 3) Every song is a culture capsule containing within itself a significant piece of social information, of it has much cultural input.
- 4) Songs can be used as texts in the same way that a poem, short story or novel or any order piece of authentic material can be used.
- 5) Songs and music as supplements; can be used to supplement a textbook or can serves as the text itself.
- 6) Songs have much related to students' interest

Based on the statements above, it shows that song or music is a manifestation of culture and has been used in classes in many ways and for different reasons, through music which creates a relaxed learning environment for students. In general, songs and music affect our emotions; many people can be moved to tears or order strong emotions by music, song can acquire strong emotional associations with people, events and places.

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

The design of this research is experimental research. According to Creswell (2014:314), experimental research is used when the researcher wants to establish possible cause and effect between the independent and the dependent variables. Based on Creswell (2014: 13), experiment research is testing an idea (practice) to determine whether it influences an outcome or dependent variable. In conducted this research, the students of SMAN 1 Tembilahan Hulu, were given pre-test at the beginning in order to know their ability in vocabulary mastery.

After that, they were given the treatment at the middle. At the end, they



were given a post-test. In this design, the researcher will use two classes as the sample; a control group and an experimental group. Both groups took a pre-test and post-test. There are two variables; independent variable (X) and dependent variable (Y). Variable X that refers to the effect of using listen English song and variable Y that refers to conventional method students reading a book. This research conducted at SMAN 1 Tembilahan Hulu. This is located on Sapta Marga Street, Tembilahan Hulu district, Indragiri Hilir Regency. The researcher conducted the research on February 2024.

The researcher used writing test to check students vocabulary mastery. According to Zainal Arifin (2016: 118) the test is a technique used in carrying out measurement activities, in which there are various questions, or a series of tasks that must be done or answered by students to measure aspects of student behavior. The researcher was taken the data with fill in the blank questions. The test consists of 10 questions that require the student to know the correct answer rather than having the ability to guess from a list of possible answers.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This research is quasi-experimental or quasi-experimental research. This study aims to determine the significance of differences in English vocabulary mastery of class XI students at SMAN 1 Tembilahan Hulu those taught using song media and those taught using conventional media and knowing the effectiveness of using song media on the English vocabulary mastery of class XI students at SMAN 1 Tembilahan Hulu.

**Table 1: Test Normality from Distribution Data Pre-test Control Group**

Ranks				
	Ex_class	N	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
Class A	Experiment_Pre	33	21.23	700.50
	Experiment_Post	33	45.77	1510.50
	Total	66		

**Table 2: Test Statistics**

Experimental Class			
		ClassCon	Class_Con
Mann-Whitney U	139,500	527,500	,000
Wilcoxon W	700,500	1088,500	561,000
Z	-5,234	-,221	-8,062
Asymp.Sig. (2-tailed)	,000	,825	,000

From the calculation results, these results show that there is a significant difference between the experimental group and the control group. It can be concluded that,  $H_a$  is accepted, that there is a significant influence between the use of song media in improving English vocabulary mastery in class XI of SMAN 1 Tembilahan Hulu. From these various positive benefits, it can be concluded that the use of song media has a significant influence on the English vocabulary mastery of class XI students at SMAN 1 Tembilahan Hulu. Based on the effectiveness obtained, there is a significant difference in vocabulary mastery ability between the experimental class and the control class.

## CONCLUSION

Based on on That conclusion from data analysis, hypothesis testing and discussions that have been carried out, it can be concluded that: There is a significant difference in the German vocabulary mastery of class XI students at SMAN 1 Tembilahan Hulu between those taught using song media and those taught using conventional media. This statement is proven from The average value of the experimental class (45.77) is greater than the average value of the control class (32.98). Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)  $0.001 < 0.050$ . Also, the use of song media in mastering the English vocabulary of class XI students at SMAN 1 Tembilahan Hulu is more effective than the use of conventional media.

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