CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

English is a universal language; many countries consider it as their primary or secondary language for communication. Learning English is a necessity for people who want to broaden their world view and gain a lot of knowledge. In learning the English language, students need to master the language components and language skills. The components of language include grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and spelling. While language skills involve speaking, writing, reading and listening. Among those four-language competencies, vocabulary has a major role in language learning. Vocabulary is the basic competency that must be mastered by students.

Vocabulary can be defined as a list of words which have meaning. Hornby (1995) defines vocabulary as a total number of words in one language. Zimmerman in Coady and Huckin (1998) stated that vocabulary is essential to a language and has critical importance in language learning. Schmitt (2000) stated that vocabulary knowledge is central to communication competency and to acquiring a second language. Vocabulary acquisition is an important part of language learning. vocabulary acquisition can be a catalyst for higher level language use and help to achieve better communication. However, in reality, the

mastery of vocabulary is still below average among high school students. Several factors that make learning vocabulary difficult include grammar, spelling, pronunciation, length and complexity of the word, meaning and connotation (Thornbury & Harmer, 2002). The teaching method in class is also a contributing factor towards the difficulty of learning vocabulary.

These days teaching and technology are inseparable, one of the most used platforms is YouTube. YouTube can be a useful media for English learning, especially in speaking and vocabulary mastery. Based on the writer's pre observation in SMP Negeri 2 Sidoharjo, the teachers still use traditional method in teaching vocabulary, mainly with textbook and oral explanation. This situation sparks an interest from the researcher to know how an implementation of learning media such as YouTube videos can affect the teaching-learning process in the classroom.

The study of YouTube and English language learning is not a new topic. From the previous studies that the researcher has read, most of them share a similarity, which is that the study mostly focused on speaking or listening skills. There is not a lot of study that particularly focuses on vocabulary. Which is why the researcher is interested in writing about the implementation of YouTube for English vocabulary teaching. In this research, the researcher will use a specific YouTube channel, which is "POC English" YouTube Channel. After some observations, the researcher concluded that the contents of this channel are

suitable for the goal of this research. Therefore, the researcher proposed research entitled "The Use of POC English YouTube Channel in Teaching English Vocabulary at SMP Negeri 2 Sidoharjo."

B. Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the research above, the research problem can be identified as follows:

1. Students have low understanding about English vocabulary
2. Students have low learning motivation
3. The learning media used by the teacher is monotonous
4. The application of technology to support learning process is still lacking.

C. Limitation of the Research

In this research, the researcher limited the problem mainly to explain the use of POC English YouTube Channel in teaching vocabulary at the VII grade students of SMP Negeri 2 Sidoharjo..

D. The Formulation of the Problems

This research discussed about the implementation of YouTube as media for teaching Vocabulary. Based on the premise above, the formulation of the problem is as follows:

1. How is the application of POC English YouTube channel in teaching English vocabulary at SMP Negeri 2 Sidoharjo?

2. How is the students' perception of POC English YouTube channel as media to learn English vocabulary?

E. The Objectives of the Research

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the objective of the research is as follows:

1. To explain the application of POC English YouTube Channel in teaching vocabulary at SMP Negeri 2 Sidoharjo

2. To explore the students' perception towards the use of POC English YouTube Channel as media to learn English Vocabulary

F. Benefit of the Research

a. **Theoretical benefit**

Theoretically the researcher hopes this research will have significant impact by providing knowledge about the application of YouTube in teaching English Vocabulary.

b. **Practical Benefit**

There are several benefits expected from this research for English teacher, students and other researchers.

a. For the teachers

Hopefully this research can present alternative method for teaching English Vocabulary

b. For students

Hopefully this research presents an alternative media for mastering English vocabulary

c. For other researchers

Hopefully this research can be use as based and reference when conducting further research related to this topic.