

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

In this globalization era, English becomes very important because English is the international language. English has been used in most of the countries in the world for the business and education sectors. Therefore, it is necessary for almost everybody to learn English language. In the article “Why Do People Learn Languages Especially English”, it is said that “People especially learn English because it's the most common language spoken in the world” (par. 1).

In Indonesian now, English begins to be learned from an early age. Therefore, many formal and informal institutions for education give English lessons. In many parts of Indonesia, people learn English from kindergarten until college. However, for the teachers of English, there are often problems to overcome. For example, I have a problem in teaching English vocabulary in an effective way so that the children can learn and remember new words well. I had to teach English vocabulary to kindergarten children. The process of

teaching kindergarten children is related to my study, because it is based on my learning about teaching. At the university, I took subjects that are related to teaching, like TEFL and Psychological Approach to Teaching.

When teaching young children, it is difficult to teach new vocabulary to them. This is a common problem that teachers face when they are teaching English as a foreign language. As stated in the article "Difficulties and Challenges in Teaching English as The Second Language", it is stated that "Teachers often face various difficulties and challenges while teaching English as a foreign language" (par. 1). At TK Tunas Cemara, I had a problem as a teacher assistant when teaching vocabulary to twenty two children. Some of the children did not remember the new words that I taught them. This can happen because of two factors. The first factor is because of the children. Some of the children do not want to pay attention to the lesson or do their activities. The second factor is the teacher. Sometimes the teacher neither knows how to teach vocabulary to the children nor finds an appropriate way to get their attention. Therefore, in this term paper I would like to analyze this problem and find the best solution for it.

## B. Identification of the Problem

Based on my experience as a teacher assistant at TK Tunas Cemara, I would like to analyze :

1. Why do the children at TK Tunas Cemara find it difficult to remember the English vocabulary?
2. How should the teacher introduce new English vocabulary effectively so that the children at Tunas Cemara can remember it?

### C. Objectives and Benefits of the Study

The objectives of this study are to cope with the problem of the children at TK Tunas Cemara who can not remember the new words in English, and also to find possible solutions and choose the best solution for the teacher of English to help the children remember the new words.

By writing this term paper, there are some benefits for the institution, the reader of this term paper, and for me as the writer. For the institution, I hope that my term paper can help the English teachers at Tunas Cemara to know how to teach vocabulary to the children, so that the children can know the meaning of the words and remember the vocabulary. For the readers who are interested in education, I expect this study can give information on how to teach vocabulary to young children to make them understand and remember the meaning of the words. Then, the benefit for me is I can share my experience in teaching vocabulary to young children with others who understand about teaching English and by writing this term paper I can know more effective ways to teach vocabulary. Thus, if I work in the educational sector again, I will know a better way to deal with this problem.

#### D. Description of the Institution

Tunas Cemara is an educational institution that was established by Yayasan Citra Cemara on April 17, 2000. Tunas Cemara was initially located in a size of approximately 5000m<sup>2</sup> at Jl. Sumber Hurip 31, Sumber Sari. In July 2004, Tunas Cemara moved to Jl. Situ Aksan 41. In 2009, Tunas Cemara received accreditation of an A from The National Accreditation Institution. TK Tunas Cemara plans to have a new building in Jl. Soekarno Hatta 22 in the year 2011. TK Tunas Cemara's development progressively increases. At first there were only 40 children, with three teachers, while now there are 100 more children, with eight teachers and an administration staff.

The school has a vision and a mission. Tunas Cemara School's vision is to become a qualified educational institution that prepares the kindergarten children to be knowledgeable, qualified and responsible. The school's mission is to educate students by optimizing the potential of children in their emotional, intellectual, physical, and linguistic development by close cooperation between the school and the parents. The mission states having children who :

- are physically and mentally healthy
- are balanced in acquiring both knowledge and skills
- have a healthy personality

"Play Group, TK & SD Tunas Cemara" (2).

#### E. Method of the Study

For the process of collecting data about kindergarten children at TK Tunas Cemara, I use several ways. First, I get data from the observation of twenty two children during my internship. Next, I read my internship journal, because in my internship journal there are real life stories of people and experiences at the school, what I did during my internship and other information. Then, I read some books from Maranatha Christian University's library that are related to my problem in this term paper. Lastly, I also browsed on the Internet for the theories and solutions to my problem.

#### F. Limitation of the Study

My term paper focuses on how to teach English vocabulary to kindergarten children to help them remember the new words. There were twenty two children in the class. The age level of the children is four years old. The observation was done from July to September 2010 at TK Tunas Cemara, Bandung.

#### G. Organization of the Term Paper

This term paper starts with Abstract, a summary of the whole term paper. Then, there is Declaration of Originality, which contains a statement from the writer of this term paper about the authenticity of the paper. Next is Acknowledgements, which contains the list of people who supported me during the writing of this study. After that is Table of Contents. Then, there are

four chapters which follow : Chapter I is Introduction, Chapter II is Problem Analysis, Chapter III is Potential Solutions, and Chapter IV is Conclusion. In the last part of my term paper there is Bibliography, containing the list of references, and Appendix (Flowchart).