**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF USING WORD DETECTIVE STRATEGY**

**TO IMPROVE STUDENTS’ VOCABULARY MASTERY AT THE**

**FIRST GRADE STUDENTS OF SMA N 3 PURWOREJO**

**IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR OF 2012/2013**

**JOURNAL**

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**Abstract**

This research is quantitative research with an experimental method. The objective of the research is to find out whether Word Detective Strategy is effective or not to improve students’ vocabulary mastery at the first grade students of SMA N 3 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012/2013. The population of the research is the first grade students of SMA N 3 Purworejo. The researcher takes two classes as a sample.the number of sample is 62 from the total population 224. After analyzing the data, the researcher concludes that using word detective stategy to improve students’ vocabulary mastery is effective. As the fact, the result of the mean score of the experimental group is higher than the mean score of control group (79.375>67.5).Besides, the result of t-value is 6.43. Based on the 0.05 or (5%) significance level on the t-table is 1.99. It means that 6.43>1.99. Therefore, it can be stated that hypothesis “the use of Word Detective Strategy to improve students’ vocabulary mastery at the first grade students of SMA N 3 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012/2013 is effective” is accepted.

**Keywords: Effectiveness, Word Detective Strategy, Vocabulary Mastery**

1. **Background**

English as an international language has an important role to develop science, technology, art and culture. Many countries in the world use English as a medium of communication among peoples in different countries. In English, there are four language skills that should be mastered, they are: listening, speaking, reading and writing. One of the components in language which can not be separated from learning English is vocabulary.

Vocabulary is the centre of language in teaching and learning. It plays an important role in the four language skills. It gives contribution to the learners to perform or practice their skill better. To make the teaching of English at Senior High School meaningful and really able to raise the students’ language learning, especially vocabulary of English, the teacher should create all the alternatives of method or strategy to teach students and make them interested in what they are going to learn and avoid the boredom.

Word Detective Strategy is the strategy that help students see connections to words they already know in their native language (cognates) or among words they learn in English that build networks of meaning and increase their academic vocabulary recognition exponentially. By using these strategies and developing this word awareness, we enable our students to become “word detectives” ([http://blog.benchmarkeducation.com/english-learners/academic vocabulary-acquisition-for-english-learners-so-many-words-so-little](http://blog.benchmarkeducation.com/english-learners/academic%20vocabulary-acquisition-for-english-learners-so-many-words-so-little))

Based on the problem above, the researcher is interested in writing a thesis entitled “ The Effectiveness of using Word Detective Strategy to improve the students’ vocabulary mastery at the first grade students of the SMA N 3 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012 / 2013”.

1. **Research Method**

This research is quantitative research using an experimental method.It was conducted in SMA N 3 Purworejo. The research was done on May 27th – 29th 2013. The population of this research is the first grade students of SMA N 3 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012/2013 which consists of seven classes and each class consists of 32 students. The total number of population is 224 students. According to Arikunto (2010: 174) sample is a part of representative population of the research. In this research, the researcher takes two classes as a sample. The sample are class X2 as an experimental group and class X3 as a control group. The researcher uses purposive sampling in taking the sample. In collecting the data, the researcher uses a test. The content of the test is about vocabulary mastery. The researcher gives two tests that are pretest and posttest.

In this research, the researcher used descriptive analysis (mean, median, mode, standart deviation and variance) and inferential analysis ( test of normality, test of homogeneity and test of hypothesis) to analyze the data obtained from both groups, the experimental and the control group .

1. **Finding and Discussion**

The result of the posttest score from both groups, the experimental and the control group , showed that the highest score (H) of posttest experimental group was 96, the lowest score (L) was 56, the median (Me) was 80, the mode (Mo) was 80, the standard deviation was 8.19, the variance was 67.21, the mean was 79.375 and the total score of students’ vocabulary mastery (T) was 2540. Moreover, the highest score (H) of posttest control group was 80, the lowest score (L) was 52, the median (Me) was 68, the mode (Mo) was 68, the standard deviation was 6.48, the variance was 42.06, the mean was 67.5, and the total score of students’ vocabulary mastery (T) was 2160.

Besides, the computation of t-test between posttest of experimental and control class showed that t-value is 6.43. T-table which is used 5% (0.05) alpha level significance, and the degree of freedom (df) n1+n2–2 = 32+32-2= 62 is 1.99. It shows that the t-value is higher than t-table (6.43>1.9990).

It can be concluded that Word Detective Strategy is effective to improve students’ vocabulary mastery at the first grade students of SMA N 3 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012/2013.

1. **Conclusion and Recommendation**

Based on the research finding which has been discussed, the researcher can conclude that Word Detective Strategy is effective to improve students’ vocabulary mastery at the first grade students of SMA N 3 Purworejo in the academic year of 2012/2013. It can be seen from the mean score of experimental group and control group. The mean score of experimental group is higher than the mean score of control group. The mean of experimental group is 79.375. It can be categorized as good. Meanwhile, the mean of control group is 67.5. In addition, the result of t-value is 6.43. Then, the researcher consults the critical value on the t-table using the 5% (0.05) alpha level significance and the degree of freedom is 1.99. It shows that the t-value is higher than t-table (6.43>1.99).

Moreover, the researcher would give the recommendation for the teacher that Word Detective Strategy can be used as an alternative to teach english especially vocabulary. It is able to improve the students’ vocabulary mastery in understanding unknown words. For other researcher, it is hoped can add the knowledge and the result will be more applicable in a tertiary level.

1. **References**

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