

**THE APPLICATION OF BILLINGUAL COMICS IN  
IMPROVING STUDENTS' ABILITY IN MASTERING  
ENGLISH VOCABULARY TO THE FIRST YEAR  
STUDENTS OF SMPN 2 PANTEE BIDARI**

**THESIS**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>ACKNOWLEDGMENT</b> .....	<b>i</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENT</b> .....	<b>iii</b>
<b>THE LIST OF TABLE</b> .....	<b>v</b>
<b>ABSTRACT</b> .....	<b>vi</b>
<b>CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>1</b>
A. The Background of the Research .....	1
B. The Problem of the Research .....	3
C. The Purpose of the Research .....	3
D. The Scope and Limitation of the Research .....	3
E. The Significances of the Research .....	4
F. Operational Definition.....	4
<b>CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE</b> .....	<b>6</b>
A. Vocabulary	
a. Definition of Vocabulary .....	6
b. Components of Vocabulary .....	7
c. Kinds of Vocabulary .....	9
d. The Important of Vocabulary .....	11
e. The Way to Improve Vocabulary .....	13
B. Comic .....	16
1. Definition of Comic .....	16
2. Strengths of Comic in Education .....	18
3. The Definition of the Bilingual Comic .....	19
4. Advantages of Bilingual Comic as a Media in Learning Vocabulary	20
5. Teaching Vocabulary by using Bilingual Comic .....	21

<b>CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>24</b>
A. Research Design.....	24
B. Research Setting and Subject .....	24
C. Research Procedure .....	25
D. Data Collection Technique.....	31
E. Research Instrument .....	32
F. Data Analysis Technique .....	33
<b>CHAPTER IV FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION .....</b>	<b>35</b>
A. Finding of the Preliminary Study.....	35
B .Finding of the First Cycle.....	39
C. Finding of the Second Cycle .....	47
D. Discussion .....	52
<b>BAB V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS .....</b>	<b>55</b>
A. Conclusions .....	55
B. Suggestion .....	56
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	
<b>APPENDIXES</b>	





## **THE LIST OF TABLES**

Table 1 : The distribution of Students.....	29
Table 2 : The Result of Pre-Test .....	36
Table 3 : The Result of Cycle I .....	39
Table 4 : The Result of Cycle II.....	47

## **APPENDIX**

RPP Cycle 1 .....	58
RPP Cycle 2 .....	63
The list of students' score .....	69
Observation sheet of cycle 1 .....	70
Observation sheet of cycle 2 .....	72

## **ABSTRACT**

The objectives of this study were to know the application of bilingual comic in improving students ability in mastering English vocabulary to the first year students of SMPN 2 Pantee Bidari. To achieve the objectives of the study, the researcher conducted an action research. The subject of this study were all of the students of the first grade at SMPN 2 Pantee Bidari that consist of 26 students. To get the data the researcher applied some instruments such as test for students and observation checklist. In achieving the objectives of the research, the researcher used Classroom Action Research procedure which involved four steps, namely Planning, Implementing, Observing and Reflecting. To analyze and collect the data, the researcher gained the observation and the test of pre-test and post-test. The result of pre-test was 15,38%, and the score of post-test in cycle 1 was 46,15%. In the second cycle the score of post-test was 88,46%. The students' score was getting better in each cycle. It indicated that teaching vocabulary by using Bilingual Comic technique was successful.

**Key words: Teaching english,vocabulary,bilingual comic**

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. The Background of Research

In learning a language, as well as English, there are four skills that must be mastered by students, such as listening, speaking, reading and writing. These skills are supported by some language aspects as grammar, pronunciation, and vocabulary.

Vocabulary is one of language components which support other language skills. This skill cannot fully develop if students do not have sufficient amount of vocabulary. Without having sufficient vocabulary, someone's communication will not run well because he or she does not know the word addressed to him/her and also he/she will face some difficulties in developing the four language skills. Thus without mastering vocabulary it is impossible for someone to master to foreign language. It means that vocabulary is vital. It is one of the components which support other skills.

Based on the reality, it can be concluded that it is impossible one can learn a language without mastering vocabulary and this problem was also faced by the first year students of SMP Negeri 2 Pantee Bidari when the reasercher observed directly. There were some problems that faced. The first, they did not know the meaning of words in the sentence. For example, when the teacher gave the students a sentence (my father drives a car), she asked them what the meaning of (car) is, as the result they were just calm down and did not respond the answer.

Whereas, the word (car) is a simple word that must be mastered by the students. The second, there was no suitable strategy that was used in learning vocabulary at the school and of course the teacher took many roles how to select what words to teach and what strategies which were suitable for them.

The above evidence indicates that it is important to give the students amount of chance in exercising their vocabulary and paying attention to create a learning situation with various teaching strategies. Thus, by having an enjoyable situation with more time for mastering vocabulary, it is expected that students' ability in vocabulary will be increased and of course it can make them enjoy in learning English.

One of teaching techniques that can create a good learning situation is by using bilingual comics. As we know that almost children like comics because there are many funny and interesting pictures for them. In addition, Ascot states that comic makes learning very easy learning, and also able to motivate students.<sup>1</sup> They can use bilingual comics (Indonesian – English) to help them to know about vocabularies so that the students can understand the meaning.

Bilingual comic is easier from others because it is using two languages, English and Indonesian. So the students do not need a dictionary to find the meaning again. So, bilingual comic is a tool of learning vocabulary that can help the student to increase their vocabularies. In short, bilingual comic can be a useful teaching technique because bilingual comic can give a positive impact on

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<sup>1</sup>Ascott, Rudy, *Better Education Through Comic Books*, 2006, P. 17

students' interest and motivation in studying English as well as to increase their ability in mastering vocabulary.

Based on the description above, the researcher would like to conduct the research by the title *“The Application of Bilingual comics in Improving Students' Ability in Mastering English Vocabulary to The First year students of SMPN 2 Pantee Bidari“*

#### **B. Problem of Research**

There were two questions considered by the researcher as her problems that urged her to conduct the research, they were:

1. Can the application of bilingual comics increase the students' ability in mastering English vocabulary?
2. How is the situation of the class when the teacher applying bilingual comics in teaching English vocabulary?

#### **C. The Purpose of the Research**

Based on problem of the research, the writer determiner some purpose on this study. The purpose consist of:

1. To find out whether teaching vocabulary by using bilingual comic can increase students' ability in English.
2. To investigate the class atmosphere when the teacher applying bilingual comics in teaching English vocabulary.

#### **D. The Scope and Limitation of the Research**

This research is focused on finding the improvement of students ability in mastering vocabularies by applying comic, and in this research the writer choose bilingual comic. The strategy in this study would be implemented to the first year students of SMPN 2 Pante Bidari.

#### **E. The Significance of the Research**

In this research , the writer wants to:

1. For students, it is expected to develop their motivation in learning English especially in enhancing their vocabulary.
2. For teachers, it is expected to be a strategy that appropriately used to increase the students' ability in mastering vocabulary.
3. For schools, it is could be a gfood technique variation that can be share to other teachers in other to apply it in their teaching especially in teaching English.

#### **F. Operational Definition**

To avoid the ambiguity, it is important to give definition about the terms used in tittle based on independent and dependent variables. Those are:

1. Vocabulary

Vocabulary is total number of words which make up a language.<sup>2</sup> Further Morgan defined that vocabulary is a number of words a person process which is considered to be one vocabulary and that each person has not just one but rather

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<sup>2</sup> A.S. Hornby. Oxford Advance Learner's Dictionary of Currant English, Resaved and Updated. 2003. p. 959.



that several vocabulary.<sup>3</sup> Based on the definition above the writer can concluded that vocabulary is a word in a language that used to name of person, thing, place, etc.

## 2. Bilingual comic

According to Oxford dictionary, “Bilingual” is use two languages; written in two languages<sup>4</sup>, and “comic” is a magazine especially for children, that tells stories through pictures.<sup>5</sup> Based on the definition above, it could be conclude that “bilingual comic” is a magazine or an entertainer which makes people laugh by telling jokes or funny stories through pictures that written in two languages.

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<sup>3</sup> Morgan, Clifford T, *Introduction to Psychology*, (New York; McGraw Book Company, 1971). P.289

<sup>4</sup> AS, Hornby, *Oxford Advance Learner’s of Currant English*, Revised and updated, 2003. p.117

<sup>5</sup> AS, Hornby, *Oxford Advance Learner’s of Currant English*,... p.253