BUILDING STUDENTS BASIC ENGLISH VOCABULARY
THROUGH MAGIC MEMORY INSTRUCTION

(A Quasi-Experimental Study at the 7th Grade of SMP Negeri 2 Tanjungsari)

RESEARCH PAPER

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Although considered as the essential thing to learn, learning vocabulary still becomes problems in language teaching and learning, especially at junior high school. 4 from 32 students of seventh-grade at SMP Negeri 2 Tanjungsari had a low vocabulary mastery and failed to perform the new vocabulary that introduces by the teacher in the classroom. Regarding this, this research offers solutions to overcome this problem by providing a learning strategy that can enhance students ability in acquiring and remembering new vocabulary. The strategy that offered in this research is Magic Memory Instruction, which is rarely known and implemented by the teacher in the classroom.

The objective of this research is to find out the use of magic memory instruction in building students’ Basic English vocabulary and the differences between students who taught by using magic memory instruction and rote learning strategy. The research was conducted using a quantitative method with quasi-experimental design or two group posttest pretest design. The sample of this research is 60 students from the seventh-grade students of SMP Negeri 2 Tanjungsari. A vocabulary test contains 40 questions of multiple choices were tested to collect the data and to measure students’ vocabulary mastery.

The Statistical Package of Social Science (SPSS, version 20) was used to analyze the obtained data. The results showed that the mean score students’ basic English vocabulary after being taught by using Magic Memory Instruction is 83.00, and the mean score students’ basic English vocabulary taught by using Rote Learning is 66.50. The counting of T-test has the data that t_count (2.94) and t_table (2.00). As a result, the alternative hypothesis (ha) is accepted. It means that there is a significant difference between the result of using and without using Magic Memory Instruction.

Finally, it can be concluded that teaching vocabulary by using Magic Memory Instruction can improve students’ vocabulary at the seventh grade of SMP Negeri 2 Tanjungsari. Teaching Basic English vocabulary by using Magic Memory Instruction is recommended for English teachers as it is an interesting way to stimulate students to enrich their vocabulary.