
Teaching Vocabulary Through Spelling Bee For Junior High School Students

Auditha Chairunisa¹⁾

¹⁾Universitas Islam As-Syafi'iyah

email: audithach1707@gmail.com¹

Abstract

This research explains about Teaching Vocabulary Through Spelling Bee For Junior High School Students. Spelling bee as media learning english in the use of vocabulary. The purpose of this reseacrh is To know the student respon of the spelling bee to learn english vocabulary. Junior high school is the level of basic education in formal education in Indonesia which is taken after graduating from elementary school. This study uses quantitative as student data collection as the use of vocabulary in spelling bee. The participants of this study were 32 children from Junior High School. Based on the results of the student response questionnaire analysis, it is known that the advantages of teaching vocabulary in spelling bee for junior high schools are more prominent by 100% of the 32 students who think that the use of vocabulary through spelling bees, while the lack of teaching vocabulary in spelling bee for junior high school students in the questionnaire response is 3.1% or 1 student of 32 students. The data of this study were taken from grades 7-9 of junior high school students. This spelling bee is very useful so that students know their vocabulary mastery skills so that students must teach vocabulary through learning English for junior high school students.

Keywords: Vocabulary, Spelling bee, Junior high school student, Teaching and Learning English

Introduction

Junior high school is the level of basic education in formal education in Indonesia which is taken after graduating from elementary school. Junior high school is taken in 3 years, starting from 7- 9 grade. Junior high school students are around the age of 13-14 years. Junior high school students have an age which is a transition period from childhood to adolescence. Behavior caused by this transitional period gives rise to various situations where students are unstable in controlling emotions. In this phase, students must pass through difficulties and obstacles in their surrounding environment. Child development at this time is very unstable because it is a transition period from childhood to enter the world of adolescence. Junior high school has adapted to peers in the surrounding environment to the process of perfecting reasoning, so the teacher should be how students interpret in class. For students, their experience of the reality of life has not been fully filled, so the teacher should provide opportunities for teenagers to share their imaginations and give students curiosity.

Vocabulary is a set of words that are owned by a person or other entity, or are part of a particular language. Vocabulary can help improve language mastery so that language learning and adding new vocabulary. Vocabulary needs to hone the ability to communicate boldly, loudly and without hesitation. Vocabulary is very important because you have to learn sentence structure or language skills. Mastering a lot of vocabulary will make it easier to speak, listen, write and read in English. Students must master vocabulary will increase their confidence and courage to practice the language directly will also expand so that in the future they can master English more quickly. Vocabulary teaching should be a top priority in teaching English. Student learning must be trained properly to increase vocabulary knowledge.

Students are often taught new words as part of developing the language skills they have mastered. This is because vocabulary is one of the most important things to use when carrying out the

communication process. Students need to learn a lot of words because it is useful for them because learning vocabulary is not short term. Nation proposes that in building students a new vocabulary, students must fulfill the word at least five or six times in the textbook (Cameron, 2001). In addition, Decaricco stated that learning words is not only about knowing the words not only about knowing the words by memorizing. Words do not have to be learned just by memorizing, but must be understood, too (Cameron, 2001).

Spelling bee is an English competition conducted for children's games. This spelling bee is basically the foundation of English language skills that can affect listening, writing and speaking skills. Spelling bees are believed to be useful for children who are learning English. Students can practice their English skills. The learning process and the ability to spell words are very important in improving English language skills in general. A spelling bee is a popular spelling competition that you can hold with your students in primary school. A spelling bee is a contest / game to put spelling skills to the test. Putting on a spelling bee for kids can be a great way to motivate them to learn their spellings and adds fun to the process. Spelling bee is a puzzle language game that has not been explained with exact words. Samosir (2017) stated that vocabulary is a stock of words which are at The disposal of speaker or writer. Thornbury state that without correct grammar, we have very little to say, without too much vocabulary, nothing can be said (Thornbury, 2002 in Ningsih, 2013).

According to Wright (2006) stated a contest in which people are eliminated when they failed to spell correctly is called Spelling Bee game. In Spelling Bee, it is not only about memorizing but also how to process in thinking words. There are many clues in answering word that is accepted by students namely: part of speech, how to pronounce, how to combine word become sentence, etc. Thornbury (2002) stated that the main subject usually teaches at school is English, it is not easy to learn it because it has elements such as vocabulary. Cameron (2001) said when people understand a word it means they can recognize and see it. So, in applying good sentences people should understand and know deeply the meaning of vocabulary.

Hence, this problem needs to be resolved and among the ways that teachers can use to improve and develop students' vocabulary is by using games (Kim, 1995; Mei & Yu Jung, 2000; Huyen & Nga, 2003). Ersöz (2000) mentioned that games are motivating because they are entertaining and stimulating at the same time, and they can be practiced in all language skill tasks. According to Ur et al. (2014), there are a lot of activities that can be used to teach vocabulary, one of which is a game such as the Spelling Bee game (hereafter, SBG). This game comes from the Spelling Bee Competition, a kind of competition where participants are required to spell words and it can be held at any levels of each school to the national (Sebba, 2009). Spelling itself is a system in using symbols of the alphabet to pronounce a word in speaking and writing (McPhearson, 1984).

Henceforth, the spelling bee today is not just for the contestants at the competitions, but it is also for the English language itself (William, 2008). To teach the English spelling system by implementing a variety of learning styles in the classroom is necessary to help students understand spelling in English (O'Sullivan & Thomas, 2007). Some students have the advantage of using vocabulary through spelling bee is Students can help and learn new vocabulary through spelling bee in class, Students are very involved in having competitions interested in the spelling bee games, and Student will increase the use of english in a more flexible and communicative. And some students have a disadvantage of using vocabulary through spelling bee is students still have difficulty with vocabulary in learning English, student will learn vocabulary through spelling bee that can, and student learning new words through spelling bee in class have taken more time than learning through textbooks.

Methods

This study uses quantitative as student data collection as the use of vocabulary in spelling bee. This data method is used by Spelling bee as a teaching method for learning vocabulary. Sudjana stated that descriptive research is a test that is carried out in stages where the researcher describes one or more symptoms, cases, cases that are currently happening, takes problems or focuses on actual problems

(Sudjana, 2012). The research data collection uses questionnaire via google form. This data research was conducted on 14 July 2022 via the google form.

Spelling bee uses this data method as a teaching method for learning vocabulary. The participants of this study were 32 children from Junior High School. The data of this study were taken from grades 7-9 of junior high school students. This data research focuses on junior high school students who have learned vocabulary through spelling bee. And students can help understand English vocabulary in spelling bees for junior high school students. So that students can understand vocabulary in using spelling bee as learning English.

Results and Discussion

This research describes teaching vocabulary through spelling bee teaching for junior high school students. This research shows teaching Vocabulary Through Spelling Bee Teaching for Junior High School Students. This data collection uses a questionnaire via Google Forms. This data collection was taken in grades 7-9 of junior high school students. From the results of the data stated that junior high school students still understand the vocabulary in spelling bee. Spelling bee uses this data method as a teaching method for learning vocabulary.

Students were given 10 questions about Vocabulary Through Spelling Bee For Junior High School Students. The first part is about students' preference on learning vocabulary through Spelling Bee. The second part is about students' difficulties in learning vocabulary through Spelling Bee. The third part is about the importance of learning vocabulary through Spelling Bee. The fourth part is about students' need in vocabulary learning through spelling bee. The fifth part is about students' understanding of English vocabulary learning through spelling bee. The sixth is about the frequency students use spelling bee in learning vocabulary in the classroom. The seventh point is the improvement of students' vocabulary knowledge through spelling bee. The eighth is whether students always use spelling bees for learning English vocabulary. The ninth is the effectiveness of using spelling bee in learning vocabulary. The tenth is the advantages and disadvantages of learning vocabulary through spelling bee.

Figure 1 below explains about Students' Preference on Learning vocabulary through Spelling Bee.

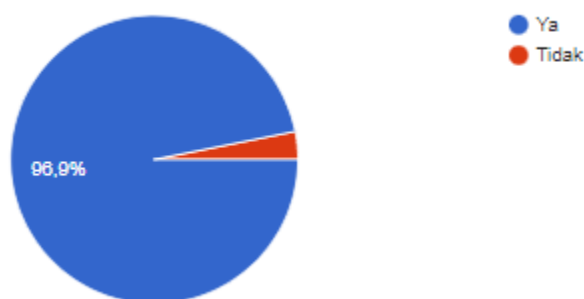


Figure 1. Results of Students' Preference on Learning Vocabulary through Spelling Bee

Figure 1 demonstrates that most of the responses from junior high school students have whether students like learning vocabulary in Spelling Bee. The data of this study concluded that most students answered yes, then the results of this research data were 96.9% in students like learning vocabulary in spelling bee. and some students answered no, then the results of this research data are 3.1% in students who do not like learning vocabulary in spelling bee.

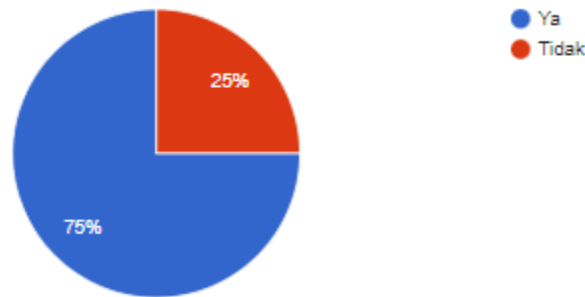


Figure 2. Results of Students' Difficulties in Learning Vocabulary through Spelling Bee

Figure 2 shows that most of the responses from junior high school students have whether students have difficulty learning vocabulary in Spelling Bee. The data of this study concluded that most students answered yes, then the results of this research data were 75% of students with difficulty learning vocabulary in Spelling Bee. and some students answered no, then the results of this research data were 25% of students had no difficulty in learning vocabulary in Spelling Bee.



Figure 3. Results of the Importance of Learning Vocabulary through Spelling Bee

From Figure 3 above, most of the responses from junior high school students have whether students are important for vocabulary learning in Spelling Bee. The data of this study concluded that all students answered yes, then the results of this research data were 100% in students important for learning vocabulary in Spelling Bee.

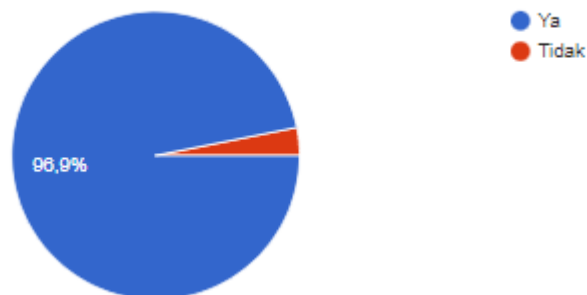


Figure 4. Results of the Students' Need in Learning Vocabulary through Spelling Bee

The above figure shows that most of the responses from junior high school students responded that they need vocabulary learning in spelling bee. The data of this study concluded that most students answered yes, then the results of this research data were 96.9% in students requiring vocabulary learning in spelling bee. and some students answered no, then the results of this research data are 3.1% in students who do not need vocabulary learning in spelling bee.

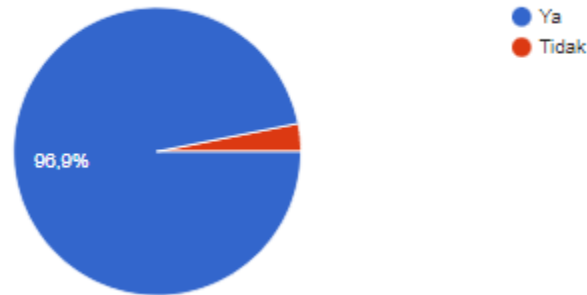


Figure 5. Results of Students' Understanding in Learning Vocabulary through Spelling Bee

From the above figure, it is seen that most of the responses from junior high school students responded whether students can understand English vocabulary in spelling bee. The data of this study concluded that most students answered yes, then the results of this research data were 96.9% of students could understand English vocabulary in spelling bee. and some students answered no, then the results of this research data were 3.1% in students who could not understand English vocabulary in spelling bee.

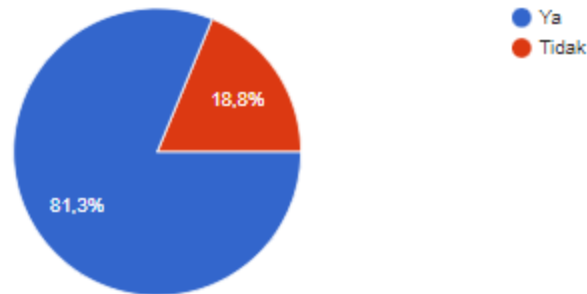


Figure 6. Results of the Frequency Students Use Spelling Bee in Learning Vocabulary

Figure 6 displays that most of the responses from junior high school students have whether students often use spelling bees in learning vocabulary in class. The data of this study concluded that most students answered yes, then the results of this research data were 81.3% in students often using spelling bees in learning vocabulary in class. and some students answered no, then the results of this research data were 18.8% in students not often using spelling bees in learning vocabulary in class.

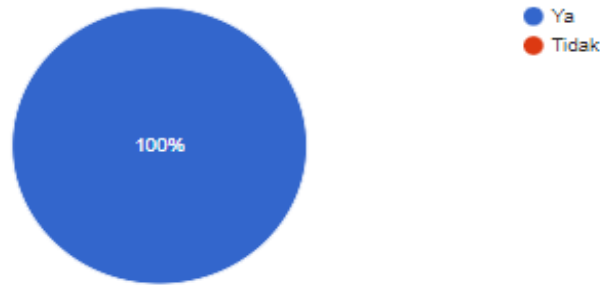


Figure 7. Results of the Improvement of Students' Vocabulary Knowledge through Spelling Bee

From the above figure, it is seen that most of the responses from junior high school students have whether students can increase vocabulary in the use of spelling bees. The data of this study concluded that all students answered yes, then the results of this research data were 100% in students being able to increase vocabulary in the use of spelling bee.

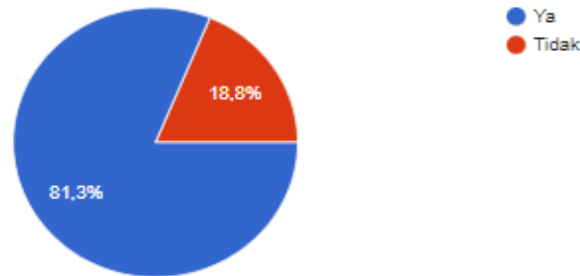


Figure 8. Results about whether Students always Use Spelling Bee for Learning English Vocabulary

Figure 8 shows that most of the responses from junior high school students have whether students always use spelling bees as learning English vocabulary. The data of this study concluded that most students answered yes, then the results of this research data were 81.3% of students always used spelling bee as learning English vocabulary. and some students answered no, then the results of this research data were 18.8% in students not always using spelling bee as learning English vocabulary.

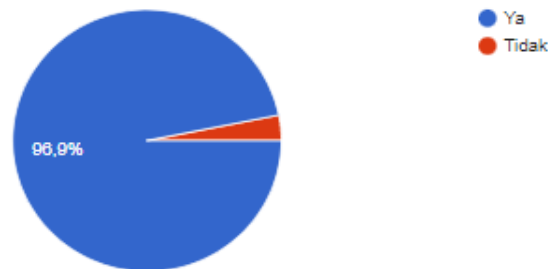


Figure 9. Results of the Effectiveness of Using Spelling Bee in Learning Vocabulary

From the figure above, most of the responses from junior high school students are whether students are very effective in learning vocabulary in spelling bee. The data of this study concluded that most students answered yes, then the results of this research data were 96.9% of students were very effective in

learning vocabulary in spelling bee. and some students answered no, then the results of this research data are 3.1% in students not very effective in learning vocabulary in spelling bee.

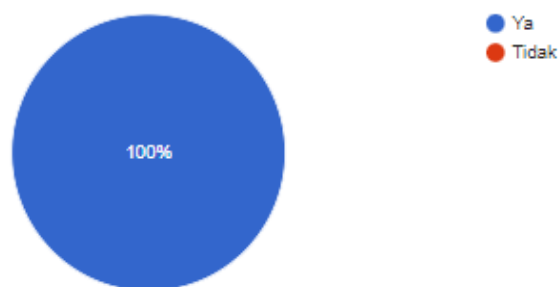


Figure 10. Results of the Advantages and Disadvantages of Learning Vocabulary through Spelling Bee

From the table above, most of the responses from junior high school students have whether students have advantages and disadvantages in learning vocabulary through spelling bees. The data of this study concluded that all students answered yes, then the results of this research data were 100% in that students had advantages and disadvantages in learning vocabulary through spelling bee.

Conclusion

From the survey, it can be concluded that some students still have a lot of vocabulary difficulties in spelling bee. Junior high school students still have many advantages and disadvantages of using spelling bee as an English vocabulary. So that junior high school students must know vocabulary through spelling bees in improving writing skills, vocabulary mastery, and thinking skills. Junior High School student must master the ability to practice English in the classroom. Because junior high school students still do not understand the vocabulary in spelling bee. Spelling bee is very effective in using vocabulary for junior high school students. This spelling bee is very useful so that students know their vocabulary mastery skills so that students must teach vocabulary through learning English for junior high school students.

Teach vocabulary through spelling bee so that students can learn the use of english words during class learning. So that students often use internal vocabulary through spelling bees from writing and speaking skills. Spelling bee can also be used as a technique to teach English, especially vocabulary and can also help students improve their speaking skills. Students get motivated and confident students become better at learning English and they also try to help their friends who have difficulty spelling. Students have advantages in using vocabulary in spelling bee is students can know the meaning of words in learning english, especially in mastering vocabulary. And students have disadvantages in using vocabulary in spelling bee is students have difficulty in pronouncing vocabulary.

Acknowledgments

We are really graceful because we managed to complete our Auditha Chairunisa send conference within the time given. We also sincerely thank our lecturer and committee at an online conference for the guidance and encouragement in finishing this assignment and also for teaching us in this course. Last but not least, we would like to express or gratitude to our friends and respondents for the support and willingness to spend some times with us to fill in the questionnaires. I am deeply grateful to my parents for their support, appreciation, encouragement and keeninterest in my academic achievements. Finally, I really thank my wife for her moral support throughout the research work.

References

- Andriani, D., and Sriwahyuningsih, V. (2019). An Analysis of Students' Mastery of Vocabulary. *ELT-Lectura*, 6(2): 169–76.
- Bahar, Wahyuni, and Yuliana Mangendre. 2021. The Use of Spelling Bee Game To Encourage Students' Vocabulary At Seventh Grade Student of Smpn 3 Pagimana. *BABASAL English Education Journal* 2(1): 51.
- Cahyono, D. (2021). Online Learning in the Pandemic Covid -19: Perceptions of Physical Education Students. *Jurnal Education and Development*, 9(3).
- Derakhshan, A., and Khatir, E. D. (2015). The Effects of Using Games on English Vocabulary Learning. *Journal of Applied Linguistics and Language Research*, 2(3): 39–47.
- Fadlillah, Ulfi, and Nurmanik, T. (2019). Menguatkan Hafalan Kosa Kata Siswa Menggunakan Spelling Bee. 1–7.
- Fidyaningrum, Ani, S, Dewayanti, S. A., and Authar, N. (2021). Improving Young Learners Vocabulary Mastery Through Game-Based Learning Using 'MOFIN Mystery Box. *Child Education Journal*, 3(2): 129–36.
- Gailea, Nurhaeda, Syafrizal, Fargianti, Y., and Perdana, S. M. (2019). An Analysis of Character Education of English Textbook "when English Rings a Bell" for Eight Grade of Junior High School. *Jurnal Edulingua*, 6(1): 51–56.
- Garin, P., et al. (2021). Survei Aktivitas Fisik SMP Negeri 1 Borobudur Kabupaten Magelang Di Masa Pandemi Covid – 19 Tahun Ajaran 2020/2021. *Indonesian Journal for Education*, 2(2): 471–77.
- Khasanah, U., and As Sabiq, A. H. (2020). Dealing with Students Pronunciation: The 'Spelling Bee' Effect. *Jet Adi Buana*, 5(02): 121–120.
- Mahendra, I. (2021). The Use of Spelling Bee to Improve Students ' English Vocabulary Mastery at SMP Negeri 11 Makassar. 5(2): 1027–33.
- Nurchurifiani, E., Nissa, R. N., and Febriyanti. (2021). Improving Students' Vocabulary Mastery Through the Keyword Technique At The Tenth Grade of SMAN 2 Tulang Bawang Tengah. *Journal Corner of Education, Linguistics, and Literature*, 1(2): 139–47.
- Nurpitasari, L., and Mayasari, W. J. (2018). The Use of Speeling Bee Game To Increase the Students' Vocabulary Mastery of the Seventh Grade At Smpn 1 Bantan. *Inovish Journal*, 3(2): 129–36. <https://media.neliti.com/media/publications/269092-the-use-of-spelling-bee-game-to-increase-d42d8beb.pdf>.
- Qomariyah, S. S., and Nafisah, B. Z. (2020). Spelling Bee Game in Students' Vocabulary Achievement. *Jo-ELT (Journal of English Language Teaching)*, 7(2): 89.
- Pusparini, I., and Ningrum, M. P. (2020). Improving Students' Vocabulary Mastery Using Spelling Bee Game at Fifth Grade in SDIT Ya Bunayya Pujon. *Journey (Journal of English Language and Pedagogy)*, 3(2): 66–73.

- Rohmawati, A. (2015). Spelling Bee in Teaching Vocabulary. *Journal of English and Education*, 3(2), 1–15.
- Sari, P. I., Asahra, E. E., and Yana. (2019). Improving Students' Vocabulary Mastery Using English Song. *Project (Profesional Journal Of English Education)*, 1(3):410-415.
- Silaban, R. (2021.) The Effectiveness of Spelling Bee Game in Teaching Vocabulary Mastery for Students of Teacher Education Study Program (PGSD) Universitas Audi Indonesia in Academic. *Jurnal Ekonomi, Bisnis dan Teknologi*, 1(2): 66–74.
- Supardi, and Hasanah, E. (2020). Junior High School Students' Experiences of High Technology Based Learning in Indonesia. *International Journal of Learning, Teaching and Educational Research*, 19(5): 153–66.
- Suryani, D., Hariyono, E., and Prastowo, T. (2021). Profile of Junior High School Students' Constraints in Online Science Learning. *IJORER : International Journal of Recent Educational Research* , 2(5): 557–64.
- Utami, K. R., and Rahmawati, C. (2019). Improving Students' Vocabulary Mastery Using Flash Cards. *PROJECT (Professional Journal of English Education)*, 2(6): 845.