THE DIFFICULTIES IN VOCABULARY MASTERY OF SEVENTH-GRADE STUDENTS AT SMPK ST AGNES SURABAYA A THESIS



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English Language Education Study Program
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January 2023

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A THESIS

Presented to Teacher Education Faculty
Widya Mandala Surabaya Catholic University
in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the Degree of
Sarjana Pendidikan in English Language Education



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I declare that this thesis is my own writing, and it is true and correct that I did not take any scholarly ideas or work from others dishonestly. All the cited works were quoted in accordance with the ethical code of academic writing. I will take all the consequences if plagiarism is found in this thesis.

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ABSTRACT

Viona Octavia S. (2024). The Difficulties in Vocabulary Mastery of Seventh-Grade Students at SMPK St Agnes Surabaya. Thesis. English Language Education Study Program, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Widya Mandala Surabaya Catholic University.

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Keywords: vocabulary, vocabulary mastery, vocabulary difficulties, qualitative study

English, being extensively utilized, has become a necessity for nearly everyone globally. Vocabulary is the key to communicating and understanding what other people mean. By using vocabulary, people can communicate with each other, not only explicitly, but also implicitly. So, this is the reason why mastering vocabulary is necessary. This research qualitative method to investigate the difficulties that students face when mastering vocabulary, identify the factors that contribute to their difficulties, and how they overcome their difficulties. The data for this study were collected from the participants' vocabulary mastery, while the data were the results of vocabulary test and interview. Three participants, demonstrating lower achievement levels, were interviewed to get more information.

The findings indicate that the participant had difficulties in mastering vocabulary. The difficulties faced by the participants were in understanding the meaning of words, memorizing new vocabulary, and using them in sentences. Their challenges were influenced by both internal and external factors, but the majority of them originated internally. The internal factors were limited understanding of word meanings, afraid to ask questions, always forget the new vocabulary, confused about the meaning of words. Following that, the participants discussed how they successfully dealt with their difficulties

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