

THE APPLICATION OF FLASHCARDS MEDIA IN IMPROVING THE STUDENTS' ENGLISH VOCABULARY MASTERY TO THE SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS OF SMP NEGERI 1 ANGKOLA BARAT

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk meningkatkan penguasaan kosakata bahasa Inggris siswa kelas tujuh SMP Negeri 1 Angkola Barat melalui penerapan flashcards sebagai media pengajaran. Latar belakang penelitian ini didasarkan pada pengamatan bahwa siswa mengalami kesulitan dalam retensi kosa kata dan kurangnya motivasi dalam belajar bahasa Inggris, yang mengakibatkan rendahnya kinerja akademik dalam mata pelajaran tersebut. Penelitian Tindakan Kelas (PTK) ini dilaksanakan dalam dua siklus, masing-masing terdiri dari tahap perencanaan, tindakan, observasi, dan refleksi. Populasi penelitian adalah seluruh siswa kelas VII, dengan kelas VII-B (30 siswa) yang dipilih sebagai sampel. Data dikumpulkan melalui pre-test, post-test, observasi, dan wawancara. Hasilnya menunjukkan peningkatan yang signifikan dalam penguasaan kosakata siswa setelah menggunakan kartu flash. Nilai rata-rata meningkat dari 43,67 pada pre-test menjadi 68,33 pada post-test siklus I, dan 81 pada post-test siklus II. Selanjutnya persentase siswa yang mencapai kriteria ketuntasan minimal (KKM) sebesar 72 meningkat dari 23,33% pada pre-test menjadi 83,33% pada post-test kedua. Penggunaan kartu flash menjadikan pembelajaran lebih interaktif, menyenangkan, dan efektif dalam meningkatkan keterlibatan siswa dan perolehan kosa kata. Berdasarkan hasil tersebut, dapat disimpulkan bahwa flashcards merupakan media yang efektif untuk meningkatkan penguasaan kosakata bahasa Inggris siswa dan hipotesis penelitian ini diterima.

Kata Kunci: *Flashcards, Penguasaan Kosakata, Pembelajaran Bahasa Inggris, Penelitian Tindakan Kelas (PTK),SMP Negeri 1 Angkola Barat*

ABSTRACT

This research aims to improve the English vocabulary mastery of the seventh grade students of SMP Negeri 1 Angkola Barat through the application of flashcards as a teaching medium. The background of this study is based on the observation that students struggle with vocabulary retention and lack motivation in English learning, which results in low academic performance in the subject. This Classroom Action Research (CAR) was conducted in two cycles, each consisting of planning, action, observation, and reflection phases.

The population of the study was all seventh grade students, with class VII-B (30 students) selected as the sample. Data were collected through pre-tests, post-tests, observation, and interviews. The results showed a significant improvement in students' vocabulary mastery after using flashcards. The average score increased from 43.67 in the pre-test to 68.33 in post-test cycle I, and 81 in post-test cycle II. Furthermore, the percentage of students achieving the minimum completeness criteria (KKM) of 72 rose from 23.33% in the pre-test to 83.33% in the second post-test. The use of flashcards made learning more interactive, fun, and effective in enhancing students' engagement and vocabulary acquisition. Based on these results, it can be concluded that flashcards are an effective media to improve students' English vocabulary mastery and the hypothesis of this research is accepted.

Keywords: *Flashcards, Vocabulary Mastery, English Learning, Classroom Action Research (CAR), SMP Negeri 1 Angkola Barat*

Introduction

English is an international language that plays an important role in communication, education, and globalization. In Indonesia, English is taught as a foreign language from elementary school to senior high school. One of the main problems faced by students in learning English is limited vocabulary mastery, which affects their ability to communicate effectively. Vocabulary is a crucial element in mastering language skills such as listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Without sufficient vocabulary, students face difficulties in understanding texts and expressing ideas. Observation at SMP Negeri 1 Angkola Barat revealed that seventh grade students showed low vocabulary mastery and low motivation in learning English. The average vocabulary score was below the Minimum Completeness Criteria (KKM) of 72.

To overcome this problem, appropriate learning media are needed. Flashcards are visual learning media that can help students memorize vocabulary more effectively through images and repetition.

Previous studies have shown that flashcards can enhance students' vocabulary retention and learning motivation. Therefore, this study focuses on applying flashcards media to improve students' English vocabulary mastery.

Research Method

This study employed Classroom Action Research (CAR) design based on Kemmis and McTaggart's model, consisting of planning, action, observation, and reflection. The research was conducted at SMP Negeri 1 Angkola Barat during the second semester of the 2025 academic year. The population of this study was all seventh grade students, while the sample consisted of 30 students from class VII-B, selected using purposive sampling.

The research instruments included:

1. Vocabulary tests (pre-test and post-tests)
2. Observation

The vocabulary test consisted of 20 multiple-choice questions. Data were analyzed quantitatively by calculating mean scores and percentages of students who achieved the Minimum Completeness Criteria (KKM).

Results and Discussion

The results showed a significant improvement in students' vocabulary mastery after implementing flashcards media.

Pre-test mean score: 43.67

Post-test cycle 1 mean score: 68.33

The percentage of students who achieved the KKM increased from 23.33% in the pre-test to 43.33% in post-test cycle 1. The improvement indicated that flashcards media effectively enhanced students' vocabulary mastery. During cycle 2, students showed higher participation, better motivation, and improved confidence in learning vocabulary through interactive flashcard activities and group discussions. The findings demonstrate that flashcards media positively influence students' vocabulary mastery. Visual aids and interactive activities helped students understand and memorize new words more easily. Flashcards encouraged active participation and created a fun learning atmosphere, which increased students' motivation.

These results are consistent with previous studies that state flashcards improve vocabulary retention through repetition and visual stimulation. The improvement in students' scores indicates that flashcards are suitable learning media for junior high school students.

Conclusion

Based on the findings, it can be concluded that the application of flashcards media is effective in improving students' English vocabulary mastery. Flashcards also increased students' motivation and active participation during the learning process.

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