

IMPROVING STUDENTS' VOCABULARY MASTERY THROUGH WORD SEARCH PUZZLE GAME WHEN STUDYING DESCRIPTIVE TEXT

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ABSTRACT

The title of the research is "Improving Students' Vocabulary Mastery Through Word Search Puzzle Game when Studying Descriptive Text". The aims of the research are to investigate whether or not word search puzzle game is effective in improving students' vocabulary mastery when they learn descriptive text and to know the students responses toward the use of word search puzzle game in learning vocabulary. The writer used a Pre-experimental research method to conduct the research. The subject of the research was the first grade students of MTs Al-Halimiyah. The writer took one class as the sample which consisted 30 students. The writer collected the data through pre-test, post-test, and questionnaire. The pre-test was administered to obtain the data of students' vocabulary mastery before they were given the treatments. The post-test was administered to obtain the data of students' vocabulary mastery after they were given the treatments. The results of pre-test and post-test score were analyzed through the t-test formula to find out whether or not word search puzzle game was effective. Based on the computation result by using t-test formula, with $df = N-1=30-1=29$ at $p= .05$ the critical value of t is 2.045. The research findings the mean score of the post-test was higher than the mean score of pre-test, it can be seen from the mean score of pre-test was 52.73 and the mean score of post-test was 64.93 ($52.73 < 64.93$). It meant there were improvements after the treatments. The obtained t-test was 8.106, whereas the critical value of t (t-table) was 2.045. The t-test was higher than the t-table ($8.106 > 2.045$). So that, the Null Hypothesis (H_0) was rejected and the Alternative Hypothesis (H_a) was accepted. Based on the research findings. It can be concluded that word search puzzle game was effective used for improving students' vocabulary mastery when studied descriptive text. Based on the result of questionnaire, the students liked being taught vocabulary by using word search puzzle game. In addition, more than half of the students felt easy to memorize some new vocabulary and almost of all the students were more motivated to learn English, especially learning vocabulary.