

MEASURING STUDENT' VOCABULARY SIZE OF 2000 WORDLIST

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Abstrak

Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui penguasaan kosa kata bahasa Inggris 2000 wordlist di sekolah menengah atas yang berada di Bandarlampung dan mengetahui perbedaan penguasaan kosa kata bahasa Inggris antara level 1 dan level 2. Peneliti menggunakan desain t-test dalam penelitian ini. Hasil dari penelitian ini ditemukan bahwa ada perbedaan dalam penguasaan kosa kata bahasa Inggris di sekolah menengah atas yang berada di Bandarlampung. Hasil dari penelitian ini juga menunjukkan bahwa ada perbedaan dalam penguasaan kosa kata bahasa Inggris antara level 1 dan level 2. Hasil menunjukkan bahwa rata-rata nilai kosa kata level 1 adalah 473,50, level 2 adalah 360,82 dan penguasaan 2000 kosa kata siswa SMA Negeri 15 Bandarlampung tidak mencapai 2000 kata dengan nilai rata-rata 833, 93.

The purpose of this study was to determine students' english vocabulary size of 2000 wordlist in senior high school located in Bandarlampung and to investigate difference vocabulary size between level 1 and level 2. The researcher uses t-test design in this study. The result of the research shows that there is a difference between students' vocabulary size in level 1 and level 2. The data shows that on the level 1 the mean score of the student is 473,50 and level 2 is 360,82. The result also found that SMA Negeri 15 Bandarlampung have not achieved 2000 word with the mean score is 833,93.

Keywords: *vocabulary size, word definition matching format, wordlist.*

INTRODUCTION

Theoretically, vocabulary is one of language components that is very important to help students learn English language. Rivers (1970:462) states that it would be impossible to learn a language without vocabulary. When students start to study and also before students learn further about the four skills i.e. listening, speaking, reading, and writing; the first aspect that they have to learn is vocabulary. It is also important to understand for students when they learn those skills. On the other hand, many students still lack of vocabulary. In fact they have studied English for a long time and they have passed the lesson which has basic competence and standard competence in their school.

Furthermore, the problem in learning process may come from how teachers really use basic competence and standard competence as criteria to permit the students continue their study to pass the lesson. It can be stated that this problem is an external problem that comes from the interaction of the students to the teacher's action in learning process but it can be an internal problem that comes from the vocabulary size of them. Therefore, the teachers should have other ways to know their vocabulary size and make them more interested to study vocabulary.

In relation to the above statement the students who sit on first grade of Senior High School are supposed to master vocabulary in order to be able to communicate whether in spoken or written form. Learning English particularly vocabulary is very

important for supporting the ability of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Without mastering vocabulary one will face difficulties in improving the ability of communication with others, like wilkins states that "Without grammar very little can be conveyed, without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed."

Normally, in curriculum, there is a core and basic competence and goal that defines that in second grade of senior high school students, the students must achieve 2000 words of vocabulary. The main problem is that they do not know how many words they have mastered. In general view the vocabulary size of first grade of senior high school students were low. So, the researcher conduct a research to know the vocabulary size of first grade of senior high school students.

For the seek of brevity, there is something wrong in learning process, or the teachers' personality in teaching in front of the class. To overcome this situation, some researchers have investigated many techniques, and media to help teachers teach vocabulary in the class. There are some researchers who focus on increasing students' achievement in learning vocabulary. But, there is a little research about measuring students' vocabulary size based on word frequency count.

Vocabulary size of students in the class may affect learning processes. A Learning process which is followed by a great interaction and good motivation may create students' good understanding. So, vocabulary size is one of the important things to make learning process more effective.

Based on the points described previously, this study focuses on the average score of students vocabulary size in first grade students' of SMA Negeri 15 Bandar Lampung. The researcher assumes that learning vocabulary by knowing vocabulary size will show some kinds of students' motivation and attitude in learning process. It is expected that knowing vocabulary size in learning vocabulary can create some kinds of students' motivation and attitude in the class that can be observed by the researcher to know the use of measuring instrument itself on students' motivation and attitude that will be appeared from student in the class.

Therefore, the researcher formulates the research question as follow:

1. How is the average of students' vocabulary size in tenth grade of SMA Negeri 15 Bandar Lampung?
2. Is there any differences between level 1 and level 2 in vocabulary size of tenth students' of SMA Negeri 15 Bandar Lampung?

METHOD

This research was designed as a quantitative research. In conducting the research, the researcher applies *causal comparative study* for Vocabulary Levels Test in the Nation (2001:416). Causal-comparative research attempts to determine the cause or consequences of differences that already exist between or among groups of individuals. The basic causal-comparative approach is to begin with a noted difference between two groups and then to look for possible causes for, or consequences of, this difference (Jack R Frankel, 2006). Level test design is student will get the score of each person at each level (the person's score profile). The result can compare these score profiles between people and between groups, to see if different people are scoring better than each other at particular levels or overall.

The populations of this research are the first grade students of SMA Negeri 15 Bandar Lampung. The total population is 268 and the researcher took 25 percent of the population as the sample which is 67 students. They are taken by random sampling.

This research used Word Definition Matching Format is used as the kind of the vocabulary level test (Sutarsyah 2006). Then, the vocabulary level test is includes two levels. A number of words is selected randomly from different levels, e.g. the first 1.000 words and the second 1.000 words. The test consist of 40 items in each levels. The test were given to the subject in order to know their vocabulary size.

The procedures of this research were first, Determining the research problem. Second, Determining the population and sample. Third Determining the research instrument. The last, analyzing the test results. The analysis of the results was aimed to know whether there are differences in the value of English vocabulary size between level 1 and level 2 or not. The researcher analyzed the data by using SPSS.

Hypothesis of this research was:

Ho : There is no different score in vocabulary size between level 1 and level 2 students.

Hi : There is different score in vocabulary size between level 1 and level 2 students.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The research used vocabulary level test as the instruments to collect the data. The test was Vocabulary test (Word Definition Matching Format).

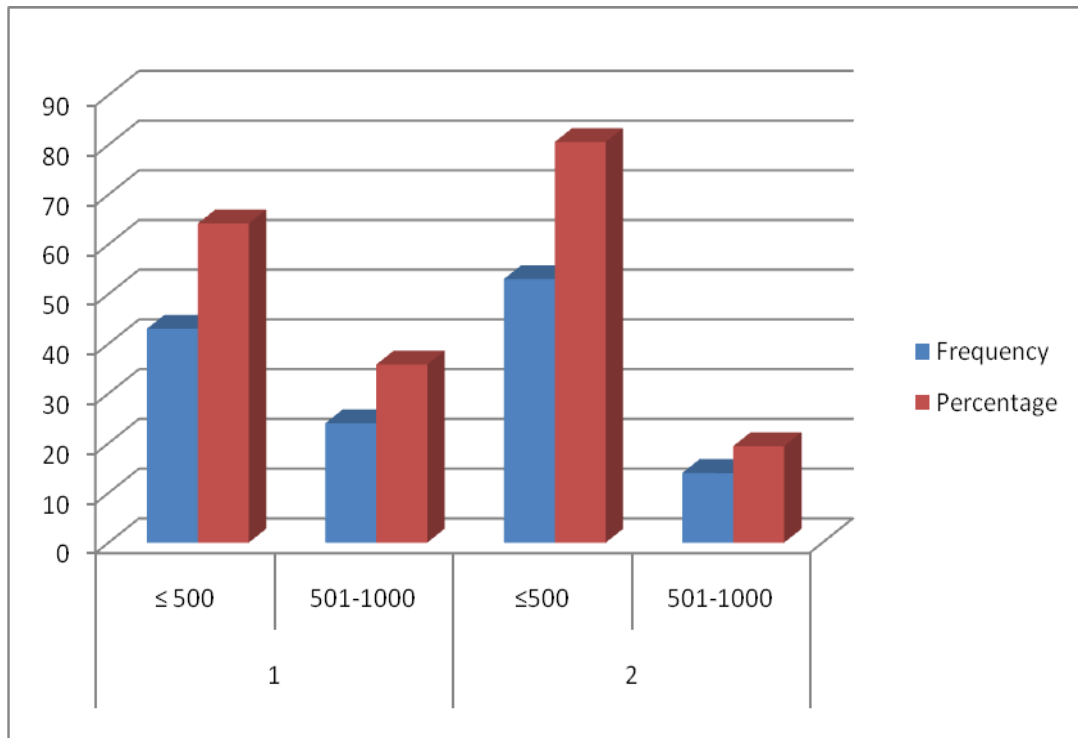
Table 1 Result of Students' English Vocabulary Size

Level	Interval Score	Frequency	Percentage
1	≤ 500	43	64,18
	501-1000	24	35,82
2	≤500	53	80,59
	501-1000	14	19,41

Based on the result above, it is clear that there are 43 student (64, 18%) from the total of the sample mastered less than 500 word. After that, there are 24 students which got 501-1000 words. It is clear that student vocabulary mastery on level 1 is so low.

And then on level 2, student' vocabulary mastery is lower than level 1. It is proven 53 students (80, 59%) master less than 500 words and 14 students (19, 41%) which have 501- 1000.for further explanation , it can be seen on the graphic below.

Graphic 1. Frequency of the result students' vocabulary test.



Based on graphic distribution above, it show that the frequency and the percentage of student vocabulary mastery between level 1 and level 2 are less than 500. For more explanation about the result of vocabulary test , it can be seen from analysis of descriptive statistic below.

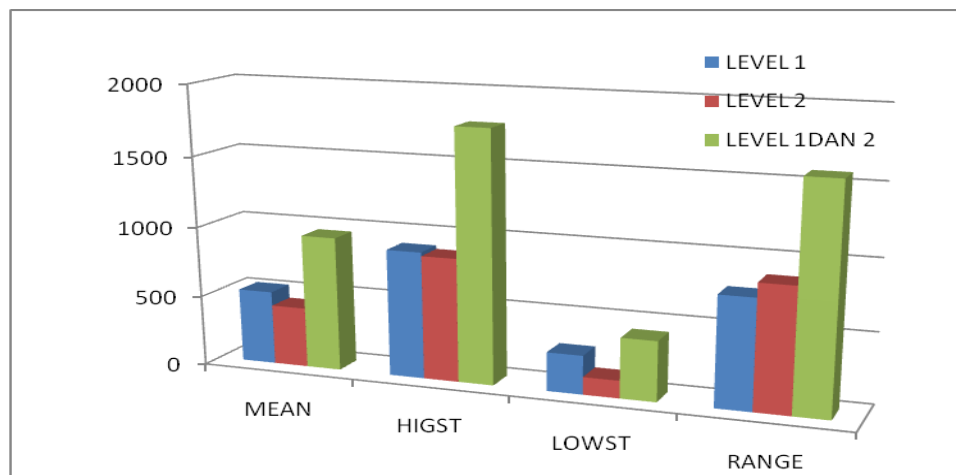
Statistics

		Level 1	Level 2
N	Valid	67	67
	Missing	0	0
Mean		473.5075	360.8209
Median		450.0000	325.0000
Mode		350.00	275.00 ^a
Std. Deviation		148.66073	143.89231
Variance		22100.011	20704.998
Range		750.00	875.00
Minimum		250.00	125.00
Maximum		875.00	750.00
Sum		31725.00	24175.00

a. Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

According to the result of analysis the descriptive statistic above, it can be seen that the mean of level 1 is 473,50 meanwhile, level 2 has less result than level one, it is 360,82. The mode of level 1 is 350 and the mode score of level 2 is 275. While, the standard deviation is 143,89. To know more about the result, it can be seen on the graphic below.

Graphic 2 .The result of statistic analysis

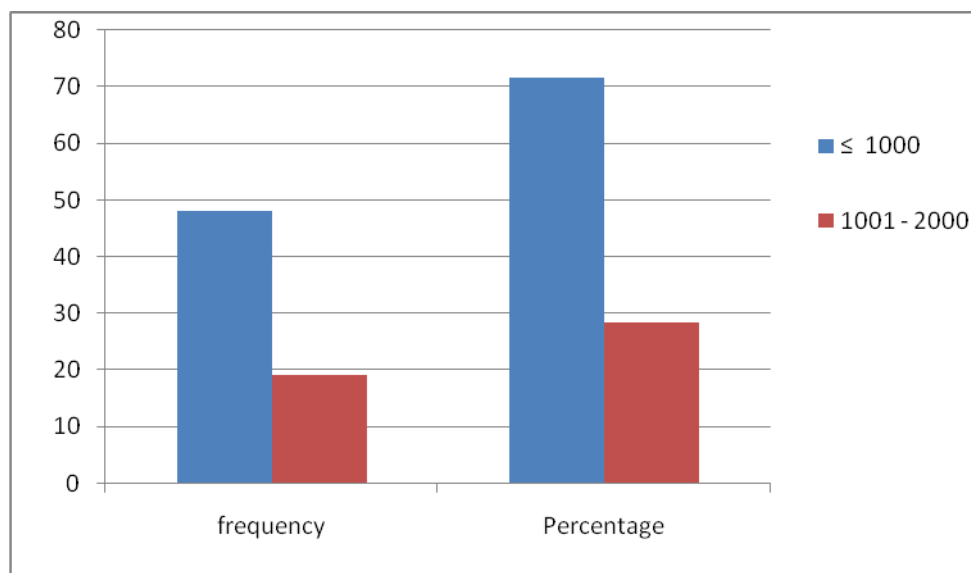


It can be seen from the result above, either the average of level 1 or level two is less than 500. Meanwhile, the lowest score fo level 1 is 250 and the highest is 900. For the level 2, the lowest score is 125 and the highest score is 875. But on the result of 2000 word list mastery, the mean is 833, 95, the lowest score is 450 and the highest is 1675. Based on the result , it found that most of the student of SMA Negeri 15 Bandar Lampung have not reached 1000 words. For more explanation, it can be seen from the table above.

Tabel 2. result of students' vocabulary size

SCORE Interval	Frequency	Percentage
≤ 1000	48	71,64
1001 – 2000	19	28,36

Graphic 3. Result of students' vocabulary size



Based on the table above that most the students' vocabulary mastery score of SMA Negeri 15 Bandar Lampung (71, 64%) is 833,95. The students who have achieved more than 1000 words are 19 students (28,36 %). It means that is no student who has achieved 2000 wordlist.

CONCLUSIONS

As stated by some expert that motivation is a factor that can influence human activity; students' motivation in learning English can also influence their vocabulary. It means that the teacher as the pioneer of education as well as parents should motivate the students in learning English. Based on the result of data analysis and discussion, that students' of SMA Negeri 15 has been vocabulary size on 2000 words list. The result of this research can be concluded as a follows :

1. There are 43 students (64,18%) who got means score 473, 50 on level 1 and there are 53 students (80,59%) who got mean score 360,82 on level 2. It means that the average of students vocabulary is less than 500 each level.
2. The mean of vocabulary 2000 wordlist is 834 with percentage 71,64 %. It show that students' vocabulary mastery of SMA Negeri 15 in first grade is bellow standard (1500) .
3. There is differences in vocabulary mastery of students of SMA Negeri 15 Bandar Lampung between level 1 and level 2. The mean scores show that level 1 is higher than level 2.

SUGGESTIONS

In reference to the points in conclusions and discussion of study:

1. The teacher of English should keep measuring their students vocabulary size regularly to determine wheather the student have rich the goal of curriculum or not.
2. The teacher of English should keep motivating their students and giving them new methods to increase the student vocabulary size.
3. The students should be provided by varieties of reading materials so that they can develop their vocabulary.

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