

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Humans cannot be far away from language. In fact, humans use language for daily conversation. As a communication device, language has an important role in human's life. In daily life, language is very important to support humans' activity such as teaching and learning. Without language people cannot communicate with other people for example when teachers teach in the classroom. Al – Qur'an has explained this in Qur'an Surah Al – Alaq, verse 1 :

Based on that verse, Al – Qur'an explain the important of reading. Without language humans can not express what in their mind.

Humans must have communication device to communicate with other people around the world. Without language, there will not be teaching learning process because the teacher cannot teach students when there is no language. This shows how important the function of language is in humans' life. Al – Qur'an has explained this in Al-Qur'an Surah Ta – Ha, verse 44 :

فَقُولَا لَهُ قَوْلًا لَّيِّنًا لَّعَلَّهُ يَتَذَكَّرُ أَوْ يَخْشَى ۚ ۚ

Based on that verse, Al – Qur'an explained humans must talk with kind language. Humans cannot talk when they do not have language. The fact that language is very important in humans' life. However, humans will be gotten the

language by their listening. When babies try to talk, they try to copy what their mother say. It shows the importance of listening in getting first language.

English language is an international language which is used by people around the world. English is the first language in several countries such as The United States of America, England, Canada, and Australia. Then English is the second language in England colonies such as Singapore and Malaysia. English language be a universal language not only because of the strength of England but also because English language is used as National language by The United state of America as a country which has a big influence on economy, politics, and technology of the World. As a result, people around the world must have English language skill to join in International area. Many people around the world study English, such as English culture or English art. English becomes important in the world. English is a universal language in the world. Because of that we should study how to speak English in order to communicate with other people around the world.

In Indonesia, which is a multilingual society, English is a foreign language, although it has been studied since Junior High School. Because of Indonesia have multilingual society, many people in Indonesia have difficulty to master English. This is the problem we find that needs the solution, since English language is very important, we must search how to make students in Indonesia interested in English.

In teaching English language, there are four skills must be taught to realize language skills; these are listening, speaking, reading and writing. Naturally, in language acquisition, the first step for a baby is to learn listening, then speaking, reading and the last is writing. People cannot speak when they cannot listen.

Listening skill is an important skill because with this skill human beings can get knowledge and information, and this skill is a key to successful communication with other human. Based on 7 from 10 students at grade eleven of State Islamic Senior High School (MAN) Pelaihari, English language is not interesting to many students because it is difficult to understand.

According to Harmer, there are two ways to improve students' listening skill, extensive and intensive listening. Extensive listening usually takes place outside classroom and intensive listening usually takes place inside classroom. Intensive listening usually uses audio material for practicing listening at classroom however, outside noises can disturb students' concentration. Extensive listening has important factor to improve students' listening skill. Extensive listening helps students to know many vocabulary and grammar, so extensive listening has crucial effect on a students' language learning.

However, listening is not a simple process. People who listen must be able to differentiate between sounds, catch and understand vocabulary, interpret stress and meaning, remember and interpret all of it at the same time, and match with culture society context from the native speaker who says the statement. Therefore, as a teacher candidate we need the effective technique and method in teaching listening skill.

Harmer (2007, p 133) gives a few suggestions to understand listening skill. One of them is song because song is very useful and can be very engaging. Sometimes, listening to songs can make good mood.

Learning activity can succeed when it is matched with interest, wish, and students' purpose. Nowadays, many young people in Indonesia have interest in music. Many music programs can be listened by young people in television and radio. Music is not only used to entertain the listener but also as media in teaching and learning. Many teachers use songs in their classroom. For example, to remember alphabets in kindergarten, the teacher usually uses songs to facilitate students, especially in English learning. Music often used to sharpen students' listening skill. Why the teachers used English songs to improve students' listening skill, because English songs help students interest in learning listening at classroom.

The researcher chooses State Islamic Senior High School (MAN) Pelaihari because when the researcher observed in this school, many students interested in English songs. They tried to sing a song outside of classroom and then the researcher asks them about their interest in English songs, most of them like English language. The second reason taking this school is when the researcher asked the teachers at this school about learning listening at classroom, the teacher explained that the teacher always gives listening lesson for the students, and sometimes the teacher use songs as media to teach their students. The teacher told the researcher that students like to study with songs and students' achievement develops when the teacher uses songs in the classroom.

Harmer (2007, p 144) said that songs can make students embittered with content, they try to know about what the singer tries to tell and then they listen again. From the statement above the researcher tries to make conclusion that students' interest in English language, because the students listening of the English songs, the

students can tell the content of the song and understand it . It means English songs can develop students' listening skill.

As comparison between the current research and previous research the researcher tries to make short report about previous research. The researcher found previous research as diversification with the title "The Correlation between Students' Habit in Listening to English Songs and their English listening comprehension Skill of the Seventh Semester Students in English of IAIN Antasari academic Year 2012/2013" which is written by Rasma 'Afifah (2010). In the previous research, the technique which was used by the writer was questionnaire, English listening comprehension test used TOEFL IBT listening section, documentary, observation and interview. The writer used census or saturated sampling technique. This research was conducted at IAIN Antasari Banjarmasin. This research tried to find out the correlation between students' habit in listening to English songs and English listening comprehension. The researcher found that there is no correlation between students' habit in listening to songs and English listening comprehension.

The current research tries to find out correlation between songs and listening comprehension, the difference between the previous research and current research is the previous research tries to find correlation habit in listening to English songs and listening comprehension but the current research tries to find correlation between interest in English songs and students' listening comprehension. In this case, the researcher uses quantitative research with questionnaire and test as instruments to find correlation between variables. Although those cases have same instruments

those cases have different variables. It is very different from previous research that finds the correlation between students' habit in listening to English songs and their English listening comprehension skill.

First difference is in X variable, previous research used students' habit in English songs as X variable and current research used interest in English songs as X variable. Second difference is location of research. The previous research was conducted at Antasari State Islamic University Banjarmasin and the current research was conducted at State Islamic Senior High School (MAN) Pelaihari.

The second previous research is written by M. Fadlij at 2008. In the previous research, the technique used by the writer was classroom action research. This research purposed to solve the problems in teaching learning listening skill. The instrument of this research was test; song sheets (lyric) that were given in pre-test, actions, and post-test. The result of the research shows that the use of songs in the classroom motivates the students to attend lessons and pay attention in class. This research is very different with the current research. The previous research used classroom action research and the current research used quantitative method to answer the problems of this research. The previous research used pretest with the result mean score was 44.55 and posttest with the result mean score was 75.38 to know students' achievement in listening. The current research uses listening questions to know students' achievement in listening. Based on the explanation, the researcher is interested in knowing more about THE CORRELATION BETWEEN INTEREST IN ENGLISH SONGS AND STUDENTS' LISTENING SKILL.

B. Statement of Problem

This study tries to identify the influence of interest in English songs towards students' listening skill at State Islamic Senior High School (MAN) Pelaihari. Based on the topic, the statements of problem in this research are :

1. How is the students' interest in English songs at State Islamic Senior High School (MAN) Pelaihari ?
2. How is the students' listening skill at State Islamic Senior High School (MAN) Pelaihari ?
3. Is there any significant correlation between interest in English songs and students' listening skill ?

C. Objectives of Study

Based on the statements of problems above, the objectives of this study are:

1. To find out the students' interest in English songs at State Islamic Senior High School (MAN) Pelaihari.
2. To find out the students' listening skill at State Islamic Senior High School (MAN) Pelaihari.
3. To know whether or not there is a significant correlation between interest in English songs and students' listening skill.

D. Hypothesis

- H_0 There are no correlation between students' interest in English songs and students' listening skill
- H_1 There are correlation between students' interest in English songs and students' listening skill

E. Assumption

The assumption of this research is if students have interest in songs, they can improve their listening skill.

F. Significance of Study

The results of the study are hoped to give benefits for the teacher, the researcher, and the other researchers :

1. For Teacher

Through this research, the teacher will be able to know how big the influence of interest is in English songs towards students' listening skill and use songs as teaching media.

2. For Researcher

Through this study, the researcher will be able to improve knowledge in writing thesis and improve her knowledge about the influence of interest in English songs towards students' listening skill.

3. For other researchers

The other researchers can use the results of this research as a comparative study.

G. Definition of Key Term

The definition of key terms of this study are :

1. Interest

Interest is the feeling of wanting to give attention to something or of wanting to be involved with and to discover more about something.

Interest in this thesis can have same meaning with a feeling of love or

like. This research is about listening to songs, so interest in this research means the feeling when we like a song and always want to listen to songs.

2. Listening

Listening is the active process of receiving and responding to spoken(sometimes unspoken) messages. Listening is a broad term used to refer to complex affective, cognitive, and behavioral processes. Affective processes include the motivation to attend to others; cognitive processes include attending to, understanding, receiving, and interpreting content and relational messages; and behavioral processes include responding with verbal and nonverbal feedback. This research tries to find the correlation between interest in English songs and students' listening skill.

3. English Song

A song is a single (and often standalone) work of music intended to be sung by the human voice with distinct and fixed pitches and patterns using sound and silence and a variety of forms that often include the repetition of sections. Written words created specifically for music or for which music is specifically created, are called lyrics.

From the explanation, before the researcher can take conclusion about the definition of English song. English songs are songs which use English language. Songs have many genres such as pop, country, hip hop, etc. In

this research, English songs have function as teaching media to find the interest by English songs.

4. State Islamic Senior High School (MAN) Pelaihari

State Islamic Senior High School (MAN) Pelaihari is located at Jl. Al-Fatah Pelaihari. This school has three majors at the twelfth grade, there are Science, Social and Religion majors. The twelfth grade has 5 classes, there are Science class, Social 1 and 2 classes and Religion class. This school has two English teachers.