

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Study

Language is the tool of human communication, either spoken or written, consisting of the use of words in a structured and conventional way, it is a way to communicate each other. Language is like a signal which relates each person. It is like a symbol for describe every part of world about all of kind that extend in the world. Language is very unique because there must be causes or effect that cannot be fixed and finished without language. It became causes of teaching language in education either mother language or foreign language. Nowadays, English becomes important subject to learn and gain because it is decided as global language that can be used as standardized for communication in daily life. The concept is International English that English language as a global means of communication in numerous dialects and also the movement towards an international standard for the language. It is also referred to as Global English, World English, Common English, Continent al English, General English, Engas (English as associate language), or Globish. Sometimes, these terms refer simply to the array of varieties of English spoken throughout the world. In the 20th century, each person is expected to be great human resources who can communicate well and be able to organize technology so that they need much knowledge and can be used in facing global competition. Indeed, English is really needed for mastering technology and communicate well. As global communication tool, English is really important to master actively either verbal or

nonverbal. Not only being global language but also being academic necessity. Language developing center was one of institution in Antasari State Islamic University Banjarmasin that was named Language Development Unit Team which was known as UPB (Unit Pengembangan bahasa). It was institution that has had function to develop foreign language skills. The language that was developed was English and Arabic. This program had two steps inside consist of A and B program which every program has six month of time duration during teaching and the learning process. English was chosen because English was one instrument to compete in international society to be communication tool and the reason of Arabic language was because of Arabic was base language that was used in Islamic religion. In addition, Al-Qur'an as holy book of Muslim was used Arabic language in telling its contents so that direction to get happiness can be known from Al-Qur'an and Muslim should be able to read to know directions in getting happiness in order to this university where Muslim did teaching and learning activity; Arabic was recommended to be improved to all students inside. Program that every student here must join as one of requirements had a test. It happened because the program was teaching and learning activity which was activated before every faculty regular schedule begins. The test included placement test in the beginning of the program, Middle test in the middle of the teaching and learning process that usually conducted after third month of teaching and learning process. And then the Final which was conducted in every sixth month after teaching and learning process. Oral test and writing test were used in the final test. test oral test in measuring speaking skill level or communication by using

foreign language and writing test which was especially work out on test paper, it measured students skills in writing, reading, and structure.

Actually, test was not important enough in getting skills such as mastering English skills and others but for an institution that was programmed for improving members' skill who joined inside, a test was very important to measure the achievement that members reach in what they pass and reach the goals of that educational institution made and it was applied in all world institutions. In achieving goals that an educational institution wants, it could be known from the result of test. And then there were some tests that was used for requirements to prove the levels of test takers in national or international which we have known that was named as standardized test such as IELTS, TOEFL-IBT or PBT, ENE or English national examination etc. Usually, it was for requirements to get jobs that have higher position, it used in applying job in international company, or it can be used for continuing education to higher level and famous or credible university. Because of that, the test influences were real either in educator or learner but students should have good effort such as their students learning strategy was applied well before arriving in that step. For some educational institutions, placement test was good choice in making easy way of teaching process activity in getting their educational goals. By using the placement test, teachers could use good way in teaching activity based on the level class they teach and they can also place their focus in specific level that should get low or hard teaching treatment. The placement test was also applied in Antasari State Islamic University Banjarmasin such as the placement test of English

education major which always determined their students' class by using their students' TOEFL score. Then in the language development unit team, there was written test for freshman before they get their class in Language Development Unit Team program which would be changed after A program or a half of time duration of the program by taking students score of final test in A program. According to the passage, researcher was sure that students learning strategies were different base on the level of the class.

There must be teaching and learning activity in achieving educational goals. It could not completed if both of them are not be able to work together. Teachers have had own method, strategy and approach and students as a receptor, they also have had their own way to learn in order teacher should understand how to students learn and apply suitable teaching process in the classroom so that the knowledge transferred better but in other way, students also should have an effort in getting the information transferred such as reviewing in the their own time outside class therefore we can meet good activity in education process where teachers and students have applied their own duty. In this case, the way in getting the teacher information was learning style and learning strategy.

Allah said in the holy Qur'an actually in the each point of surah Ar-Rad ayaat 11;

“إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُغَيِّرُ مَا بِقَوْمٍ حَتَّىٰ يُغَيِّرُوا مَا بِأَنْفُسِهِمْ”

Allah will not change the condition of a people until they change what is in themselves. "Indeed, Allah does not alter the state of a people — He does not deprive

them of His grace — unless they have altered the state of their souls, from (their) comely nature, through an act of disobedience." (Tafsir Jalalayn). This verse showed us clearly that was in facing the problem of life, we had to move and work hard because we would not get successful goals without moving ourselves. It had some case, if in the learning and teaching process there were no students' hard works, it would be useless process. Then students must have their struggle.

Students had their own learning style that many researchers explained there were visual learners, auditory learners, and kinesthetic learners which were known as VAK but in this study researcher would focus at students learning strategy. Oxford & Ehrman (1998, p. 8) defined second language learning strategies as specific actions, behaviors, steps, or techniques which were used by students to enhance their own learning. It was students own way in getting information from teacher taught in the class during teaching process. Students learning strategies were like a tactics which students used to make them to understand what teachers had sent into students' brain in the learning process. In the other word, it was student's way to assist them to get information provided by teacher. The learners were generally aware of the strategies that they were using. This problem would be discussed in by researcher in Language Development Unit Team of Antasari State Islamic University Banjarmasin. The researcher was interested with students learning strategy applied on the class as the result of the placement test as the regulation Language Development Unit Team before the teaching and learning activity begin.

Based on the passage above, this investigation had been continued under the title *Students' Learning Strategies on The Different levels of Language Development Unit Team Classes in Antasari State Islamic University Banjarmasin*. Supervising process was applied continuously therefore this written text could be perfect and suitable in its field. Finally, researcher wished this study could make education quality better and better.

B. Statement of Problem

1. What are the levels of students as the result of the placement test of Language Development Unit Team of Antasari State Islamic University Banjarmasin?
2. What are dominant strategies and strategies never used applied by student in each level in Language Development Unit Team classes of Antasari State Islamic University Banjarmasin?

C. Objective of The Study

1. To know the levels of students as the result of the placement test in Language Development Unit Team classes of Antasari State Islamic University Banjarmasin.
2. To know what dominant strategies and strategies never-used learning strategies are applied by student in each level test in Language Development Unit Team Program of Antasari State Islamic University Banjarmasin.

D. Significant of The Study

1. To inform reader what kind of learning strategies in the classes levels as result of placement test on Language Development Unit Team program in Antasari State Islamic University Banjarmasin.
2. To inform for the teacher about the strategies was used by the students to learn English on Language Development Unit Team program in Antasari State Islamic University Banjarmasin.
3. To inform the students about their strategies in learning English so that it can be easy to understand about English.

E. Definitions of Key Terms

1. Language Development Unit Team is an institution that is located in State Islamic University Antasari Banjarmasin that has function to develop students' foreign language skills.
2. Different Levels are levels which are created by Language Development Unit Team from the result of the placement test of English A program.
3. Learning strategy is an effort of students to assist in getting information of what teacher teach or in mastering teacher lesson in teaching activity.

