

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

English is the most spoken official language in the world. The English language has official status even in nations where it is not the primary spoken language. English is indisputably the primary language of global trade and commerce.

English is one of the International language that spoken in many countries as native, second and foreign language. It is a living and vibrant language spoken by over 300 million people as their native language (Thitumalai. M.S). It is taught in the schools in almost every country all over the world. In Indonesia, English is taught and learned as a foreign language. English language is one of the subjects in nnational examinations. To achieve the target in learning English, some schools invite American teacher to be involved in learning and teaching process directly. American teachers are ambassadors and representatives of their countries and cultures in the places they live and work.

An American teacher has an important role in language education. So we as a teacher have to live up to that role. We must endeavor to develop our declarative knowledge of language in order to be the best possible service to our students. We must earn the respect that our students have for us. And we must endeavor to be a positive influence on the cultures and societies.

When studying English in the classroom, American teachers will use their culture that influence the students' mastery. Through the study of English language, students gain a knowledge and understanding of the used cultures. Moreover, students can not truly master the language until they have also mastered the cultural contexts.

Learning a language means learning what culture is in that language. Language and culture are closely related. Language can be viewed as a verbal expression of culture. Language provides us with many categories that we use to express our thoughts, so it is natural to assume that our thinking is influenced by the language which we use. The values and customs in the country we grow up are shaped the way in thinking to certain extent. Therefore, we have to learn other cultures.

The importance of knowing other country is mentioned in the Holy Quran Al-Hujurat verse 13 as follow :

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتَقَاكُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ (١٣)

Based on the verse above, Allah Almighty, nothing is created in vain, Allah creates the world in various forms in it, Allah created humans being differently, there are male and female, have a difference appearance, the difference of skin's color, the difference of the nature and others. Then, Allah divides humans into tribes, they have nation and have state that have different

culture. Allah creates many cultures, so that every human in the world can learning and by knowing it they exchange the information in daily life. There are many culture in the world, every country has their own culture that influence each other (Kim Ann Zimmermann, 2015). For example, the most influence for eastern cultures is from western.

Cultural differences between western and eastern produce a wide range of influences. The effect would have a negative and positive impacts on the students whom being the object of learning. The negative impact such as many people are oblivious to the self-identity as a nation of Indonesia. Meanwhile the positive impacts are easy to obtain information and knowledge, quick in traveling (high mobility), growing a cosmopolitan and tolerant attitude, etc. Therefore students must be able to filter the culture brought by the native teacher because Western culture is viewed very badly by the common people.

Culture is divided into two, namely cultural material and non-material culture. Cultural material includes jewelry, art, buildings, weapons, machine, and even cutlery, as well as hair styling. Meanwhile non-material culture includes a way of thinking (beliefs, values, and other assumptions about the world) and acting (which is common behavior patterns including language, movement / gestures, and other forms of interaction).

In the class, Indonesian teacher has different manner from American teacher. One of the examples is about giving respect to others. In America learning, if someone is speaking, the audience must pay attention to the speaker. If they do not, it will be considered as impolite and rude. By paying

attention to others, will make the learning process runs well. This situation usually does not happen in Indonesia. Indonesian students usually speak while the others is speaking. Even if they do pay attention, that is because that student who is speaking has good score. Another example is analyzing a material or topic in the class critically. American prefers to analyze critically than memorize the material. This atmosphere of learning can be done because their teacher is not dominating the class. Thus, this kind of atmosphere will trigger the students to be independent. Independent means that the students dominate the class, not the teacher and they have prepared the material beforehand. If the teacher does not come, the students will search the material and study by themselves (<https://kelas11man1.wordpress.com/2013/11/05/the-culture-difference-of-american-and-indonesian-in-education-in-general>).

In this research, the researcher will do the research at English education department of Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin since there is an American teacher in this collage, named Mr. Spenser Lemaich, M.A., from America. He teaches some lessons and uses his own cultural teaching style when teaching in the class. When teaching English, Mr.Spancer also introduces American attitude in teaching and learning process. Therefore, the researcher wants to know students' perception and the kind of teaching style that used by him.

From several statements above, the researcher does not want to miss the opportunity to know more closely about students' perception and the kind of teaching style used by the American teacher. The researcher conducts a

research under the title “STUDENTS’ PERCEPTION ON AMERICAN TEACHER’S CULTURAL TEACHING STYLE”.

B. Statements of Problem

Based on the background above the researcher investigates the following statement of problems:

1. How are students’ perception of their American teacher’s cultural teaching style?
2. What kind of teaching style that is used by American teacher’s cultural teaching style in teaching and learning process ?

C. Objectives of Study

Based on the statements of the problem above, the objectives of the research aim:

1. To find out the students’ perception of their American teachers’ cultural teaching style.
2. To describe kinds of cultural teaching style do the American teacher used while teaching and learning process.

D. Significance of Research

The significances of research here are to give some advantages to four points:

1. As an information for students about American Teacher’s cultural teaching style.

2. As information for American teacher about students' perception of his cultural teaching style.
3. As an input to the researcher to enrich knowledge in experience in scientific research, especially in American teaching styles.
4. As a consideration for the next research in the same object but different point of view and as an enrichment of Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin library' literature.

E. Definition of Key Terms

The key terms, which are necessary to be clarified briefly in order to avoid misunderstanding, it can be mentioned as follow:

1. Students' perception is how someone thinks about something. In this present of study perception is opinion or response from the students to the American teacher's teaching style that is used by him while teaching and learning process in the class.
2. Teacher is a person who helps others to acquire knowledge, competences or values. American teacher is a teacher who was a particular language since they were a baby, rather than having learned it is as a child or adult. In this study American teacher is a teacher from American, named Mr. Spenser Lemaich, M.A., who teaching English at Seventh Semester of English Education Department of Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin.

3. Culture defined the way of life, especially the general customs and belief, of a particular group of people at a particular time. Teaching style means a set of teaching tactics. In this research cultural teaching style means the American teaching style that is used by Mr. Spenser Lemaich, M.A., in teaching and learning process in the class.