

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **A. Background of Study**

Every human needs language and language is important for human life. As one of the International languages, English plays an important role almost in all aspects of life. English has been becoming a compulsory foreign language in Indonesia. Thus English takes part in determining the development of learning and social life in the globalization era. Because of its importance, English is included as a subject in the school.

There are many designs of assessments in English subject. This research uses completion and multiple choice test items. Completion is used for a test which asks students to fill in the blank to be complete sentence by listening audio. The advantages of completion are minimizes guessing, can usually provide an objective measure of student' ability and encourages more intensive study because student must know the answer versus recognizing the answer.

Multiple choice is easier than completion. It is because students can collect the true answer from a list. The advantages of multiple choice are very effective, minimum of writing of student, guessing reduced and can cover broad range of content. Therefore, the researcher wants to know the level of students' ability in

listening comprehension through answering completion and multiple choice test items.

In listening, the students try to listen in order to identify and understand what they heard. It is essential for language teachers to help their students become effective listeners (Schwart, 1998). Snell (1999) states that the common problem for EFL teachers in traditional classroom is dealing with passive class where the students being unresponsive and avoid interaction with the teacher. To overcome this problem, developing such an interactive way to teach listening is recommended.

Language as a gift from God to Humans as stated in the holy Quran Al-Hujurat verse 13 as follows:

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

This verse explains that language has an important role in human life because humans use language to communicate and express their ideas, feelings and emotions to other humans so learning a language is very important to know each other. Based on the verse above, listening comprehension is considered as an important ability that has to be mastered. When someone is good in listening, it has a major impact on the quality of their relationship with others. Listening ability is also important to be mastered to benefit in building a good communication.

In building a good communication with others, individuals have to understand the meaning of the messages conveyed by their partners when they have a

conversation. In comprehending the message conveyed by others, listening ability is needed. Kirwan (2009) quotes Laurent's statement (2000) that 'it is impossible not to communicate'. Without listening ability, communication is impossible.

On other side, Allah also shared many purposes why we must master in listening. It is because listening on the first position in the holy Quran and very important in human language. Allah stated in Tahaa verse 13 as follow:

وَأَنَا خَيْرُ نَفْسٍ فَاسْتَمِعْ لِمَا يُوحَىٰ ١٣

This verse also explains that human has to listen to someone that gives us the information. This is related to the acquiring and learning language that listening takes the first role instead of other skills. With listening, people can understand whatever other people say in daily life. So this study will focus on listening skill because the basic of learning this language is listening. Therefore this study has combination between listening and writing skill.

The researcher will do the research in SMAN 7 Banjarmasin. This school is chosen by the researcher because this school is one of good schools in Banjarmasin city. The researcher wants to know whether or not the school really has students who have good ability in listening comprehension in English language. This school also has regular English and literature English program for their students. The researcher conducts data at the eleventh grade because their ability is intermediate level.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher is interested in conducting a research entitled **“Students’ Ability in Listening Comprehension Through**

**Answering Completion and Multiple Choice Test Items at the Eleventh Grade of SMAN 7 Banjarmasin”**. Furthermore, the researcher expects that this research will give contribution to the practice of listening teaching and learning in the future.

## **B. Statement of Problems**

According to the School-Based Curriculum (SBC), listening is the language skill that should be mastered by students. However, the teaching of listening is not easy to do. Considering background of study mentioned above, the researcher focuses on three questions, they are:

1. How is students' ability in listening comprehension through answering completion and multiple choice test items at the eleventh grade of SMAN 7 Banjarmasin?
2. What are the students' common errors in listening comprehension through answering completion and multiple choice test items at the eleventh grade of SMAN 7 Banjarmasin?
3. How do the students learn listening comprehension at the eleventh grade of SMAN 7 Banjarmasin?

## **C. Objective of Study**

Based on statement of problems above, the researcher is expected to find information related to this research. In relation to the statement of problems, the objectives of this research are:

1. The researcher wants to know the students' ability in listening comprehension through answering completion and multiple choice test items at the eleventh grade of SMAN 7 Banjarmasin.
2. The researcher wants to find out students' common errors in listening comprehension through answering completion and multiple choice test items at the eleventh grade of SMAN 7 Banjarmasin.
3. The researcher wants to discuss students' listening comprehension strategies as well as to provide some recommendation for improvement at the eleventh grade of SMAN 7 Banjarmasin and students in other schools.

#### **D. Significance of Study**

The researcher hopes that this thesis would be useful for the readers. However, researcher realizes that this thesis is far from being perfect. The use of the study can be classified into:

1. The result of this research is expected to have both theoretical and practical contributions to consider alternative and effective to develop English teaching and learning.
2. Practically :

- a. For teacher, to help improve students' ability in listening comprehension through answering completion and multiple choice test items.
- b. For students, this result of research is to increase their listening achievement.
- c. For further research, to provide the information that related to this study.

## **E. Definition of Key Terms**

This part contain some explanation about the important words that the researcher' desired. For the purposes of avoiding misunderstanding, the following important terms need to be operationally defined:

### **1. Students' ability**

Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (2011:441) stated that student is a person who is studying at school or university. While ability means skill or power (Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary, 2011:1). Based on two definitions above, students' ability is students' skill in learning or studying at English subject. This study, the researcher wants to know students' ability in listening comprehension through answering completion and multiple choice test items at the eleventh grade of SMAN 7 Banjarmasin.

2. **Listening Comprehension** is an active skill in understanding of the implications and explicit meanings of words and sentences of spoken language.
3. **Completion** is a type of question or phrase with one or more words replaced with a blank line, giving the reader the chance to add the missing word. So in

this research, the researcher wants to ask students to fill in the blank to be complete sentence by listening to audio.

4. **Multiple Choice** is a form of an objective assessment in which respondents are asked to select the only correct answer out of the choices from a list a, b, c or d by audio listening.
5. **SMAN 7 Banjarmasin.** One of state senior high school in Banjarmasin city. It is located at Jalan Dharma Praja V no. 47 Banjarmasin.