

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the general account of the present study. It covers background of study, research question, objective of the study, significance of study, and key term.

A. Background of Study

Human beings are created differently among them. They are different in their nationalities, races, religions, cultures, languages and many others, but the aim of creating these various aspects is to show to the believers that God is powerful.

Language is a tool of human communication which is used to interact each other. Each country has its own language like news that is in Holy Qur'an on sura An-Nisa verse 32 :

مِمَّا نَصِيبٌ لِّلرَّجَالِ ۖ بَعْضٌ عَلَىٰ بَعْضٍ كَمَا فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ فَضْلًا مَّا تَدْمَنُوا لَا
ۚ فَضْلِهِ مِنَ اللَّهِ وَاسْأَلُوا ۚ اٰكْتَسَبْنَ مِمَّا نَصِيبٌ وَلِلنِّسَاءِ ۗ اٰكْتَسَبُوا
عَلَّ شَيْءٍ بِكُلِّ كَانَ اللَّهُ اِنَّ

From this verse. There are many lessons that we can take from it. One of them is that Allah's grace will come to those who are always trying earnestly in their endeavors. Even though the result and gifts that will be obtained are not according to what he is striving for. However, this is not a disappointment for those who believe. Because they believe that Allah's decree in the form of good or bad things are the most beautiful gifts given by Allah to his servants. Every Muslim who believe in the day of retribution, then they always endeavor and ask for all things

(goodness) only from Allah. And he is sure that every step and the seeds of his efforts will not be in vain because it will be valuable in worship the Allah who is the creator.

Communicate with other country used English as international language. Then, each educational institution of university puts in English as obligatory course which is delivered. As an international language, it is known that English is undoubtedly one of the well known languages in the world. It has become the most widely studied foreign language on the earth. As Richards and Rogers said, "English is the world's most widely studied, five hundred years ago it was Latin". (Rodgers, 1986, p.1). However, English has become the most the most widely studied foreign language today.

To master of the development of science and technology, it is necessary to master English. Therefore, English must be learned comprehensively. Learn English as a foreign language is a integrate process that the learner may not ignore one or more aspect of four basic skills, they are listening, speaking, reading and writing. (Cowan, 2008, p.3) states in English subject, they are many skills that should be mastered by students which is called the four basic language skills. They are listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

English language skills have become an important skill that people need to master to face the globalization era that has been going on in recent years. Therefore, many ways on how to improve English language skills have been implemented, and various educational institutions have been developed in Indonesia. In addition, the efforts of each individual to develop this ability can also be reflected in our own community who are already quite active in using English in the world of work and school in particular. English basically consists of four kinds of skills,

namely Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing skills. It is these four components that we receive and study in schools and other English language training institutions.

In the process of the learning activities, every student has different efforts in learning English and it would give different progress, because it held in different ways, experiences and facilities, and it represent the condition of the students in the class today that they were tend to be passive in learning process. Therefore, students need specific effort to support and to improve their skill in learning English especially students in English education study program. The activities of students' effort could be done in everywhere; in school or neighbourhoods. The students' effort is the motivation process of actions and goals design to achieve their need. Effort is a kind of behavior activities in learning process. Effort rises from the motivation process. According to Schunk, Pintrich & Meece (2008, p. 4) stated that "motivation is a process rather than a product. As process we do not observe motivation directly but rather we infer it from actions (e.g., choice of tasks, effort, and persistence)". Motivation provided a direction and intensity to achieve the goals.

TOEFL is a Test of English as a Foreign Language which is used to measure the ability of English to foreigners. This test is managed by an agency in the United States called ETS (Educational Testing Service). TOEFL (Test Of English as A Foreign Language) is a test to measure the English proficiency and academic skills of nonnative speakers of English (Philips, 2008).

In assessing someone's English ability, there are many assessments that are applied to about someone's English ability like as TOEFL, IELTS, etc. TOEFL is currently used as collage students' English ability assessment than other. One of university which uses TOEFL as English

ability assessment in Banjarmasin is State Islamic University. In this university, collage students have to get score higher than 500 from the highest that is 677.

TOEFL is one of many types of language testing, which stands for “Test of English as a Foreign Language”. This test is highly recognized as a standardized in language and had been “internationally recognized and respected”(Warfield, 2013, p.196). TOEFL is a standardized test which designed to measure the English language ability of non-native speakers to enroll in American universities or other university. The TOEFL score have been used as the requeriments for non-native applicants in American and English speaker colleges and universities, so do to obtain scholarship in those countries. For example, when students want to continue their study in foreign countries, the university asks their applicants to submit their TOEFL grade as indicator of their english language proficiency. Studying in foreign countries definitely demands high english proficiency level that can be seen from the TOEFL grade. The admission committees of more that 8,500 colleges and universities in the United States, Canada, Australia and 130 other countries worldwide request foreign applicants to submit TOEFL score along with transscript and recommendations in order to be considered as admission (Sharpe, 2013, p 11).

To reach score which is decided, collage students have been taught TOEFL strategies before they get TOEFL test in reality to know their English ability. Based on the reason above, the researcher has interested to do research about “Students efforts in Reaching The Minimum Toefl Score In English Department of Tarbiyah Faculty of UIN Antasari Banjarmasin”.

B. Statement of Problems

Based on the background above, the problems of the research are.

1. What are the difficulties faced by students to reaching the TOEFL score in English students Department?
2. What do students learn to reach the TOEFL score in English Department ?

C. Objective of The Study

1. To identify the difficulties faced by students to reaching the minimum TOEFL score in English students Department.
2. To identify what types of efforts that fluence for the students effort in reaching the minimum TOEFL score in English Department.

D. Significance of The Study

The research result is expected to give some contribution for :

1. The English Department students at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin to develop English learning process.
2. The English Department students at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin to improve their ability in TOEFL score.
3. The next researchers who want to do reseach in this problem deeply.

E. Definition of Key Term

1. TOEFL

TOEFL is a Test of English as a Foreign Language which is used to measure the ability of English to foreigners. This test is managed by an agency in the United States called ETS (Educational Testing Service). TOEFL (Test Of English as A Foreign Language) is

a test to measure the English proficiency and academic skills of nonnative speakers of English (Philips, 2008). The TOEFL Prediction Test is a prediction or forecast, so the level of accuracy of the score is not so valid, and the certificate is issued by the institution that administrates the Prediction test. The TOEFL Prediction Test can only be used as an evaluation of the learning process, and cannot be used for other purposes. Usually TOEFL Prediction Test questions are a matter of recycling from TOEFL test preparation books such as Barron and Longman. PBT (Paper Based Test) is a type of TOEFL test based on paper or in other words this type of TOEFL uses paper as a tool or tool during the test. In this TOEFL there are several English skills or abilities that are tested, including: Listening, Structure And Written Expression, and Reading. The TOEFL exam takes 2 - 2.5 hours with a score range of 310 – 677

2. Students Effort

Students' effort in learning activities refers to the action of the behaviour that students' do in improving their skill. According to Pace (1998) stated in Pass (2013, p.44) that "quality of student effort is defined as how much voluntary behaviour or personal investment a student makes for their education. It has been examined as how often students carry out learning activities, such as taking detailed notes during class." Students adapt to improve their understanding. Therefore, "effort is allocated to learning activities" pass (2013, p.45), and the students have a chance higher level of mastery may be achieved. Stated in Pass (2013) that the intensity of student effort is conceptualized as the student's perception of how hard he or she works on activity. The researcher would like to define what students effort is. Students effort is a way to increase or improve their skill using strategies and techniques based on ability that the students want.