

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer discusses about background of the study, problem of statements, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language as a means of communication plays an important role in human life. Language and human beings cannot be separated. Human life perception can run well because they use language to communicate something one another. Through language, people gain a better insight from human relations. They use language to express their ideas and thoughts. Meanwhile language itself can survive and develop because people use it and teach to other people. Whoever, whenever and wherever they are, language always accompanies them.

In Indonesia, English is regarded as the first foreign language. As stated in School-based Curriculum 2013 (K13) in junior high school, one of the English learning objectives is understanding and/or producing speech and/or written text which are realized in four skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. These are called macro skills. While the micro skills are divided into three parts. They are vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation.

Listening skill is one of the four basic language skills in English beside reading, writing and speaking. Listening is the activity of paying attention to the speaker and trying to get meaning from something heard (Underwood 1989:1). In

receiving something, the listeners will hear language produced. Listening ability is needed by the students to face both local and national tests of English tested in written form, so that listening should be learned earlier since he or she is going to respond what they mean and their goal. The language learners will be successful if they master the language they learn to the point of using it in communication. The idea is supported by Littlewood (1981:1) who states that learners do not only need the ability to understand the linguistics forms but also the ability to use the language in actual use.

Listening skill is important since it enables the students to get insight and get information, also to obtain success in communication with others. Existence within and outside the school or other place give many listening opportunities, but some students failed to capture them because they let their mind go wander or they may only focus on what they want to say rather than listening to what speaker is saying. Listening is a communication skill that conduct the students to understand, translate, and asses what they heard.

Fauziati (2002:69) says that teaching English should need techniques. There are many ways of teaching English, but the most important aspect to teach English is building the motivation to learn it. The students are assured that English is very interesting to learn.

Why does the writer use song ? Because in fact, song is one of the things which is mostly liked by people, the babies, the children, the young until the old people. Almost everyone loves songs. It is a part of our language and life from

birth on wards. When we were babies, we often heard our mother and father sang a song to lullaby us in the bedroom. In listening to English songs, we can listen the pronunciation of words and sing along with the songs. Listening to English song is felt more interesting from other activities. English songs are great language package that bundles culture, vocabulary, listening, grammar and a host of other language skills in just a few rhymes. Song can also provide a relaxed lesson on a hot boring day. It can also form the basis for many lessons as stated by (Futonge, 2005).

Using songs in classroom is a great way to live up listening activities. When students listen to the music they think that music is their inspiration to get something better in their life. Sometimes, they feel bored, sad, lazy, and bad feeling in doing something. So, the writer chooses song as his tool to test the students ability in listening. Listening can serve the further function of letting to hear the vocabulary items and structure which are familiar to the listening.

Based on the facts presented above, the writer would like to analyze the listening ability of the students by using English song. The writer tries to conduct a study entitled **“A Study on the Listening ability in by Using English Song of the Eighth Grade Students of SMP Negeri 1 Kupang in the School Year 2018/2019”**.

1.2 Statement of the problems

Statement of the problem is the focus of the study. The statement of the problem was answered or proved in the data analysis and discussion. The statements of the problem of this study were formulated in questions.

1. Are the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 1 Kupang able to fill in the missing words when listening to the English song?
2. What is the ability level of the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 1 Kupang in filling in the missing words when listening to the English song?

1.3 Objectives of the study

Based on the questions above in the statement problem, the objectives of the study are shown below.

1. To know whether the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 1 Kupang able to fill in the missing words when listening to the English song.
2. To know the ability level of the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 1 Kupang in filling in the missing words when listening to the English song.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study will be benefit for the teacher, student, the writer, and the English education department as shown in details below.

1. For the English Teacher

They can know their student's ability, so that they can improve their listening ability.

2. For the Students

It can be effective to know how far the students' skill in listening is.

3. For the Writer

This study also trains the writer in how to do a research and write a scientific writing.

4. For the English Education Department of Widya Mandira Catholic University

The result of this study can give information to the teachers and students of English Department of FKIP of Unwira about the listening ability of the students of junior high school.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study discusses one of language skills, that is listening skill. There are some level of listening comprehension ability, they are: literal, interpretive and critical listening. However, the writer will only focus on literal listening comprehension ability of the students by giving them literal question such as filling the blanks and comprehension. The subjects of the study will fill in the missing words of the song. The songs are "You Are The Reason" by Calum Scott and "In Case You Didn't Know" by Brett Young. This songs are popular, the songs uses

the words that can be understood easily. The students are expected to predict the words that should be filled in the blanks.

1.6 Definition of Terms

Definition of terms is a useful way to aid a communication with the reader(s) (Eichbelger, 1989:243). In this subchapter the writer gives some definition terms dealing with this topic.

1. Ability

This Ability is a potential capacity or power to do something physically or mentally (Hornby, 1987: 2). Dealing with this study, ability means the students capacity in filling the missing words when listening to an English song.

2. Listening

Listening is a process of decoding the sounds that are heard from the phonemes to the text completely (Nunan, 2003: 263).

3. Song

It is a group of arrangement which consist of lyrics, and elements of music rhythm, melody, harmony and expression (Parto, 1996: 99). In this study, song is a media for test the student's ability in listening.

4. SMP Negeri 1 Kupang

It is one of state junior high schools in Kupang regency especially in Oebobo district.