

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter contains six subchapters of the study. They are background of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, definition of terms. They are explained in detail below.

### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Humans are social creatures that always relate to other human beings. To establish the relationship human beings need a communication tool. The main tool for human communication is language. With language, humans can convey ideas, thought, and message to others resulting in communication. To make the communication goes well, it is necessary to master the language main skills. According to Tarigan (1994: 2) language skills include four aspects, namely listening, speaking, reading and writing. Listening skill becomes the basis to master other language skills. At the beginning of human life, someone learns to listen first, then learns to speak, to read and to write. Listening skill will effect the ability of other language skills. As Tarigan (1994: 3) states that improving listening skill means it will help improve the quality of speaking ability.

The main language skills are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. They are all important to improve learners' English competence. As the language skill, listening is a skill that is felt difficult to be mastered. It needs more attention and concentration to recognize and even more comprehend the sounds than the

context (Mee, 1990). Listening is considered as receptive skill, in which people need the ability to receive spoken language. In Indonesia, listening is one of the aspects that will be tested in final examination especially in senior high school (SMA/SMK), because listening include in curriculum 2013, thus this skill must be practiced many times. But in the teaching and learning, as the writer experienced, teachers did not provide the instrument and facilities to develop students listening skill. So when students face listening section in final examination, it was very difficult for them to catch the words that they heard. They could not finish the test very well. Because of that, the writer believes that one way to improve the student's listening skill is filling the missing word and answer the questions on text of English song.

According to the writer observation, the listening skill of the eighth grade students at SMPN 5 Kupang was still low. They had enough difficulties in understanding the audio. It could be seen from their result of the listening test. Based on the observation in the classroom and the interview with the teacher and the students, the writer found that the teacher rarely gave the students listening exercise. This was because of the lack of the media (audio, speaker, etc) when the writer had teaching practice program in SMPN 5 Kupang.

Based on these problems, efforts are needed to be done to help the students get more enjoyment and successful in developing their listening ability. Therefore the teacher needs an appropriate technique to stimulate the students' motivation and interest in learning listening skill.

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 onwards. 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 (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 the test the students ability in listening. Listening can serve the futher function of letting to hear the vocabulary items and structure which are familiar to the listening.

Here, the writer wants to focus on the improvement of student's ability in filling missing words and answer the questions on the songs text.

Therefore, based on the background the writer conducted a study about **“An Analysis on the Listening Ability of the Eighth Grade Students of SMP Negeri 5 Kupang in the School Year 2018/2019”**.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problems**

This study was conducted in order to answer two questions as shown in the following:

1. What is the ability level of the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 5 Kupang in filling the missing words and answer the questions when listening to the English songs ?
2. What might be the difficulties found by the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 5 Kupang in filling the missing words and answer the questions when listening to the English songs ?

## **1.3 Objective of the Study**

Based on the questions above, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To find out the ability of the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 5 Kupang in filling the missing words and answer the questions when listening to the English song.
2. To find out the difficulties of the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 5 Kupang in filling the missing words and answer the questions when listening to the English song.

## **1.4 Significance of the Study**

This study has some significance for the teacher, the students, and for the readers. They are in the following:

1. For the English teachers at the researched school, they can know their student's ability, so that they can improve their listening ability.
2. For the writer, through this study the writer can enrich his knowledge in making a thesis to be the partial requirement of the degree of Sarjana Pendidikan and he was know more about listening.
3. For the students, they can know their ability in filling the missing words by listening.
4. For Other/Researchers, the result of this study can become good information for them as the material to be reviewed in future studies.

### **1.5 Scope and Limitation**

This study is about listening ability of the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 5 Kupang. There are several types of listening, such as: informative listening, relationship listening, appreciative listening, critical listening, and discriminative listening. In this study the writer used appreciative listening. The writer just limits his study in filling the missing words on the blank spaces of the text and answer the question. The subjects of the study filled in the missing words of the song and answer the questions. The songs are "Fight Song" by Rachel Pattern and "Talking to the moon" by Bruno Mars. 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**

This section offers the definition of some terms related to the topic in order to help readers to understand this writing.

### **1. Ability**

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**

As defined by Hornby (1993: 206), listening is a complex problem solving skill and it is more than just perception of the sounds. Listening is making an effort to hear something. For example : listen to the radio, tape. In other words, listening is to pay attention.

### **3. Appreciative Listening**

It includes listening to music for enjoyment, to speakers because you like their style, to your choices in theater, television, radio, or film. It is the response of the listener, not the source of the message which defines appreciative listening.

### **4. Words**

Word is written or spoken unit of language: words are used in a piece of text or speech (Oxford Dictionary). In this study word means a piece of text or speech in English song that the students need to catch to complete the song.

5. SMP Negeri 5 Kupang

SMP Negeri 5 Kupang is one of the public junior high school in Kupang City which is located on Frans Seda street East Nusa Tenggara Province.