

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This study investigates the use of Bahasa Indonesia in Learning English. This chapter elaborates four sections. Those are background of the study, research problem, objectives of study, and the significance of study.

1.1 Background of the study

Language is believed to be the chief tool of human communication through which one may express idea, feeling, or emotions to other people. English as an International language is used all over the world. People in some countries speak English as their first language and some other use it as foreign language. English does play the important role. It is the most widely spoken language in the world for communication among people of besides there is a fact that many science books are written in English. Therefore, it is very important for Indonesian people to learn this language. In Indonesia, English as the first foreign language is very important in order to absorb and develop science, technology, art and culture, besides for maintaining relationship with other countries.

In the education system of Indonesia, English is one of many courses that students have to take. In this case, government policy has been made clear in the curriculum to place English as a lesson since elementary school. However, as encountered in teaching practice, Bahasa Indonesia is used in English classes and in fact to teach English without using first language is difficult to students.

The problem of the usage of first language in English classroom has remained to be controversy up to now. There have been research findings that resulted in opposing views. One of them supports using only English and prohibits the usage of first language when teaching students and the opposite one, helps and lets in the

usage of first language within the English teaching classroom. This could additionally divide the perception into different factors. If they would use only English in the classroom, then they would perceive first language as a negative component in their teaching and avoid using first language. Other view that the teachers who support the usage of first language would perceive it as positive aspect of their teaching, that means they would use first language to facilitate the learning process (cook, 2001).

In this research, the researcher wil only focus on exploring “*students’ perception on the use of Bahasa Indonesia in learning English*” especially at SMKN 3 Kupang. The use of Bahasa Indonesia in this research is limited on the use of Bahasa Indonesia as partial language for learning English in the classroom.

1.2 Research Problem

Based on the background of the study above, there is a question that must be answered in this study: What are the students’ perception on the use of Bahasa Indonesia in learning English?

1.3 Objectives of Study

Going in line with the problem statements above, the researcher wants to find out the students’ perception on the use of Bahasa Indonesia in learning English.

1.4 The Significance of Study

To answer the first objective of this study is to give deeper insight into what students’ perception on the use of Bahasa Indonesia in learning English. This research is expected to provide benefits for teachers, students, and university.

1. For teachers, the researcher hopes the results being expected to help teachers understand students’ preferences in the use of both Bahasa Indonesia as their first language and English as target language.

2. For students, it can be an important thing to improve understanding in classroom activity.
3. For Widya Mandira Catholic University English Education Study Program, the research provides additional archive in English Language Teaching field, so that readers can have access to additional references.