

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher presents seven topics related to this study. It covered the background of the research, research problems, purpose of the study, significant of the research, scope and limitation of the research, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Along with the progress of science and technology in this modern era, it's undeniable that the ability of foreign languages, especially English is extremely important. However there are still many students who have inadequate English skills. In learning English, students should be ready to practice four skills such as listening, reading, writing, and speaking that should be mastered well. Besides, there are many components of linguistics which will help students in mastering English skills, like grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation. One of the important component of linguistics that should be mastered well is vocabulary.

The priority and interest in learning vocabulary have increased since learning vocabulary is very important in language learning. The importance of learning vocabulary is related to the development of students' language skills. Richard and Renandya (2002) believe that vocabulary plays crucial part in one's foreign language learning and language proficiency which will effected how well learner speak, listen, and write. The language skills of the students who have greater vocabulary knowledge are better than those that

lack of vocabulary knowledge. In line with Norbert (2008) vocabulary is one of the important competences in a language. Someone who has limited vocabulary will have difficulties to speak with others. Hermer (2013) also stated that if language structures make up the skeleton of language, then vocabulary provides the vital organs and flesh. In order to improve students' mastery in vocabulary, learning strategies, it means as specific actions by the students to create learning become easier, faster, and more effective. Learning strategies are possible help the learner to learn vocabulary. Learning process is not always within the class, learning are often done everywhere. Students not always face with the teacher to learn vocabulary. Students can learn everywhere and every time. Students' habit in listening to English song is a possibly way to enrich their vocabulary.

Nowadays most people, especially students, prefer to listen to songs because they can be fun entertainment in boring activities. Murphey in Rosova (2007:16) stated, "In our time, it is hard to escape music and song as it occupies ever more of the world around us: in operating theatres, restaurants and cafes, shopping malls (muzak), at sports events, in our cars, and literally everywhere. It would seem that the only place music and song is slow to catch on is in school." The song itself consists of words which express the writer's ideas, feelings, and experiences. Some Indonesian students probably prefer to use their habits in listening to English song to enrich their vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, spelling, etc. that is so familiar with the students' life.

The researcher argue that by listening to English songs, we will get new ideas and also can develop our vocabulary mastery. As stated by Murphey cited in Millington (2011) says that songs can even be useful tools in the learning of vocabulary, sentence structures, and sentence patterns. Moreover, Milillington (2011) argued that songs can provide an opportunity for practicing vocabulary. Cebula (2008) also states that students who participate in learning through songs can freely express themselves easily and get many new words from the song. If the students listen to English song in their daily life, it will be their habitual. Relating to the words or lyrics contain in English songs, the researcher assumes that there is a good correlation between listening to English songs with students' vocabulary mastery.

Some studies have also proven that songs are very helpful way for students in learning new language, especially English. For example is from Siti Mardeliza Dea (2013) entitled "*Correlation Between The Students' Frequency Of Listening To English Song And Their Vocabulary Achievement At The Second Year Of Smpn 3 Bandar Lampung*". The result of the study showed that most of the students who have often listening to English song have good score in vocabulary test too. It conclude that students' frequency of listening English song influence their vocabulary achivement. Second, the study is taken from a journal was conducted by Sari, Nuhung, and Hastini (2013) entitled "*The Correlation between Students' Ability in Listening to the English Songs and Students' Vocabulary*

Mastery". The result of this research showed that r_{xy} was 0.269, df was 18, and r_{table} was 0.468. In other words, $r_{counted}$ was lower than r_{table} . It means that the correlation between students' ability in listening to the English songs and their vocabulary mastery was not significant. Moreover, there was a positive correlation between two variables, since the $r_{counted}$ value was positive. Another study was conducted by Anita Nirmala Sari (2015) entitled "*Correlation Between Students' Interest In Listening English Song And Their Vocabulary Mastery*" researcher has found a significant between the vocabulary mastery and the habit of listening to English songs and speech skills.

In line with the importance of vocabulary that should be mastered by the students and an activity of listening to English songs is assumed to be a good habit to improve the mastery, the writer shares a topic "*A Correlation Of Listening To English Song And Students' Vocabulary Mastery*". This research conducted in SMPN 1 Sumbergempol. The researcher interested in choosing students of junior high school because some teenagers in junior high school students they will like a fun learning activity and many of them, young people in their daily life are familiar with listening to English song.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problem

Based on the background, the researcher formulated the problem as follows:

Is there any significant correlation between students' activity in listening to English songs and their mastery in vocabulary of the second – grade students of SMPN 1 Sumbergempol in the academic year 2019/2020?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The objective of the study can be stated as follows:

To find out whether there is or not any correlation between listening to English songs and students' vocabulary mastery of the second –grade students at SMPN 1 Sumbergempol in the academic year 2019/2020?

1.4 Significance of the Study

It is expected that the result of the study will be useful for the students and teachers. So the researcher hopes the result of the study can be as an input for:

1. English learners

Listening to English song help and motivate students' ability in using English, especially in developing their vocabulary.

2. English teachers

Listening English song in learning can be able to help English teacher to create fun activity in the classroom. Later, the teacher will have a new standard of English learning in order to create language competence generation.

3. The school

This result can be input for knowledge development related to teaching strategy especially as an alternative for fun vocabulary learning.

4. The readers

The result of this study can be used as an academic review about the correlation between listening to English song and students' vocabulary mastery.

1.5 Hypothesis

1. Null Hypothesis (H_0)

$H_0: \rho = 0$ (There is no significant correlation between listening to English song and students' vocabulary mastery).

2. Alternative Hypothesis (H_1)

$H_1: \rho \neq 0$ (There is a significant correlation between listening to English song and students' vocabulary mastery).

1.6 Limitation Of the Study

The researcher limits the problem of this study to two variables, these are the students' activity of listening to English songs and students' vocabulary mastery. The researcher subject is second – grade students of SMPN 1 Sumbergempol.

1.7 Definition of the Key Terms

1. Listening English Song

Habit of Listening English Songs is repetitive action of producing English words and music with their voice, paying attention, and trying to get the meaning of groups of English words contained in the song which is practiced continuously and performed without conformed

unconsciously then becomes a pattern behavior that automatically practiced (Webster's dictionary and Brown and Yule).

2. Vocabulary Mastery

As Thornbury (2002: 16) stated that without grammar very little can be conveyed, without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed. Because vocabulary is a vital aspect in language, it appears in every skill of language listening, speaking, reading and writing skill. Mastering vocabulary is very important for the students who learn English as a foreign language. That is why everybody who learns English or a certain language should know the words. The mastery of vocabulary can support them in speaking when they communicate with people who can write and translate the meaning of words when they definite English. If they do not know the meaning of words, they will not be able to speak, write and translate anything.