

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter discusses the background of the study and the reason why the researcher choose to conduct this topic. In addition, the researcher also explains formulation of research questions, and purpose of the study. The significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study and definition of key terms are also explained in this chapter.

#### **A. Background of the Study**

English is one of international languages which are most widely used in all over the world. English language has become an international language. According to (Richards, 2008) as foreign language learners, we should master speaking skills in English as our priority. It functions as means of communication for many activities among government over the world. In the globalization era, English plays an important role especially in international communication and in the development of education. In today's global world, the importance of English cannot be denied and ignored since English the greatest common language spoken universally (Nishanthi, 2018)

Learning English cannot be separated from learning strategies. According to Kemp (1995), the notion of learning strategy is a learning activity that must be carried out by teachers and students so that learning objectives can be achieved effectively and efficiently. According to Chuin and Kaur (2015), the application of language learning strategies can facilitate language performance due to the fact that learners are involved in an active learning process wherein the use of mental processing is involved with the aim of achieving certain goals, learning strategies or techniques. This is in accordance with Oxford (1990) which suggests that language

learning strategies are certain actions taken by learners that help learners to make learning easier, more exciting, more independent, more successful, and more adaptable to current learning situations. Student achievement is always related to the success of learning strategies. In this context, Chan (2016) has identified that learning outside the classroom promotes better learning performance as well as opportunities to engage in rewarding academics.

Several researchers paid attention to the study of students' language learning strategies. Lee (2016) who is interested in language learning strategies used by learners from different cultural backgrounds studies the development of language learning strategies since the 1970s. He found that many researchers focus on how learners process new information and what types of strategies they use to understand, learn, or remember information in the area of second or foreign language learning. Shi (2017) is interested in learning strategies and classification in education. She found that the right language learning strategies resulted from greater motivation and self-confidence. Strategy instruction can enhance learner self-efficacy and autonomous learning and help learners to take responsibility for their own learning. Teachers need to provide students with access to methodological resources and appropriate learning strategies, modeling strategies, and mentorship to help students make progress and achieve academic success. Supporting factors are factors that facilitate individual behavior or group including skills.

This research is not the first study about learning strategies, but they are differences between this research and the previous researches. This research conducted in Madrasah Aliyah Negeri 3 Blitar. This school have a bilingual program, which is the material that are taught for students more focused into English ability. Not all previous researches explain about learning strategies and how to do with that to reach the top 5 rank at the school. Based on the phenomenon, the researcher wanted to investigate the

learning strategies, and also to know the factor that support the students to reach top 5 rank at MAN 3 Blitar.

## **B. Formulation of Research Questions**

Below, some research questions will be discussed:

1. What is the strategy used by top 5 rank students in learning English at MAN 3 Blitar?
2. What is the supporting factors for top 5 rank students in learning English at MAN 3 Blitar?

## **C. Purpose of the Study**

Based on those problem statements, the objectives of the study are:

1. To find out the strategy used by top 5 rank students in learning English at MAN 3 Blitar
2. To investigate the supporting factors for top 5 rank students in learning English at MAN 3 Blitar.

## **D. Significance of the Study**

The result of this study is expected to provide some significance to the following reasons:

1. Theoretically:

The result of this research is expected to give a contribution in understanding what is the strategies used by students in learning English at MAN 3 Blitar, and what is the supporting factors of the learning English.

2. Practically:

2. Student: The researcher hopes that students can know what learning strategies are suitable for studying and the factors that support the learning process so they can get good grades.
3. Researcher: Researcher hopes that the next researcher can be able to make a new theory in learning strategies and can be a source of knowledge.
4. Teacher: The researcher hopes that can motivate teachers to improve their teaching method and help students improve their learning methods.

**E. Scope and Limitation of the Study**

This study focuses on finding the learning strategies used by the top 5 students in learning English at MAN 3 Blitar and what is the supporting factors of the learning English. This study limits only for students on 11<sup>st</sup> grade of MAN 3 Blitar.

**F. Definition of Key Terms**

Several terms are used throughout this research:

**English:** language is a tool that use to communicate. English is a language set as the international language that use to communicate foreign around the world.

**Strategy:** a plan of action or policy designed to achieve a major or overall aim. In strategy includes planning activities, management, and achievement of goals.

**Learning Strategy:** an effort to use a systematic strategy that is carried out effectively to get an achievement and also success in learning activities. Learning strategies includes approaches, models, methods, and specific learning techniques.

**English Learning Strategy:** a term that refers to processes and actions that language learners consciously use to help them learn or use English effectively.

**Supporting factors:** factor that facilitate individual or group behavior including skills.