

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter will discuss (1) the background of the research, (2) the formulation of the research, (3) the objectives of the research, (4) the significance of the research, (5) the scope and limitation of the research, and (6) the definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Research

In today's life, education is a crucial necessity for every individual. Education is like a map that can determine the direction and is expected to change the way of thinking about many things. Through education, a person can become into a dignified and high-quality human being. Therefore, it can be said that education is necessary for better guidance and direction.

In education, learning activities are an essential component of teaching and learning. According to Puspitarini and Hanif (2019:53) learning is an activity carried out to obtain knowledge, master competencies, and form attitudes. Learning involves two parties: the learner and the teacher. Therefore, learning activities are closely related to the communication interaction between the teacher as the source of the message and the learner as the recipient of the message. Learning activities are certainly carried out with self-awareness by each individual.

During the learning activity, the role of the teacher is an essential part of the process, as the teacher is one of the learning resources for learners to achieve their desired goals. A teacher must master expertise in teaching, guiding, shaping character, and providing knowledge to students in the classroom. In essence, teachers must understand the learning material to be taught as a lesson that can develop student's thinking skills with careful learning planning (Fakhruddin et al., 2023:3423). To achieve an effective learning process, the teacher uses a curriculum as a teaching guide to achieve the desired targets and goals. The usefulness of the curriculum includes being able to designing, implementing, and evaluating programs that have been created.

A curriculum is something that is taught and learned in a school environment. English is an important part of the curriculum for students to master because it is an international language used as a means of communication by almost all countries in the world. Understanding the importance of English has now been realized, especially in Indonesia. Many essential information services use English in this country, and the flow of modern development is part of the impact. The purpose of using English in Indonesia is to make the language a communication tool to build relationships between other countries (Dilago et al., 2022:640). However, the obstacle that occurs is that Indonesia does not use the language in daily communication; they use Indonesia as their mother tongue, while English is

used as a foreign language or their second language. Thus, many consider English to be one of the languages that is quite difficult to master.

In this regard, there has been progress in improving the quality of education for students. Consequently, there have also been many innovations in learning material made by related parties. The selection of learning materials that have been systematically formulated and adjusted to the learning needs of students supports the goals to be achieved. An example is the selection of engaging learning materials, such as English learning materials using song lyrics.

Song lyrics are part of literary works of art that contain the imaginative expression or opinion of the poet. Song lyrics are part of language learning, involving vocal processing, language style, and word meaning. Using song lyrics, especially in the pop song genre, can help connect learners' interest and motivation. The song "Cicle of Life" can encourage and relax daily. It can be seen on the page 89 song lyrics in English learning can help learners understand the meaning of words, enrich synonyms and antonyms, know the poet's feelings, learn the correct pronunciation, and understand the songs structure.

The use of song lyrics has been widely adopted as discussion material in English language learning. Based on the findings of Pavia, Webb, and Faez cited in Permana (2020:3) stated that songs are beneficial for language learners in increasing vocabulary acquisition, imitating word pronunciation, and helping to recognize the meaning and influence of the target language.

These learning materials meet the needs of students learning English, fostering a relaxed learning environment likely to occur during language association, assimilation, and phonological development (Pangaribuan, 2023:9).

Furthermore, there are three aspects that cover student learning development, including cognitive, affective, and psychomotor aspects. Lismay and Zubaidah (2019:47) stated that in cognitive terms, songs can help enhance understanding of language patterns by mastering linguistic competencies such as mastery of vocabulary, understanding of writing procedures, and pronunciation of English like native speakers. In the affective role, songs are helpful in creating a comfortable atmosphere for learning activities. Meanwhile, from a psychomotor point of view, songs help stimulate students' cognitive abilities to hone their speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. Thus, it can be concluded that song lyrics have potential in the student's learning process, especially in English speaking skills.

Speaking skills are the first skills acquired by humans. However, the English language in Indonesia is not a few of them that have been able to be fully mastered. Several factors becomees in improving English speaking skills, lack of self-confidence, tendency towards their mother tongue, lack of vocabulary, and lack of routine practice. As from the findings of Kayaoglu and Saglanel (2013:149) describe speech difficulties initially lack of mastery of linguistics (vocabulary, pronunciation, and grammar),

fear of making mistakes, lack of finding information, and the role of the teacher. It can lead to difficulties in students mastering linguistic competence and psychological traits (Suparlan, 2021:161).

There were several previous on using song lyrics as part of learning English have been conducted by several researchers. The first research was conducted by Yulyanti et al. (2019), entitled “The Influence Of English Songs as Learning Materials Towards The Students’ Pronunciation”. Researchers studied the effect of English songs as an alternative to their learning materials to improve pronunciation skills in tenth-grade students at SMAN 1 Ciasem. The second research was conducted by Pangaribuan (2023) entitled “Student’s Perception of Song as Media in Learning EFL”. The researcher studied the perceptions of students at St. Thomas 2 Medan High School regarding the use of songs as their learning media. This research focused on vocabulary, listening, pronunciation, and speaking. The third research conducted by Dilago et al. (2022) entitled “Student’s Perceptions of Using Song Lyrics as A Media to Improve Vocabulary Mastery.” Researchers studied the perceptions of eighth-grade students at Junior High School 4 Medan towards using song lyrics as a media. The fourth study was conducted by Nazri and Aziz (2021) entitled “The Effectiveness of Using Song Teaching Subject-Verb-Agreement Among Year 6 Pupils”. This research focuses on the use of songs to recognize parts of speech in 6 year old students. The fifth study was conducted by Pandey et al. (2022) entitled “Students’ Perception Toward the Use of English Song

for Speaking Skill”. This study focuses on the use of songs as a medium for learning speaking of students at SMAN 1 Tomohon. The sixth study researched by Amroini et al. (2023) entitled “Students Perception on Vocabulary Mastery through Song Lyric Gap Fill”. This study focuses on the use of gap fill by using song lyrics to improve students’ vocabulary at SMP Muhammadiyah 09 Watukebo.

Then, the seventh was researched by Apriani et al. (2022) entitled “Students’ Perception on Learning English through Songs to Enhance Students’ Speaking Ability”. This study focuses on improving student speaking by using songs in grade 10 of SMK Veteran. The eighth study researched by Yuhariah and Syafryadin (2023) entitled “Students’ Perception of the Use of Youtube Song Lyrics in Constructing English Language Teaching Activities: An Teacher-Student Interaction”. This research focuses on the English language skills at SMA 7 Kota Bengkulu using song lyrics on Youtube. The ninth study researched by Lestari (2020) entitled “Student’s Perception of English Learning by Using Rap Music Media”. This research focuses on English language skills by using rap songs as learning media in private elementary school.

The differences between the nine previous studies lie in the research location, the focus of the discussion, and the type of song used. Researcher surveyed nine grade at MTsN 2 Kota Blitar where song lyrics were incorporated into English lessons. This study examined students’ perceptions of pop song lyrics entitled “Circle of Life” as learning material

and was conducted to determine the extent of students' speaking skills when learning English using song lyrics.

Based on the discussion that has been stated, the researcher is interested in concluding further research with the title "Student's Perceptions on the Use of Song Lyrics as Material to Facilitate English Speaking Learning at MTsN 2 Kota Blitar".

B. Formulation of the Research

Based on the background above, the researcher formulated the problem in this study as "How are the students' perceptions on the use of song lyrics as material to facilitate English speaking learning?".

C. Objective of the Research

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the objectives of this study are to find out the students' perceptions on the use of song lyrics as material to facilitate English speaking learning.

D. Significance of the Research

It is hoped that this research will have both theoretical and practical benefits:

1. Theoretical Significance

The results of this study are expected to add knowledge and insight into the effectiveness of using song lyrics as a tool for learning English.

2. Practical Significance

a. For the teachers

This research can be used as a reference for implementing English speaking learning.

b. For the students

It is expected to increase learning creativity in managing the use of song lyrics to learn English and provide motivation to learn in different ways.

c. For the Other Researchers

Used as an alternative material for researchers to be used as a reference in including further research and providing scientific benefits.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Research

In this section, to avoid misunderstandings and problems, researchers explains in detail the scope and limitations of the research. The scope of the study is to identify and describe students' perceptions on the use of song lyrics as English learning material. The subject of this research is conducted only on students who get song lyrics learning materials. The object of this research is students' understanding of learning to speak English using song lyrics.

The study's limitations were only conducted in two representative classes in grade nine, including classes IX-C and IX-G with a total number of participants of 64 students. This research focuses on students' speaking skills at MTsN 2 Kota Blitar.

F. Definition of Key terms

To avoid readers misunderstanding regarding the definition of key terms contained in the title of this research, the researcher explains some of the terms used in this study as follows:

1. Student's Perception

Students' perception is the process of thinking about an event that has occurred. The process gives rise to personal opinions about various things that can be used to select and interpret information about an object that will affect their behavior.

2. Song Lyrics

Song lyrics are a series of words accompanied by a tone. Song lyrics are part of linguistics that can be used as learning materials for students to learn how to speak English.

3. Learning Materials

This material is used as a means of conveying information to the teacher when the learning process takes place. Learning materials contain knowledge, skills, and attitudes that each learner must master to fulfill the established competency standards.