

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents Background of The Research, Statement of The Problem, Objective of The Research, Significance of The Research, Scope of The Research, and Operational of Definition.

#### 1.1 Background of the research

Language is one of the most important things in this world. Humans cannot live without language, because as social beings, humans need to communicate with each other and language makes communication easier. One of the languages most widely used throughout the world is English. Since English has become an international language, more and more people learn English. The importance of English as a world language has made people to learn English as early as possible.

In Indonesia, English is regarded as a favourite foreign language due to the increasing of English language use in offices and daily life. People believe that someone with English proficiency will get a higher income and better job than those who are not. That is only one of reasons why English is regarded as a first foreign language taught in educational institutions. English is taught from the elementary schools, junior high schools, senior high school, and Universities.

English as a universal language is very needed by students nowadays which makes meeting difficulties in learning it becomes a problem. The habit that the students used to do or have in schools is usually just applied when they are in school. In another word, they tend to forget or do not practice English at home, unless their family speak it. This happens not only in kindergartens or playgroups, but also elementary, secondary, even high schools. No matter how long people study or learn English, it would still be very difficult for them to learn and improve since they do not practice it outside the school. Hence, learning in classroom only is obviously not enough to learn and practice since English vocabulary is pretty rich and takes time to learn and remember.

In this new global era, people get used to something that they see daily or do everyday easily. A song is something that cannot be denied to be involved in

everyone's daily life. Songs can be listened to and heard anywhere. Moreover, there are a lot of students have the habit of listening to songs. Listening to song lyrics for multiple times might enrich students' vocabulary and knowledge. They listen to songs everyday and everywhere, even when they are not at home, for example, in the malls, park, cinemas, streets, etc. The lyrics repetition in songs might help students memorise the structure of a sentence in a correct way. Sidartawan (2019) found that students' memorising song lyrics is less difficult and faster than learning vocabulary from a book. This might happen because listening to songs are more fun, less intense and boring compared to reading a book. Students could sing or say the lyrics of a song spontaneously correctly anytime. While listening to any popular songs, which are rich of a lot of vocabulary, students might hear a lot of new words which they do not even understand or heard before. One who really likes some particular song will search the meaning of these new words. This way it will enrich their vocabulary knowledge easier and faster.

According to the researcher's personal experience, listening to English songs provides the listeners a lot of new words which she could use on her own sentences. Same thing applied to her friends, the researcher admits that those who the researcher know listen to songs have a better vocabulary enrichment. This experience becomes another reason why the researcher is triggered to observe the students perceptions. Hence, in this research, the researcher tries to get the students' perceptions about English song for vocabulary enrichment.

## **1.2 Statement of the problem**

Based on the background of the research above, the writer determines the statements of the problem as follows:

1. What are the students' perceptions about English song for vocabulary enrichment?
2. What are students' perceptions on the role of English songs to their understanding of vocabulary meaning?

### **1.3 Objective of the research**

Based on the statement of the research above, the writer determines the objectives of this research are:

1. To find out the students' perception about English song for vocabulary enrichment.
2. To find out the students' perception on the role of English songs to their understanding of vocabulary meaning.

### **1.4 Significance of the research**

The significance of this study is classified into:

#### **1. The Students**

The researcher hopes that this research encourages the students to use English songs as one of the ways to enrich their vocabulary.

#### **2. The Lecturers**

The researcher hopes that the perceptions of the students is expected to give teachers ideas to use popular English songs as one the techniques to teach vocabulary in the classroom.

#### **3. The other researchers**

This research is expected to be useful as a contribution and reference to conduct other researchers dealing with a similar problem.

### **1.5 Scope of the Research**

The research took place at Universitas Muria Kudus, particularly in English Education Department from March 2021. This research emphasized on the students' perceptions about English song for vocabulary enrichment.

The research involved a questionnaire and several individual interviews to some students. The questionnaire was given to the fourth semester students of A class and around 25% of the participants were interviewed privately. This way the researcher is able to assume perceptions clearly. A limitation was made for the fourth semester students of English Education Department of Universitas Muria Kudus because they had vocabulary and listening classes when

they were on the first and second semester. Therefore, the students of A class are the only participants in this study which involve 31 students.

### **1.6 Operational definition**

This research has some key terms which are briefly explained in order to avoid misunderstanding in their meaning.

#### **1. Perception**

Perception is the way people perceive and interpret information based on their sensual experiences.

#### **2. Vocabulary**

Vocabulary means a set of words that plays a very important role that learners needs to learn in order to master English well.

#### **3. English Song**

What the researcher means by English song is songs which have the genre of pop music and are often to be listened by the students.

#### **4. The Fourth-semester Students of English Education Department 2020/2021**

The fourth-semester students of English Education Department 2020/2021 are the students who involved in this research. They are from EED A class.