

I. INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the following points: introduction that deals with background of the problem; identification of the problems; limitation of the problems; formulation of the problems; objectives of the research; uses of the research; scope of the research; and definition of terms.

1.1. Background of the Problem

Nowadays students of SMA level have to master English both as productive skill and as receptive skill appropriate to their level. The productive skills are speaking and writing and receptive skills are listening and reading. Since sound comes first to our brain listening becomes the primary part of mastering the language. Actually listening should have an important place in teaching-learning English in SMA because it is impossible for the people to speak without listening first.

Listening becomes a complex skill because it is an invisible mental process, making it difficult to describe. Listeners must be able to discriminate between sounds, understand vocabulary and grammatical structures, interpret stress and intonation, and retain the information from spoken language. In addition, they must be able to infer the sentences as utterances in larger socio-cultural context in order to find meaning of what others say. Because listening has unique role in

learning of foreign language, it is better to learn in order to reach the goal of learning.

Based on the researcher's experience in teaching practice (PPL) at SMAN 2 Bandar Lampung, it was found that the student's score in listening section is quite satisfactory, except for the lower ability students. Those lower ability students are struggling in comprehending oral text because they are not accustomed to listening to spoken English because their vocabulary mastery is low.

However, the researchers' experience in teaching English using Language Laboratory in SMAN 7 Bandar Lampung in the last three months shows that the students' average in listening score is still below the criteria. It can be reported that the students listening test score is only 55.64%. From 30 items, there were only about 17 questions that could be answered correctly.

Even though the study is not conducted at the same school, there is a possibility that this also happens in SMAN 9 Bandar Lampung. Even though that school has higher level of English score than SMAN 7 Bandar Lampung. In addition, based on the result of pre interview with one of the English teacher of SMAN 9, it was found out that:

1. The students still lack of vocabulary mastery.
2. The students get difficulty to determine the main idea.
3. Students' lack of interest in listening class.

However, the teachers also said that English song usually attracts students' eagerness to listen; they can get new vocabulary from the songs that make them curious to find the meaning. It helps them to get the idea.

It is generally known that teenagers mostly have special interest in listening to English songs. When the researcher taught conditional sentence type II through song, the students were very interested in learning. The facts are in line with Doren (1980: 220) who stated that song is short musical work set to a poetic text with equal importance given to the musical and in the words. It may be written for one or several voices and it is generally performed with instrumental accompaniment. Songs can also motivate a positive emotional influence on listener.

It is noticed that students often recite the words of the song while singing it; it makes the students unconsciously understand the content of the songs. It eventually developed their active understanding of the songs. It makes students' ears accustomed to listening to either English song or dialogue or monologue.

When students listen to songs, the affective element of interest comes to play, and in this case is listening to English songs. Song represent feelings or psychological condition for young students, it can comfort the mind and gives spirit. From that action it is good to improve student's interest to know the language better, and sooner they might want to know the meaning of their favorite song which simultaneously increase their second language mastery. From the description above, it can be seen that interest is one of important internal factors that influences learning achievement. Interest is an effective domain in learning process that affects psychomotor and cognitive domain. Students who have

interest and positive attitude toward subject matter may enjoy the learning process.

Considering the statement the writer would find out whether their interest in listening to English song could affect their listening score, in other words would they get good scores if they have interest in listening to English song?

According to Bramasto (2006), students' listening frequency of English songs correlates to their listening ability. He states that listening to English songs has a correlation with listening comprehension, as there is tendency that when the students' frequency in listening to English song is higher, their listening score is also higher. In addition Ernawati (2004) has conducted a research about teaching learning process by using games and songs. The result of her research shows that teaching English using songs is effective to teach listening for elementary school students. Utari (2008) in her research also states that students' interest correlates with students' reading achievement, it indicates that interest and reading achievement interrelates and cannot be separated.

The previous research dealt with students' listening frequency in listening to English songs, meanwhile the present study concern with the correlation between student's interest in listening to English song and their achievement in listening section. The research has been conducted in SMAN 9 Bandar Lampung because this school is listed as a school with bilingual program. So far, no research on students' interest in English songs and their achievement in listening has been carried out in this school.

Therefore, the title of this research is formulated as:

“Correlation between Students’ Interest in listening to English Songs and Their Achievement in Listening at the First Year of SMAN 9 Bandar Lampung.”

1.2. Identification of the Problems

Based on the background of the problems above, the following problems are identified:

1. Students have difficulties in comprehending listening test.
2. Lack of student’s interest when they are having listening test
3. Student’s score in listening section is still unsatisfactory.
4. Students lack of vocabulary knowledge.
5. Students’ low motivation makes it difficult for them to improve their skill.
6. Listening section that has been rarely implemented in teaching learning process.
7. Lack of using English song as one of the media to trigger student’s attention to learn the language.
8. Lack of teacher’s source of English songs make the students are not eager to listen.

1.3. Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problems above, the focus of the research is students’ interest in listening to English song. So the researcher wants to determine whether student’s interest in listening to English songs correlates with their listening achievement.

1.4. Formulation of the Problem

In reference to the limitation of problems above, the researcher formulates the question as follows:

Is there any correlation between students' interest in listening to English songs and their achievement in listening section?

1.5. Objective of the Research

In line with the formulation the problems, the objective of this research is to find out whether there is any correlation between students' interest in listening to English song and their achievement in listening section.

1.6. Uses of the Research

The findings of the research may be beneficial both theoretically and practically, the uses of this research are:

1. To be used as the information to both English teacher and students about the importance of students' interest in their learning process.
2. To inform the teacher that there is correlation between students interest in listening to English songs and their listening achievement.

1.7. Scope of the Research

This descriptive quantitative co-relation research has been conducted to find out how is the listening ability of the students of class X.9 of SMAN 9 Bandar Lampung. The subject is class X.9 and the try out class is class X.6 taken randomly from the same level. The research focuses on the students' interest in listening to English songs and their achievement in listening. The achievements were derived based on listening test and a set of questionnaire that was given to crosscheck students' interest in listening to English songs.

1.8. Definition of Term

Correlation

Correlation is statistical description for determining relationship between two variables.

Interest

Interest is permanent incline of the subject for feeling attracted to certain field (Winkel, 1984:30).

Listening

Listening is an active process of deciphering and constructing meaning from verbal messages and comprehending the general idea of the utterances heard by listener.

Song

Song is short musical work set to a poetic text with equal importance given to the music and the words (Doren, 1980: 220).