

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

All of the human beings in this world use languages as their communication tool. They use their mother tongue or other language that they have by learning when they come to another place or in a new school to communicate with another people with different language. A language is divided in two parts: they are oral language and sign language.

In this era, there are many people from different countries use English as their international communication language. So, this language spreads to many countries, including Indonesia. The people in this country also use English as a foreign language. In another country such as Singapore, people use English as the second language.

If a person knows many languages and he or she learns it, it can make this person easily to communicate with another people from different places. Actually, Indonesia has many languages to be known as an Indonesian people. However, when a person from a big city such as a Javanese comes to South Kalimantan, this Javanese has to speak Indonesian language as a national language.

When a person wants to go abroad wherever this person goes, she/he needs English as his/her communication language with another people from another country. It is English is one of the international languages that is used by many

people from different countries. In addition, many tools use English, such as application in mobiles, cars, motorcycles, and computers.

In Indonesia, there are many media using English mixed with Indonesia language, such as in the newspaper and magazine. As a human being, people need English to know better about many things that they want to know more. Also, there are many references from English about science.

Allah SWT said in the Holy Qur'an Ar-Rum on the verse 22 said about this case:

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ خَلْقُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاخْتِلَافُ أَلْسِنَتِكُمْ وَأَلْوَانِكُمْ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّلْعَالَمِينَ

Also our prophet ever said about this case in his *hadith*:

أَطْلُبُوا الْعِلْمَ وَلَوْ بِالصِّينِ، فَإِنَّ طَلَبَ الْعِلْمِ فَرِيضَةٌ عَلَى كُلِّ مُسْلِمٍ

From this verse and *hadith* from our Prophet, we can think that our Prophet wanted us to know and learn many languages from different places to make us easier to communicate with each other and learn a new science from them. If a person from another place comes to China and he or she does not know about Chinese language, how can he or she communicates with Chinese people, at less he or she has to know English.

In Indonesia, there are some people think that English is unbeliever language. Because of that, there are many children hate English like their parents. Parents told them that it is unnecessary to know and learn English for them. They said to their children that they just needed to learn Arabic language, because it is

heaven's language. And also, still there are many religious men said as same as parents said to the children about this case. The writer found this case from some of the students' parents and also heard directly from Madurese students at Al-Istiqamah Banjarmasin. In Islam actually, the first or the highest language is Arabic language because it is Al-Qur'an' language. We have to know about Arabic language to know the meaning or the interpretation of an ayah in Al-Qur'an.

There is no prohibition in Islam to know and learn another language from other countries. Our Prophet proved from his traditional collection that learning languages are needed when they need to go abroad to learn a new science from other countries.

In this case, the writer tries to analyze the difficulty of students in Junior High School in learning English as their foreign language in the Islamic Boarding School according to their ethnicity. Abdurrahman (2003: 06) said that the difficulty in learning is an annoyance in one or more from basic psychology processes that include understanding and using oral or written language. There is also another definition from The National Joint Committee for Learning Dissabilites (NJCLD) in Abdurrahman (2003: 07). He said that the difficulty in learning points to a group of difficulties that are defined in real difficulty type in the skill and ability using listening, speaking, reading, writing, essay, or skill in language learning.

According to Slameto (2003: 54), the factors that influence the difficulty in learning are two kinds; they are internal and external factors.

1. Internal factor

Internal factor is a factor from the inside that influences on learning. Internal factor is divided in to three factors, they are:

- Physic, which has health and defect factor.
- Psychology, which has intelligence, attention, interest, skill, motif, ripeness, and readiness factor.
- Tiredness, which has physical and spiritual tiredness factor.

2. External factor

External factor is a factor that comes from the outside, this factor is grouped in three factors, and they are:

- Family and relative, include the way they educate, relation between them, home atmosphere, economic family condition, parents' understanding, and background culture.
- School, include teaching method, curriculum, relation between teachers and students, relation between student and student, school discipline, learning tools, time, learning standard, building condition, learning method, and homework.
- Society, include students' activity in their area, mass-media, friends, and the style of the society.

From the explanation above, the writer wants to know about the difficulty in learning English according to the students' culture that may make them feel uncomfortable about learning English. They come from Madura Island or East Java that stay in Banjarmasin city and study at Al-Istiqamah Islamic Boarding School, because most of the students over there are from Madura.

Mahfudz (2012) said that, Madurese is one of the ethnic that they are still adhering strictly to their religion. This ethnic is also still obedient to their religious leader. They will follow whatever the leader said to them because a religious man is more important for them and it is one of the Madurese trade mark. (Taufiqurrahman: 2012)

So, the title of this research is: **STUDENTS' PROBLEMS IN LEARNING ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE (A CASE STUDY OF MADURESE STUDENTS IN LEARNING ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE OF THE 8th GRADERS OF MTS AL-ISTIQAMAH BANJARMASIN)**

To avoid misinterpretation toward the title, the writer needs to explain some terms from the title as follows:

1. Case Study is an empirical inquiry that investigates a contemporary phenomenon in depth and within its real-life context, especially when the boundaries between phenomenon and context are not clearly evident (Yin, 2009: 18).

2. Madurese students are students that are native or inhabitant of the island of Madura. In this title, they study in the eighth grade at Al-istiqamah Islamic Boarding School in Banjarmasin.
3. Foreign language is a language indigenous to another country. It is also a language not spoken in the native country of the person referred to, such as an English speaker living in Japan can say that Japanese is a foreign language to him or her.

Therefore, the title meaning is analyzing the phenomenon of Madurese students in depth that have some problems in learning English as a foreign language in the eighth grade at Al-istiqamah Islamic Boarding School in Banjarmasin.

B. Problems Formulation

According to the problems that the writer finds in Al-Istiqamah Islamic Boarding School, the problems in this study are:

1. What problems do Madurese students have in learning English at the eighth grade in Al-istiqamah Islamic Boarding School in the academic year 2013-2014?

C. Limitation of the Research

In this study, the writer focuses only about the students' problems in learning English from Madurese at Junior High School. The writer limits this study only for eighth grade of Al-Istiqamah Islamic Boarding School in Banjarmasin in the academic year 2013-2014. So, the result of this study

specifically is only for MTs Al-Istiqamah Islamic Boarding School and just for the students from Madura in the academic year 2013-2014.

D. Reasons for Choosing the Title

English is a needed language in Indonesian Country, so this language is taught to the students from elementary school until university. Also, there are many media in Indonesia use this language, such as advertisement, magazine, and so on. But, there are some people think that learning English is unuseful for life. The writer finds this assumption from Madurese students that feel learning English is as same as learning an infidel language. Because of this case, the writer thinks that it is important to analyze the students' problems in learning English from Madura at eighth grade of Al-Istiqamah Boarding School.

E. Research Purposes

According to the problem formulation above, the purposes of this research are:

1. To find out the students' problems in learning English from Madura at eighth grade of Al-Istiqamah Boarding School in the academic year 2013-2014

F. Significance of Study

The results of this research are supposed to give significance as follows:

1. Giving a description about the students' problems in learning English makes them better in learning English.
2. Giving a reference to develop teaching learning process especially in English subject.
3. Giving an input to the students about learning English and the important of English in the future.
4. Giving a profitable description to any further researcher which wants to study the same case, so this study becomes a helpful information and useful reference for the next study.

G. Organization of this Writing

This research consists of five chapters; they are systematically arranged by the writer as follows:

The first chapter contains introduction. It consists of rationale, problem formulation, limitation of the writing, reason for choosing the title, research purposes, research significance, and organization of writing.

The second chapter contains of theoretical review on related field, which consists of the definition of English learning problems, Factors in learning problems, how to solve the problems.

The third chapter contains method of research; which consist of subject and object of the research, data and source of data, data collection

Procedure, data processing and data analysis procedure, design measurement, and research procedure.

The fourth chapter contains report of research that includes general description of research location, data presentation, and data analysis.

The fifth chapter contains closure that consists of conclusion and suggestions based on the result of the research.