

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is a bridge that is used as a connector between people to communicate well. This is the way how people can understand one another. There are many languages in this world spoken by people. By the language spoken, it shows from where he or she comes from.

One of the languages spoken in this world is English. As we know English plays an important role throughout the world. English is the international language that has been approved to be used internationally. As the status, this language is an international language, which helps people to communicate and interact when their job insist them to deal with others that come from another countries.

English is a foreign language that is used by many people in Indonesia. In order to communicate well using English, Indonesian people should know how to use English accurately. Since this language is not frequently spoken in this country, this makes Indonesian people think that English is not an important language to be learned.

However based on the statement before, they will think differently because globalization is in the air nowadays. Indonesian people should learn this language properly and accurately, so that they will not be tricked in this era that many foreigners can come to work here.

Foreigners could come here in Indonesia to run a bussines, build schools, find a job, or do other things in our country. This kind of situation makes not only adults who must face it, but students also have to learn even harder in their era of facing the globalization.

Globalization is in the air nowadays, that is why we need to learn English to compete with others. Indonesia has to be ready to face this globalization. Improving human resources by mastering English is one of the requirements that should be improved.

As we know, Indonesia has many languages which are spoken by the people. Every provinces or even cities have their own language to be spoken daily. This makes Indonesian needs to use their effort to learn English because some of them think that it will be strange and hard to speak English with someone from the same place that usually they use their own language as their tool to communicate.

By this time, Indonesian students have to struggle really hard starting as soon as possible learning this language. Students should learn English as their basic to run an international bussiness. However, English is not only useful for those who want to run a bussiness, but it is also useful for every students to do what they are interested in for living later so that later on, they will not be tricked by other people from other countries.

In junior and senior high school level, English is given as one of the compulsory subjects. It is because English is one of the subject that is tested in the national exam. From this, we can see that English is a really important language that should be learnt.

It is not only in 12 years of school starting from elementary level up to senior high level, but university level also has English as one of the subject in every department. This shows how English is a very important language that should be learnt.

However, based on the reality has been stated by the writer in the paragraph before that students get English up to university level, many of them still cannot speak English or even knowing the theory. They are given this from early of their study, but they only how to use it properly inside or outside the classroom activities.

There is a quote saying, "Practice makes perfect". Based on this quote, the writer believes that when people learn something, but when the following time they do not use it, it will easily forgotten. It's same when they're learning English. Some of them who know English, but rarely use it, they're easy to forget the way how they pronounce it. Learning language is not only for once, but they have to repeat it for over and over again.

It is like children when they learn eating using a spoon. First, their mom teaches them how to use it. However, later when they are eating, they do not need to use spoon for several time, they later need to be taught again to use this kind of tool. Mom should make them use it eventually and gradually they are able to use it accurately.

Language is not an easy tool to be used. People need to learn it and then practice it. Theory will only help as a guide when they use it, but practice makes them perfect. However, every people practice it differently from one another. It is based on their behavior.

People's habits is different from one to another. There are those who like to repeat it again and again, but some need to be pushed by another person first before they repeat it. There is also a condition where people find an interested thing out there that make them think that they need to learn it more often, but there is also a time when they do not want to learn at all. Those are all habitual that is different from one person to another one.

In a school with many classes and students, there will be a vary of learning habits. There are students who like English, but there are also those who think that English is a difficult language to be learned. There are also students who like to spend their time learning English, but there are also those who think that learning English is wasting time. By these kind of case, the writer curiosity appeared to do this kind of study.

The writer picked this private senior high school because this school is the place where the writer had done her teaching practice. The reason for choosing the tenth grader is because tenth graders learn both science and social subjects. If the writer use the other two grades, this study's aspect should be added one aspect; whether they are students of Science or Social class. This why the writer's choice tend to examine the tenth graders of a private senior high school students.

For the reason why the writer choose student's learning habits is because through learning we can easily find whether students understand about what they have learned or not. When students' learning is not scheduled well or they just learn when they have a good mood in learning something, they easily forget it. However, those who have a good learning schedule understand more than those who are not. It is because they learn regularly, so when they still do not

understand about something they have time to browse or learn it more than those whose learning time is not well scheduled.

That's why this study is conducted; to know not only how this country's next generation's ability of the use of this international language, but also how their learning habits drives them to use this tool, English, accurately.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the title of this thesis and the background of the study, a research question is formulated as follows. This study attempted to answer this question: How is the learning habits of the tenth graders of a private senior high school in Surabaya?

1.3 Objective of the Study

In line with the research question above, this study aims at finding out the learning habits of the tenth graders of a private senior high school in Surabaya.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study highly expected to give a useful information about the students' learning habits of a private senior high school students related to the English as one of their subjects that this subject will be tested in the national exam. Using this study, this would help English teacher in this school about how to handle students when the students look not too interested in this study. This would make the teaching process is more accurately and easily understood by students when the teachers know how their behavior that later can impact the succesful of the teaching – learning itself.

1.5 Assumption

This study was conducted under the following assumption:

First, it is assume that each individual learner has his/her own learning habit.

Second it is assume that learning habit can be observed and investigated.

1.6 Theoretical Framework

This study figured out the learning habits the tenth graders of a private school in learning English by knowing the types underlies the learning habits themselves. The theories which were about the learning habits, specifically about the types of learning habits that are based on 3 scientists; E. L. Thorndike – 1913, Ivan Pavlov – 1927, and B. F. Skinner – 1953.

1.7 Scope and Limitation

A private senior high school's students were the subject of this study. The subject limited only in the first year (tenth graders) of this private senior high school students.

The study was about finding out the learning habits of the tenth graders of a private school students in Surabaya. Here in this study, the writer limited of the learning habits in the teaching - learning English as one of the subjects in this school.

1.8 The Deffinition of the Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding, some key terms used in this study are defined as follows:

Learning Habit : It refers to the activity regularly done by a learners while studying.

Instrumental Conditioning : It is a condition in learning process where the students need the problem-solving method to complete by giving them reinforcement.

Classical Conditioning : It is a situation in which the learning process need to be stimulated.

Operant Conditioning : There should be a reinforcement as factor to make learners study.

1.9 Organization of the Thesis

This study was constructed into five chapters. Chapter 1 dealt with the background of this study, the statement of the problem, objective of the study, significants of the study, the assumption, theoritical framework, the scope and limitation, deffinition of the key terms, and the organization of the thesis. Chapter 2 included the review of the related literature of the study. In chapter 3, research design, research data, respondent, intrument of the study, procedures of data collection, data analysis technique. Chapter 4 presented the results and the discussion of the study. Last, chapter 5 the writer provided the conclusion and suggestion of the study.