

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses about the background of the study, statement of the problems, objectives of the study, significant of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and definition of key term.

1.1 Background of study

English in Indonesia has important role, which it causes most of people in Indonesia have eagerness to learn more about English, both formal and informal education. Childhood is a good period to learn language, especially English. Children in the age of two until six years old are mushroom growth to learn language (Hurlock and Mar'at in Yudhawati, 2013).

English is importantly learn early, earlier children learn English, so easier to learn it, because the age of 0-8 years old is the golden age, where in this period the power understanding of the brain will be maximal. It is supported by Hurloch and Mar'at in Yudhawati, (2013) they explain that age before entering primary education is the golden age and is critical period in a stage of human life, which will determine the development of children in the future. The most sensitive period toward language in the person's life is between 0-8 years old. English is categorized as memorizing subject, where most vocabulary they have, so they will be fluent in English, because language cannot be separated from learning vocabulary. The earlier children learn English, the easier they understand it, as the statement from Erik in Nurfauziah. L, (2013) explain that before puberty

children's memorizing is stronger, so that the children will be easier to learn the language, and it will be less for growing adult.

As result in Indonesia, many schools have included English in the curriculum. English becomes popular subject to be studied. Therefore in Indonesia many schools used English as instructional language in teaching learning process. When a school uses another language as well as their native language as an instructional language in its teaching learning process, it could be said that the school conducted bilingual education. Not all of kindergarten used the other language can called bilingual school, but here in bilingual program there are some criteria; having clear school goals, having safe school climate, integrating bilingual program to school community, providing leadership and support for bilingual program, quality personnel, having good relationship with parents and communities of the students, quality of the curriculum, and instruction. Brisk and Proctor, (2008).

In this case parents has play important role in the learning process of their children, where parents set all of their children's activities. As Spring *In Early Learning For Every Child Today a Framework for Ontario Early Childhood setting*, (2007:6) explain that parents and family have big influence on children's early learning, because the first children education start from what they learn from their parents. They are their first children's teacher and will affect their education in the future. Parents have great responsibility to choose, and provide for their child's education. Sclafani in Gratz, (2006) in her research explains that parents must provide a warm atmosphere; supporting home environment that support child's exploration. It will greatly increase the chance of having an

academically successful child. It means that parents must prepare all of the elements that support student's academic success. Choosing right education for early childhood education is important for parents, because it is the fundamental that will influence child future. As Fasina, F in her research *The Role of Parents in Early Childhood Education: A Case Study of Ikeja, Lagos State, Nigeri*, (2011) point out that "A great many educators and researchers view early childhood education as beneficial to children's cognitive and social development". In this case parents must choose the right school that is appropriate with their child's need.

At the present, bilingual kindergarten is not only in big city, but also in the rural area. There are so many differences between parents who live in the city and parents who live in the village, those are; parents' education background and economy background. Usually parents who live in the city have gone beyond a high school education and the majority they are from high income economy. They will take big attention to select a school for their child. They spend their time to involve their child's learning process. Compare with the parents who live in the village that has less educational background and they are from low income economy. They do not care about the quality of the school. They just select school that has low payment, because they do not know what their children need in the future. They just spend their time to make money and they often have to work longer hours to earn their small salaries. In this case the researcher found, there are some parents who live in the village choose to send their children in bilingual kindergarten than in regular kindergarten. They have low educational background, and they work as farmer, craft people of sarong, and fish farmer. From this case

the researcher interested to examine the parents' perception toward English bilingual kindergarten at rural area, which all of their daily life use Javanese or Indonesia. May be the result will be different with the other research, because most of studies of bilingual kindergarten have done in the city; as Shang, F. H, Ingebritson, R and Tseng, C. L (2006) in *Taiwanese Parental Perception toward English Learning in Bilingual Kindergarten*, the result of the study is most of parents' perception to prepare the child to have better future. Similar research have been done in the city area by Rengganis, (2012) about *Parental Perception toward Bilingual English Learning for Kindergarteners in Gresik*, in this study the result is same that parents send their children to learn English in bilingual kindergarten to make their children have better in the future. Based on the explanation above the researcher wants to make differences, so the researcher is interested in this research, how is parents' perception toward English bilingual kindergarten at rural area and automatically as the consequence, parents have train their child in order to increase or improve their child's ability in English.

1.2 Statement of the problems

Based on the problem statement that has explained above, the researcher can formulates the research questions:

1. How is parents' perception toward English in bilingual kindergarten at rural area?
2. How is the way they train their child in order to improve their child's English ability?

1.3 Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study was to investigate parents' perception toward English bilingual kindergarten at rural area in Cerme, and to investigate the parents' way to develop and train their children in order to improve their English ability.

1.4 Significant of the study

The study can contribute as literacy source to give brief information about parents' perception toward English bilingual kindergarten at rural area and parent's way to train their children and the result of this study also hope to be able to use as the reference by the other researcher who wants to continuo or conduct a similar research.

The researcher hopes that the teachers and school could increase their school quality and could choose appropriate material and way to teach students for bilingual kindergarten on English teaching learning process. While for the parents, the researcher hopes that the result of this study can be used as reference to choose better school for their children from the explanation about bilingual and regular kindergarten and could give a clear perception about bilingual kindergarten and parents can choose good and appropriate ways to train their children in order to improve their child's English ability.

1.5 Scope and limitation

In order to make this study more specific, the researcher only determines to find out the parents' perception toward English learning at rural kindergarten,

person perception covers evaluation, memory, and impression. Evaluation is focused on parents' evaluation about bilingual kindergarten. Memory is focused on parents' experience toward English itself. Impression is focused on parents' impression toward English in rural bilingual kindergarten, and also about the parent's way to train their children in order to improve their child's English ability.

The limitation of this research only is focused on the school that already applied bilingual class more than two years, the use of English and Indonesia in the classroom at least 50% : 50%, a broad curriculum available to all student, a school climate that is conducive to learn, have good facilities, extra activity to support learning English.

1.6 Definition of key term

1. Perception is people output that covers evaluation, memory, and impression.
2. Evaluation is analysis and judgment in the education. It is the process of information gathering, acquiring and providing necessary decision-making process in education.
3. Memory is past experience about education that may affect the present decision.
4. Impression is person opinion about something that influences their point of view or event their decision. Impression comes from their environment, person, object or event that could influence the person perception.

5. Reason is the basic parents' reasons that live in rural area in choosing bilingual kindergarten.