

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter will presents the discussion which consists of background of the study, statement of problems, purposes of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Listening is the ability to identify and to understand what others are saying. According to Mili Saha & Md Ali Rexwan Takludar (2008) in their article entitled *Teaching listening as an English language skill*, some people considered listening as a passive skill. It was misleading because listening skill demands an active involvement from the auditory participant. The hearer had to be actively contribute knowledge from both linguistics and non-lingustics sources to understand the reconstructed message that the speaker intended. As the result, we have to admit that learning language depends on listening as we respond after we listen something. Listening provided several inputs that serves as the stimuli for language acquisition and make the learners to interact in spoken communication. In order for listening to be effective and ideal, an informative instruction should be given to help the learners to understand to what the native speaker's say in the listening session.

Listening is an active process in which the receiver had to respond in appropriate manner. It needs a response from the receiver in the form of reply, an action, a facal expression and applause, or something that indicating if the

message has been transferred and received. According to Tran (2012), listening is receptive skills along side with the ability to read and the role of the listener is no longer passive but active and it has a complex process in which one can grasp and understand the spoken language. "It is an invisible mental process, thus it is very difficult to describe". This involves an understanding to the speaker's accent or pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, and the meaning.

People who want to learn English, should regard the listening as a part of studying English or improving their English. By listening, people could improve their English better than before. Listening is correlated with speaking due to people would be able to give their response after they listen to the speaker. In SMP Islam Mambaul Ulum Kebomas, listening needs a lot attention due to the lack of interest from the students which feel that listening is very difficult to them. Furthermore, the teacher did not have something innovative in delivering the material to the students. They only use traditional method in teaching the lesson. Traditional teaching is concerned with the teacher being the controller of the learning environment, this approach may not provide students with valuable skills or event with a body of knowledge that lasts much beyond the end of the term. In developing this skill, listening practice was probably the most reliable route to the true communication. It was due to the fact that students' speaking ability could be considered poor. In fact, listening subject can improve their language skill. The teacher also had good way to keep students memorizing everything related to the topic during the listening exercise, after teacher explained some material using games or tape recorder. According to Khosravani Mahboobeh (2014), listening is

not only a passive but also an active process to select and interpret the information which involves visual imagery to the auditory participant.

According to Frahman Farrokhi (2012), listening is the process by which the listener can improve the ability to listen is not because of the complexity of the process itself, but also due to factors that characterize the listener, the speaker, the content of the message, and any visual support that accompanies the message. After researcher interviewed the teacher, teacher could apply listening exercise well and she also said that listening exercised very important for practice English with listening. After the interview, the researcher found a problem of the students in listening due to the fact that the students think that listening is very difficult to learn. Student wants to learn the listening in different method, thus the resercher uses computer as media to help the teacher in teaching the listening. In addition, the teacher can help the students in learning due to ordinary technical teaching method which make the students becomes disinterested in learning English especially listening skill. Since its development, internet provided more chances for the teachers to search the listening materials to be used in real classroom. For instance, the teacher may use VOA, BBC, Youtube, and any other website that available.

In order to support the method, the teacher must provide the students with appropriate teaching methods on listening session. A teaching method is a prescribed set of ways applied to convey knowledge and competence to the students. Therefore, applying appropriate teaching methods plays an important role in the teaching learning process, including in teaching of listening. Based on

the problem above, the researcher is interested in applying *CALL* (Computer-Assisted Language Learning) method as stated by Philip Hubbard (2008).

According to Takako Kawabata (2006) from Aichi Gakuin University, regard to the use of computer in language teaching and learning, teacher and researchers have been testing and developing ways to implement computers in their teaching context since 1960's when computers were first introduced as part of language teaching. However, many language teachers continue to feel uncertain about the manner in which they could effectively use computer in the educational context. Moreover, computer can serve a variety of uses for language teaching. It can be a tutor which offers language drills or skill practice; a stimulus for discussion and interaction; or a tool for writing and research. With the advancement of the Internet, it can also be a medium of global communication and a source of limitless authentic materials as stated by Mark Warschauer (1996). There is one program created precisely from the requirement to help the students to improve their listening namely *CALL* (Computer Assisted Language Learning) due to the lack of innovation in teaching the listening materials. Therefore, *CALL* is regarded as an innovation in developing teaching and learning process. In order to operate it, the program can only be used in the computer. Thus, the computer and *CALL* (Computer Assisted Language Learning) related to each other to help the students to master the material which will be further explained by the researcher.

Computer is very helpful for a school to improve the teaching and learning method for the teachers and the students. It also as a tool to test the students on language proficiency which already learned by the students during their study.

The computer can play multiple roles in language teaching. It can be used by the teachers in giving the language drills or any other skill practice. With the advent of multimedia technology on the personal computer, it serves as a space in which to explore and creatively influence the microworlds. The development of computer networks now serves as a medium of local and global communication and a source of the authentic materials.

Nowadays, computer is very important and useful in learning English. Many teachers use computer as their private assistant in teaching their students. The advantage of using computer in education including the increase of information access on the internet and to enhance the classroom experiences through the incorporation of visual media, thus the students will interest in the subject. Presently, there are two fairly successful applications of automatic speech recognition (ASR) (or speech processing technology) where the computer “understands” the spoken words of the learner (Ugochukwu C. Okonkwo).

Hot Potatoes is a software which consists of several activities that enables the teachers to create interactive activities. In the listening classes, the teacher can use this as an alternative to make an exercises or quiz for the students. It is a great to provide the students with the activities which can improve the students’ engagement on Listening material. Underwood (1989), Ur (1996), Rost (1994), and Lynch (2005) argue that from all of the four basic English language skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing), listening skills seem to be the most difficult skills to be accomplished by the students. They stated that Hot Potatoes is a great innovative for the teachers to improve the students’ ability especially in listening

ability due to its usefulness and have many advantages. It will help the teacher to provide a set of fun activities creatively and games for the students to improve their listening ability. On the other side, the student will also learn how to deal with information technology. In addition, using Hot Potatoes serves the teachers' times and different curriculum in other school and it has minimum disadvantage such as limited interaction.

Hot potatoes is only a tool, and thus it can only reach all its potentials in the hand of the inventive teacher. Moreover, *CALL* (Computer Assisted Language Learning) is defined as an intermediary in teaching and learning the language by using computer technology. A computer is needed for the presentation, to reinforce and assess the material which is to be learned including a substantial interactive element with the 8th class students in Junior High School of SMP Islam Mambaul Ulum Kebomas as the object of the study. Hopefully, the result of this study could improve the listening material using *CALL* in EFL Classroom.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of study and the problem limitation above, the problem can be formulated as follows:

1. How is English Listening material using *CALL* program for The Eight Grade of Junior High School at SMP Islam Mambaul Ulum Kebomas?

1.3 Purposes of the Study

The purposes of this study is to develop the material in English Listening using *CALL* program which is applied for the 8th Grade of Junior High School at SMP Islam Mambaul Ulum Kebomas.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The researcher hopes that this research will have some benefits in the English teaching learning especially in teaching listening material. There are two kinds of benefits in this research, theoretical and practical.

Theoretically, this study can contribute to the development of teaching for listening material in school. The result of the study is expected to give contribution in the development of EFL and this study will contribute to the development of teaching media, especially for English teaching.

Practically, the result of the study is useful for teacher, students, readers and school. First, it will help the teacher to find the better way to teach English by improving the listening skill of the students. It also can be used by the teacher as variation in teaching English language and as an alternative to solve the problems of learning in listening subject and to make the classroom activity to be more enjoyable. It is product could help to provide better technique and new media for teaching listening material in Junior High School. Second, it can be used as an intermediary for the students, thus they do not feel bored and to improve their motivation in learning English. Third, it could provide information on developing English listening materials by using *CALL* program for readers. The last, it will quickly increase the knowledge repertoire in the school and also helps in implementing the curriculum of education.

This study is expected to give some input and enrich the listening material for junior high school. Hopefully, it could improve the students' listening skill and used as practical guidance that could be applied as an English listening

material for teaching listening. Moreover, Hot Potatoes (*CALL* software) as one of teaching aids was expected to be interesting, enjoyable, and attractive for students in learning English since it serves a lot of fun and pleasure without distracting their attention.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

In order to make the discussion to be more specific, the scope of this research is to develop English listening material by using J-Quiz program for 2nd semester of 8th grade in SMP Islam Mambaul Ulum.

The limitation of this research is to develop English listening material by using J-Quiz program. It is comprises three stages: 1) *Pre-listening stage*, a stage that students could examine the listening material. The researcher found that they could answer the question through brainstorming. 2) *Whilst-listening stage*, an activity where the students are ready to retell the story and pour their ideas briefly for the listening session in order for the teacher to easily comprehend these phases than the previous meeting. 3) *Post-listening stage*, an activity where the teacher guide the students who still got problems during their listening session and to observe the progress and give some feedback to the number of students who achieve good score in process.

English for Eight 8th Grade Students of Junior High School

English at SMP Islam Mambaul Ulum Kebomas

English is a school subject where the students are expected to communicate in classroom by using it. Communication is a process to deliver the message from the speaker to the receiver by using English. In the process of

delivering the message in English, sometimes students face difficulties in understanding the material. The difficulties in understanding English may be different depends on students' capacity during the learning process. Students has been familiar with English since elementary school although in junior high school it is more complex and serves different purpose than in the elementary school. In junior high school, students are expected to improve their English, including writing and speaking skill by studying through any media. Thus, they are able to understand the content comprises, daily activity, watch movie, listen to a song, and get better knowledge about cross cultural understanding in SMP Islam Mambaul Ulum Kebomas. In addition, teacher introduces a way more fun in learning English.

SMP Islam Mambaul Ulum Kebomas considered as a favorable school due to its students and teachers. The teachers have an outstanding way in teaching English to the students by using a traditional and popular song. They also use story which taken from Pewayangan to make the lesson becomes more interesting, although the teachers only use "media relia" to teach the students. In addition, games like flash card, snake and ladder, and any other games is used to create an innovative way of learning English.

SMP Islam Mambaul Ulum Kebomas also known for its SBI class (Sekolah Berbasis Internasional) due to the certain standards that are owned by other SBI's schools. Therefore, the school has top-notch facilities which supports in teaching and learning process. The teacher always maintains the quality of the teaching and learning process continuously in the form of weekly report in order

to evaluate whether the process of the study is accordance to what is expected. In order to achieve the quality of international based-school, the student's parents initiate to augment the lesson time of their children with an additional lesson outside their regular schedule. Thus, the students not only got the regular lesson from the formal school but also from the informal one.

English for 8th Grade of SMP Islam Mambaul Ulum

English for the students of 8th grade SMP Islam Mambaul Ulum is a subject which need to be taught in innovative and attractive ways based on the modern method although English is still considered as a supporting subject (Muatan Lokal). As it becomes more favorable in many schools, many parents want their children to be more advanced in English. The English material now varies through out the course books as it is become second language in many institutions. As English become more common, students are prepared with the knowledge of the English language. English is foreign language but we can not deny that today's English is very useful and everbody wants to learn English due to its possibilities which lies in the future. Therefore, English language began to be taught continuously to the 8th grade students of SMP Islam Mambaul Ulum although only in the form of a simple exercise yet meaningful.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

Material development is a dynamic process of improvement, which implies a change and advancement in the English listening skill exercise material towards something better.

To avoid any misunderstanding about the problems, the terms are defined as follow;

Developing making something which has already existed, yet it is open to be adjusted through modification. In this case, the computer and *CALL* (Hot Potatoes) will be the media used by the researcher.

Listening is a process of an activity done by the teacher and the students in the classroom or language laboratory. Thus, to understand the meaning and analyzing it, Hot Potatoes (*CALL*) will be used to help the students to improve their listening skill.

Computer is a device which able to process an information and manipulate it for some result based on a program or sequence of instructions through the data process.

CALL (Computer Assisted Language Learning) is one of the media used to help the students in understanding the listening material.

Hot Potatoes is a software which consists of several activities that enables the teachers to create interactive activities like a games or quiz.

J-Quiz is a part of Hot Potatoes which can be used to make quiz for the students.

Students is the subject who tried to develop their potential through a learning process through formal and non-formal education.

