

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Perception is the process which individual becomes aware of and interprets information about the environment. Inside of perception there are processes in organizing and interpreting our sensory impressions in order to give meaning to the environment. As pointed out, a situation may be the same but the interpretation of that situation by two individuals may be different. Information is gather through our five sense organs, become attention, interest, and registration, from those process interpretation came out become reasons, opinions, and action. Perception adds meaning to these sensory inputs and the process of perception is essentially subjective in nature, as it is never an exact recording of the event or the situation.

In the study about direct perception by Alva Noe (2000), direct perception holds that the perception is a form non-inferential awareness of the shorts of things we normally take ourselves to perceive. For example, when at the first time we look at the school that use English as primary language or include English as a subject to be learned, we think that the schools are preparing children with a better skill for this globalization era. Using English for better English and create competitiveness students. From this example, it would seem to follow that perception in the first instance is a form of contact not with the things as they are, but rather with more glimpses, or impressions, or

appearances of things. Our perceptual contact with a thing itself, continue this line of thinking, is immediate by our more direct contact with those things. Perceptual judgments must go well beyond what is actually given in experience and must be thought of not so much as immediate records of how things are, but the result of conjecture or speculation.

In the theory of social cognition person perception is the people outputs (evaluation, memory, impression) that are shaped and guided by their knowledge and pre-existing beliefs about the social world. Perception usually comes out with reason and opinion, based on Kompridis in wikipedia.org reason is a term that refers to the capacity of human being has to make sense of things, to establish and verify facts and to change or justify practices, institutions, and beliefs (2009). The concept of reason is sometimes referred to as rationality and sometimes as discursive reason, in opposition to intuitive reason. Reason or reasoning is associated with thinking cognition, and intellect. Reason like habit or intuition, this is one of the ways by which thinking comes from one idea to related idea. While, opinion is a subject beliefs. It is the result of emotion or interpretation of fact. Opinion may be supported by an argument, and people could draw opposing opinions from the same set of facts.

Parents are mother and father of a child that should have full responsibility to their children. Parents have to promoting and supporting the physical, emotional, social, and intellectual development of a child from infancy to adulthood. Based on www.direct.gov.uk/parentsrights list of parental responsibility are providing a home for the child, having contact with and

living with child, protecting and maintaining the child, disciplining the child, choosing and providing for the child's education, determining the religion of the child, agreeing to the child's name, accompanying the child outside and agreeing to the child's emigration, being responsible for the child's property, appointing a guardian for the child, if necessary, allowing confidential information about the child to be disclosed.

Based on that list that state there the appropriate list with this study is choosing and providing for the child's education. Parents have great affect for the progress of their children. Parents who have a good perception, reason, opinion, and act about the child's development and education will generate an important decision for the child.

Nowadays, as we know English becomes one of the most important languages of the human life. It is not only as apart of communication but also as a media to relate knowledge and technology. In Indonesia English becomes first focus in education. The newest phenomenon in Indonesia is there are some kindergarten use two languages in teaching learning process. Teachers teach using Indonesian language and English language. The teacher also gives some treatments in English, instruction in English, and more material in English.

Based on Theodore and Mildred in their book about Bilingual kindergarten in United States (1970), bilingual school is schools that use education programs for children whose first language is not English, besides using their first language the teacher and students learn and use English as primary language in their teaching learning process. In bilingual school teacher give

treatment and activity in English. Regular school or regular kindergarten is a school that use English as extra and do not use English as primary language.

Lao (2004) in his study regarding parent's attitudes toward bilingual benefits in providing children with better opportunities, reveal that the major reason for parents to send their children to bilingual programs is to possess a foreign language skill to make them more competitive in the future job field. The current study conducted when bilingual kindergartens are comes up in China. This new thing about education is becoming very interesting to study, so the writer wants to examine the same thing based on the fact that in Indonesia today, that is bilingual kindergarten. In Indonesia, especially in Gresik bilingual school is a new comer in education and now it emerged a lot. This is interesting to study, in which bilingual schools become very common in the level of elementary, junior, and high school, because at those levels the students are capable to speak and learn two languages. While for bilingual kindergarten parents are very influential from consideration until the decision-making. Remember the children may not enough or have not been able to learn and communicate in two languages.

Based on the all explanation above, there are differences between bilingual kindergarten and regular kindergarten. Students and their parents can decide where they want to study, bilingual kindergarten or regular kindergarten. Also based on theory of perception parent has different perception in bilingual kindergarten, so here the writer is encouraged to investigate whether there are different parents' perception toward English learning in bilingual kindergarten.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

How is parental perception toward English learning in bilingual kindergarten?

1.3 Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study was to investigate parental perception toward English learning in bilingual kindergarten in Gresik.

1.4 Significant of the Study

1.4.1 The theoretical significance

This study can contribute as the literacy source to give brief information about parent's perception toward English learning in bilingual kindergarten, and the result of the study also hoped to be able to use as a reference by the researcher who wants to conduct a similar research.

1.4.2 The practical significance

The writer 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 writer hopes that the result of this study can be used as reference to choose a better school for their children from the explanation about bilingual and regular kindergarten and could give a clear perception about bilingual kindergarten. For the readers, the result of this study can be as inspiration to develop more study about bilingual kindergarten because

bilingual kindergarten is an interesting subject for study and requires a lot of research and development for the future.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

In order to make this study more specific, the writer puts the scope and limitations no more than about the parent's perception toward English learning in bilingual kindergarten. The writer only determines to find out the parents' perception toward English learning in bilingual kindergarten based on Macrae and Bodenhausen, 2001 study that person perception is people outputs (evaluation, memory, and impression). Evaluation is focus on parents' evaluation about bilingual kindergarten, memory focus on parents' English learning in the past, and impression focus on parents' impression toward English in bilingual kindergarten. Based on those outputs the writer can concludes parental perception toward English learning in bilingual kindergarten.

In order to limit the subject, this research only focused on the schools that already applied bilingual classes over two years, the use of English and Indonesian in the classroom at least 50% : 50%, a broad curriculum available to all students, a school climate that was conducive to learn, had good facilities, there was an extra or another activity that supports students English, and have a strong and professional teachers. While for the parents who are being the subject of this study are mothers and fathers who send their children to learn English in bilingual kindergarten from different background. It was intended for subject variation.

1.6 Definition of Key Term

Perception : Perception is a process in which individuals organize and interpret their sensory impressions in order to give meaning to their environment. Individual behavior is often based on their perception of reality, not on reality itself. Also appears in perception, different individual reasons and opinions about something that are similar.

Evaluation : Evaluation is analysis and judgement in the education. It is the process of information gathering, acquiring and providing necessary decision-making process in education.

Memory : Memory is person past experience about education that may affect the present decision.

Impression : Impression is person opinion about something that influence their point of view or even their decision. Impression comes from the environment, person, object or event that could influence the person perception.

Reason : Reason is the capacity of human beings that has to make sense of things, to establish and verify facts, and to change or justify practices and beliefs. Reason here is parents basic reasons why they send their children into a bilingual kindergarten.

Parents : Parents are the father and / or mother of a child either through biological or social relationship. In this case parents have a very important role in children development and education.

Bilingual Kindergarten : Bilingual kindergarten is a kindergarten that use two languages . First language is the first language of this country

(Indonesian language) and second is language that have to be learn
(Foreign language English).