

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher discusses the introduction. It covers the background of the problem, the identification of the problem, the limitation of the problem, the formulation of the problem, research questions, the purposes of the study, the significance of the study, and the definition of the key terms.

1.1. The Background of the Problem

Listening is one of language skills used by people in communication, including English communication. In listening activities, someone needs to understand utterances heard in order that he can respond it well. If the utterances heard cannot understood well, a communication will not happen. In listening activities, we listen for a purpose. We make an immediate response to what we hear. There are some visual or environmental clues as to the meaning of what is heard. The most important element and fundamental for the interaction is the ability to understand what the speaker has said. According to Lynch and Mendelson (2010) listening is a passive

process, in which our ears were receivers into which information was poured, and all the listener had to do was passively register the message. Active listening is also an interpretive process. To master in listening, they are many materials used to improve listening skills. They are listening to dialogue, listening to monologue, listening to conversation and listening to movie. Short dialogue is interesting to improve listening skill. Short dialogue is a kind of listening subject that has short conversation.

Dialogue as a means to demonstrate communication between two people. In fact, Dialogue is a conversation with the intention of understanding each other. In dialogue, the parties involved share information, data, facts, thoughts, ideas, and opinions, and try to consider, understand, and accept each other. From the dialogue, it is hoped that mutual understanding will be broader and deeper about the things that are the subject of the dialogue. In addition, in the dialogue there is a short conversation that is usually carried out by two people. Short conversation is dialogue between two persons. Indeed, the study about listening comprehension on dialogue has been conducted by Yanti, Ikhsanudin, Husin (2013) they were investigated the effectiveness of dialogue comprehension technique by using information transfer, they found that the effect size of treatment was categorized high. However no one researcher at English Department did research about ability students to comprehend short dialogue. The second year students' at English Department has practiced listening to dialogue in listening subject. It is identified through the syllabus of listening subject.

Based on the description above the researcher was interested to do the research about the second year students listening ability to comprehend short dialogue at English Department of Bung Hatta University.

1.2. The Identification of the Problem

Listening can be classified at least two kinds there are listening to dialogue and listening to monologue, in listening to dialogue students already learnt about listening to short dialogue. There are many problems in listening especially in listening to dialogue such as difficult to understand in identifying the topic, and also students difficult to understand in recognizing suggestion. There are so many reason why students has difficulties in comprehending short dialogue such as unknown vocabulary, unfamiliar topic, fast speech rate, and variation accents.

Based on researcher's interviewed to some of English department's students, it seems like they still have difficulties in comprehend the lesson of short dialogue. Several factors including message factor, speaker factor, listener factor and physical setting factor.

1.3. The Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, the researcher limits the research on the second year students' listening ability to comprehend short dialogue at the second year students of English Department of Bung Hatta university.

1.4. The Formulation of the Problem

The formulation of this research is "How is the second year students' listening ability to comprehend short dialogue at English Department of Bung Hatta University?"

1.5. Research Questions

Based on the formulation of the problem above, there are two questions to be answered as follows:

1. How is the second year students' listening ability in identifying the topic of short dialogue?
2. How is the second year students' listening ability in recognizing suggestions given in short dialogue?

1.6. The Purposes of the Study

In general, the purpose of this study is to describe the second year students' listening ability in comprehending a short dialogue. Specifically, the purpose of this study is to find out the ability students in listening skill. The specific purposes are as follows :

1. To find out the second year students' listening ability in identifying the topic of short dialogue?

2. To find out the second year students' listening ability in recognizing suggestions given in short dialogue?

1.7. The Significance of the Study

This research is expected to give scientific benefit and contribution to the teacher, students, the researcher, and the next researcher. For English teacher, hopefully, this research will inform English teacher about students' ability to comprehend short dialogue. For students, they know their own listening ability in comprehending short dialogue, so they can do more exercise in listening skill. For the researcher, this research can enlarge and increase her knowledge in conducting a research in the future. For the next researcher, they can use it as references in conducting in similar study.

1.8. The Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misinterpretation toward the key term used in this study, the resercher needs to explain them as follows:

1. Listening ability refers to a competence to comprehend a short dialogue.
2. Short dialogue is one of conversations done by two people
3. Topics refers to what two people are talking or discussing about in a short dialogue.
4. Suggestions refers to advice given by a speaker to his partner in a short dialogue.