

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

Listening skill is one of four basics of English language skills beside speaking, reading, and writing. Listening is a skill that must be learned by language learners because listening is an important skill that develops faster than speaking and influences the development of writing and reading skills in learning a language. Thus, listening is considered to be a skill that is very essential to be learned and mastered by language learners. According to Nation & Newton (2008:39) listening is seen as a passive process by the students receive information sent by a speaker. Meanwhile, Vandergrift (2003:425) stated that listening is a complex active process of interpretation which listeners attempt to fit what they hear with their prior knowledge. It means that listening is not an easy skill to be learned by learners.

Listening skill assists students in obtaining some information not only about vocabulary and grammar, but also intonation, pronunciation, tone and stress of the speaker. The ability to listen well and effectively can contribute to the success of language learners. Listening skill is very important for learners especially students who can get insights in teaching and learning process, so students must be able to master in listening skill and have good understanding of all aspects of listening

such as receiving, understanding, remembering, evaluating, and responding.

Every day people listened to variety of different things and sources. What they listened and how they listened also what they did when they listened, depend on their purposes. As language learners, especially who learned English as a foreign language in non-native setting, found it is difficult to acquire good listening skill. People cannot respond correctly when they did not understand what others said even if by gesture. In some cases of language classroom, listening was considered as the most difficult language skill for students because it needs more concentration and attention to comprehend the listening passage or materials that include understanding the dialogue and monologue text.

Listening comprehension defined as ability to comprehend spoken language especially English in high level. Hamouda in Gilakjani & Sabouri (2016:124) said that listening comprehension as an interactive process in which students are involved in constructing meaning. Listening comprehension is challenging for both lecturers and learners, so students must use appropriate strategies to overcome the problems in listening comprehension. It means that there must be support by lecturer's strategies in teaching listening comprehension.

The ability of listening in English is a skill that is not easily mastered by all students who are not native speaker of that language.

Hamouda (2013:114) stated that comprehending speech is a very difficult activity for students. However, language learners encounter some factors that hinder listening comprehension. One of the factors is the intelligence of the learners which decides on how much language input they receive (Yildiz & Albay, 2015:20).

In addition, developing the students' listening skill is directly related to putting forward the factors that take part in the listening process. In other words, determining the factors that play role in the listening process is essential not only to the schools and families that educate students but also to the institutions that train teachers. For instance, some students in the listening course obtained good score in listening test and some other not. Thus the researcher assumes there must be various factors that influence the success of listening achievement.

Therefore, the purpose of this research is to reveal the factors that affect students' listening comprehension. The research findings are considered to contribute to the improvement of students' listening skill. The results of this study are expected to provide information about the factors that influence high achievement in listening.

Based on the explanation mentioned above, the researcher will conduct this research with the titled "*Students' Perspective on Factors Affecting Students Listening Comprehension at the Third Semester of English Education Study Program in Muhammadiyah Kotabumi University Academic Year 2023/2024*".

1.2 Focus of the Problem

Based on the background of the problems above, the researcher focuses on factors affecting students listening comprehension at the third semester students in advanced listening class of Muhammadiyah Kotabumi University Academic Year 2023/2024.

1.3 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the focus of the problems above, the researcher formulates the problem on the research as follows:

1. What are the factors affecting students' listening comprehension at the third semester of English Education Study Program in Muhammadiyah Kotabumi University Academic Year 2023/2024?
2. What are the dominant factor that affecting students in listening comprehension at the third semester of English Education Study Program in Muhammadiyah Kotabumi University Academic Year 2023/2024?

1.4 Objectives of the Research

1. To describe the factors affecting students' listening comprehension at the third semester of English Education Study Program in Muhammadiyah Kotabumi University Academic Year 2023/2024

2. To know the dominant factor that affect students' in listening comprehension at the third semester of English Education Study Program of Muhammadiyah Kotabumi University Academic Year 2023/2024

1.5 Usage of the Research

Based on the objective of the research above, this study is expected to be useful both theoretically and practically:

1. Theoretically

The results of this research are expected to support the existing theories about factors affecting students' listening comprehension.

2. Practically

- a. For Lecturers

The result of this research hoped can give information to the lecturers about factors affecting students' listening comprehension.

- b. For University Students

This research is hoped to give more information in order to enrich language comprehension of English learners, especially in listening process.

- c. Next Researchers

The researcher hoped that this research can be useful for next researchers as additional references in similar topic

of the research about factors affecting students' listening comprehension.