

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Research Background

An essential component of learning English is listening as a second language. Since speaking and listening are the most commonly used abilities in daily life, it would appear that others talents such as writing, reading, and learning English are also highly significant. According to Diora & Rosa (2020), listening is crucial to people's lives. By developing our listening abilities, we can communicate more effectively. People must be regularly and consistently hearing several versions of English if they wanted to communicate well and effectively. This implies that hearing—which produces linguistic input—is a prerequisite for language acquisition. In a similar vein, Hien (2015) noted that because hearing constitutes language input, it is crucial for learning a foreign language. As an input skill, listening comprehension is critical to pupils' language development.

Furthermore, According to Nowruzi & Kamali (2013), listening is more than just hearing noises; it's a sophisticated problem-solving ability. Knowing and also understanding what was the meaning of word, phrase, clause, sentence, and also the utterance that go along with them is a component of listening. In addition, listening was the process of concentrating attention and trying to decipher what was spoken. Mandarani (2016). Children, teenagers, and adults obtain the majority of their knowledge, understanding of the world and human affairs, goals, and also feelings of value and appreciation through this medium.

Even while hearing was crucial for learning a language, many students still struggle with it. Many students found it challenging to understand listening to exercises. The students felt compelled to comprehend every words. It indicated that they were having trouble understanding what the speaker is saying. The student's poor command of terminology and the noisy classroom environment could be the reason of this. As a result, many of the pupils lack motivation to acquire listening skills and have hearing problems. According to (Diora & Rosa, 2020), the majority of pupils experienced hearing issues as a result of the listening content. The intricate grammatical structure presents the first challenge. Grammar is a subject that most pupils find difficult and hence never fully grasp. Students discover it even when they're listening. Grammar is a subject that most pupils find difficult and hence never fully grasp.

Students struggle even when they are listening since they are unable to understand the complicated grammatical structures in the audio text. The second challenge lies in comprehending every word that is spoken. The majority of students find listening challenging since they have trouble following along with an impending lecture word by word. This indicates that their language is not well-mastered.

To make students motivate and encourage them be more creative for their learning, the researcher enhanced their listening skills in a number of ways. The researcher proposed one method in improving listening skill through Spotify.

Nowadays, the students right now are very accustomed with their handphone, even they are smarter and know well how to use handphone than older people. This case has a good and bad for the teacher adapted with digital modern era to increase their students' willingness to learn English. Learning English through applications is one of the students' favorite ways to learn. They don't need to sit in a classroom to study English; they can learn anywhere and at any times. Spotify is a digital music and video streaming service that provides access to millions of tracks from artist worldwide. Learn to listen with the Spotify app won't make students bored or lazy. Students can practice listening to English songs and more using just their phones by using the Spotify app. The researcher believed that utilizing the Spotify application will have a considerable impact on pupils' listening skills based on the explanation provided above.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Based on the Education First (EF) report, Indonesia was in 80th position for an English Proficiency Index (EPI) score of 468 points in 2024 with low proficiency. This score falls into the low English proficiency category. From the data, we need something to encourage Indonesian to be more active and mastering English.

There were some troubles for learning English the most common in listening. The trouble that we could be analysed from some factors, such as the process of learning, the way or the method from how the way the teacher explained the material.

Listening had its own difficulties when it compared to learn other English language skill. Yagang (2012:2) said that the understanding oral text is more difficult than understanding written texts, because oral text are received in a short time, so the contents of the message delivered are received or interpreted differently by the listener, then disappear from hearing

while the written text can be read over and over again as the reader wishes. The teachers should give some effective methods to teach listening to their students, so it won't make their students felt lazy or bored to learn English. Students will be interested and they will prefer to study with Spotify so that they can improve their listening skills.

1.3 Formulation of the Problem

According to the explanation above, the research's difficulty was stated as follow "Can Spotify application improve students' listening skill in SMP Panca Budi Medan?".

1.4 The Scope of the Research

Students in the ninth-two grade at SMP Panca Budi Medan would be the main focus of this study. The Spotify app will be used in this research to help the students to have improvement for their listening ability.

1.5 The Objective of the Research

The aim of this research is to determine how students' listening skills can be improved by using English song through Spotify application, as stated in the problem formulation.

1.6 Significance of the Research

The research result was expected for giving the significances of research follows:

1. The teachers

All teachers in SMP Panca Budi Medan can take the benefit from the research. They can use Spotify as fun method to learn and increase theirs students' listening ability.

2. Students

Students of SMP Panca Budi Medan can realize that listening is important skill in English, students who have some difficulties of listening to English words can learn practically so it is easy for them to learn listening and improve their listening skill well.

3. Researcher

For the researcher, it would be an interesting experience to finish and conduct a research teaching and the researcher hopes the research can be a reference to conduct further research in the same strategy by using Spotify.

4. Reader

For the reader, this research will give them some informations about how well Spotify can improve students' listening skill.