

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of Research

The ability to communicate with others to obtain information is very important in the modern era, and being multilingual is essential as knowledge is not only limited to our country but also extends to other countries. Therefore, as a modern generation, learning a foreign language is essential to gain knowledge. Patel and Jain (2008) state that there are numerous languages spoken throughout the world. Through a system of voluntarily created symbols, language is a purely (Cheung, 2010) human and noninstinctive means of communicating ideas, emotions, and desires. Additionally necessary to our survival and continued evolution as humans is language. It implies that people use language to communicate ideas, thoughts, opinions, and feelings. Thus, it can be concluded that one's ability to communicate in a society is very important.

Learning a second language is a lengthy and intricate process, according to Brown (2003). A person who acquires a second language outside of their mother tongue both inside and outside of a classroom is said to be engaging in second language acquisition. Learners can master and use the second language correctly by mastering its relative principles and honing their proficiency in it. It implies that many nations, particularly Indonesian, find it challenging to use English.

English is spoken as a second language or as a foreign language in Indonesia, where Bahasa Indonesia is the primary language. The four skills that students must master when learning English are writing, speaking, reading, and listening. Since these abilities are interrelated, using English for daily communication is still challenging. This is due to a variety of factors, including a lack of vocabulary, a lack of interest in listening skill, and an uninteresting listening technique when listening to English songs or conversations.

According to recent research, speaking, writing and listening skills in English are all affected by one's ability to listen. For example, if students listen to songs, students can become better at speaking and listening because, when listening, students not only hear the song but also see how the song speaks.

Listening is one of the language skills that need to be mastered. One of the most important abilities that students should have when learning a language, such as English, is listening. Since listening can help students improve their pronunciation, it is impossible to separate this from the role of listening in helping students build their vocabulary. Building students' vocabulary can be done by listening to songs.

Listening to English songs for students is one of the best ways to help them concentrate during lessons. Since songs contain a wide variety of new words and phrases with various themes, students can pick up on vocabulary, rhymes, and grammar rules related to any subject. The fact that English songs are often short, easy topics that students like and they will learn the song by listening to it many times shows that memorization can occur through repetition. Songs are a great way

to teach language to students who cannot fully understand the lyrics, yet they still find the music interesting and keep singing along with their teacher. Nonetheless, teachers should remember that the main purpose of incorporating songs into English teaching is to target students in the classroom. In summary, the researcher thinks that students will learn English more effectively through songs, and teachers should choose appropriate songs and design interesting learning activities for their students.

There are some previous research done by researchers related to improving students' listening skill through songs. The first researcher was conducted by Andreanto (2021) under the title "The Effectiveness of English Pop Song". In this previous research, the researcher concluded that the use of English pop songs for students at MTs Fathul Hidayah Lamongan was effective for improving students' English listening skill.

The second study, titled "The Effectiveness of Teaching Listening Comprehension Through English Songs at Eleventh Grade," was carried out by Setiyawan, Setiyadi, and Sudirman (2014). In a previous study, the researchers found that teaching pupils through English songs significantly improved their ability to understand listening skill. The third study, titled "Increasing Students' Listening Skill Through Song and Authentic Video Lyrics," was carried out by Sri Rejeki and Darmayanti (2019). In this earlier study, the researchers came to the conclusion that using music and videos would eventually be a useful teaching tool to improve the listening skill of English as a foreign language learners.

Few studies have looked at how songs can help students improve their listening skills, despite the fact that many have looked at how effective songs are at helping students learn to listen.

This was found when the researcher talked to some students of SMA Negeri 8 Kota Jambi about English teaching and learning activities, especially listening exercises. When teaching listening to English conversations or reading aloud from textbooks, teachers only give instructions to students to listen before asking questions about the topic of discussion. Since the questions were not asked very often and the students did not understand what the native speakers were saying, the majority of the students could not answer them. The researcher was interested in developing some teaching strategies for listening after reviewing all the cases related to listening. In order to improve students' listening ability for her research, the researcher will use songs to teach listening.

Based on the problems above the researcher is curious to know the influence of listening English song in improving listening skills at grade twelfth students, so that the researcher intends to examine the improvement of students' listening skills through songs at grade twelfth of SMA Negeri 8 Kota Jambi.

## **1.2 Identification of the Problem**

In light of the study's background on using songs to help students improve their listening skills, the researcher would like to point out the following issues:

1. Students are unable to understand the words spoken by speakers in listening lesson.
2. The students are unable to accurately respond to questions of listening skill.

### **1.3 Limitation of the Problem**

Based on the identification of the aforementioned issue, the researcher will concentrate this study on enhancing the listening skill of students in grade twelfth at SMA Negeri 8 Kota Jambi during the 2023–2024 academic year through songs.

### **1.4 Formulation of the Problem**

Drawing from the background information provided, the researcher would like to pose the following question: Does teaching students through song improve their listening skill in grade twelfth at SMA Negeri 8 Kota Jambi?

### **1.5 Objective of the Research**

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the main purpose of this study is to find out whether the use of songs can increase understanding in students, especially those related to teaching listening at SMA Negeri 8 Kota Jambi. The purpose of this study is to find out whether SMA Negeri 8 Kota Jambi can effectively teach listening skills through songs.

### **1.6 Significant of The Research**

The researcher hopes to contribute to the improvement of listening instruction by conducting this study. The researcher hopes that this study will be beneficial to teachers, students, and researchers.

#### **1. For teachers**

The benefits of this research are that teachers can use the song method to teach.

## 2. For Students

The purpose of listening skills by using songs, students can improve listening skills and more fun.

## 3. For the researcher

With this study, researchers can add references to conduct research on the English language teaching process. Especially those interested in the field of listening.

### **1.7 Definition of Key Terms**

To prevent misunderstandings, the following terms are defined specifically in this study:

#### **1. Listening Skill**

Listening skills are students' understanding of listening. Listening here students can listen to songs during the lesson. Listening that is given is about songs. Then the measurement of understanding is measured by a test tool given after students listen and fill in the song lyrics questions that have been omitted by the researcher.

#### **2. Song**

A song is an artistic composition of tones or sounds in order, combination, and temporal relationships to produce musical compositions that have unity and continuity. And the variety of tones or sounds that are rhythmic is also called a song. Songs can be sung singly, in twos, threes or in groups.

The song used by researchers is Count On Me and sung by Bruno Mars. The meaning of the song Count On Me is to describe how true friends really are.

### **3. Students**

Students here are students who come from SMA Negeri 8 Kota Jambi, namely class twelfth which totals 189 students. Male 67 students and female 122 students. Of the total number of students will be divided into experimental classes and control classes.