

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The inclusion of English as a compulsory subject in public schools contributes to the advancement of science, technology and culture. The main purpose of teaching English in the school is to encourage the improvement of students' language skills. The basic skills of English language acquisition are often taught in an integrated manner, covering listening, speaking, reading and writing (Farrell & Jacobs, 2020). In fact, to be able to listening effectively EFL, it is crucial for EFL students to acquire and develop this important skill. EFL students are supposed to learn how to listen to word stress, sentence stress and intonation comprehension as listening plays a significant role in everyday communication and in educational process. Listening is the process of learners to analyze the meaning and symbols. Listening process actually come through, sounds and words; it then processing through brain to get meaning and to understand what the speaker means (Nunan,2002).

Student at SMPN 20 Kota Kupang, especially grade 8 students are required to be able to communicate use English. In fact, student find difficulties to understand listening in the class. Specifically, they find difficulties to understand what the teacher is says, as a result their listening skill is low. Moreover, during the researcher observation in SMPN 20 Kota Kupang, many students told that listening was difficult to understand because they were not familiar to it. This happend for many English classes in SMPN 20 Kota Kupang

because teachers do not use various methods to improve the student listening skill.

In teaching English to EFL students, teachers have to use many approaches as it can boost the student willingness to learn English. Dictation technique is one of the methods that might help students to improve their listening understanding. Dictation technique ensure that students can listen to what the teacher are teaching. He pointed out that it is an activity that helps students to increase their awareness of phonics, listening, and writing skills (Chai 2011). Moreover, Mentari (2018) stated that dictation is a strategy that can develop students habits in listening, and also can help students to understand punctuation and spelling, to understand word, phrase, sentence, and clause, and also enables students to increase their abilities in listening language, so they get used to the language.

The utilization of the dictation method serves to enhance attentiveness among students, as it motivates them to direct their focus towards the teacher's instructions and transcribe the material being dictated. Bhatnagar & Many (2022) stated sometimes the teacher needs taking time to make students able to expressing themselves. They need real condition in learning and have proudness after learning something. The dictation technique can also assist students in developing their listening skills for word stress, sentence stress, and intonation. This simple method can be both interesting and useful for students, as they are to listen and understand how well the teacher dictates. By focusing on the teacher and the class, so students are less likely to be distracted by external factors, allowing them to concentrate better. Listening activities also

paid students in processing and remembering sentences independently. Given the aforementioned problems, it is imperative to conduct a research investigation that aims to enhance the listening skills of eighth-grade students at SMPN 20 Kota Kupang. This can be achieved by employing the dictation technique, which has the potential to facilitate the development of students' listening skills.

Based on the aforementioned background, the writer will conduct research entitled “The Influence of Dictation Technique Toward Eight Grade Students’ Listening Skill at SMP Negeri 20 Kota Kupang”. It is hope that this research will assist EFL students in improving their listening comprehension.

1.2 Research Problem

The problem studied in this research is “Can the dictation technique improve the English listening skills among EFL students?”

1.3 Aim of Study

The aim of study is whether the use of Dictation technique in teaching English listening skills among EFL improves students or not.

1.4. Significance of Study

The significance of study is presented into two ways, they are:

1.4.1 Implication

This study is expected support the theory proposed by Mentari (2018)

stated that dictation is a strategy that can develop students habits in listening, and also can help students to understand punctuation and spelling, to understand word, phrase, sentence, and clause, and also enables students to increase their abilities in listening language, so they get used to the language. Lightfoot (2013) stated that dictation is an important strategy that can be used to practice students' abilities, such as increasing student awareness to sound. In addition, dictation can also create a pleasant learning atmosphere.

1.4.2 Application

From the research findings, it is expected that there would be benefit given to:

1. Student

It is expected to provide insights into students' perception of the use of dictation as a technique for developing listening.

2. Teacher

The teacher can use creative visual technique in teaching process to improve students' listening skills.

3. Research

This research can stand as references for further researchers. This research can also provide benefits and be useful for other researchers in teaching listening, especially about the dictation method.