

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Research

Now a day English become a must to master in case of education need, job requirement or self desire, meanwhile English is a foreign language in our society. According to Ellis in Mulyati and Hendry (2015) to master foreign language a language learner have to learn all aspects of that language. For example in English, they should understand about grammatical, sub-systems; negatives, interrogatives, grammatical morphemes; plural(s), or definite and indefinite articles. In the end, in the learning process, students need an assessment to measure how far the student's understanding and how good their proficiency in English.

English proficiency can be measured through a language proficiency test. According to Arthur (1989:9) proficiency test is designed to measure people's ability in a language regardless of any training they may have had in that language the content of proficiency test. Therefore, proficiency test is not based on the content or objectives of language courses which people taking the test may have followed.

There are many kinds of language proficiency test that is common in our country and also other country, some of them are; TOEFL(Test of English as Foreign Language), IELTS(International English Language Testing System), TOEIC(Test of English for International Communication), EPT(English Proficiency Test), and etc.

EPT is one of many test types which is introduced in the English Education Department. This test is used to measure student's English proficiency in every sector. This kind of test is similar with TOEFL-Paper Based Test (Test of English as Foreign Language) the different is just the operator of those test, but overall both are measure someone's receptive and productive skill. There are three test sections in EPT: (1) Listening comprehension. It measures someone's ability in understanding English podcast spoken by a native speaker. There are some points are assessed in this section; vocabulary, expression, and also structure of conversation where is common in native speaker's conversation. (2) Structure and written expression. In this section test takers are tested to recognize the correct standard writing in English. Usually, this section uses formal words and the topics are academic context. (3) Reading comprehension. Test takers are supposed to comprehend some short reading texts. Usually, it contains academic life topics and followed by questions about strange words that are used in the text.

EPT is considered a horrible thing for some students in English Education Department, even though the students of the English Education Department join EPT in every semester. The previous research resulted in psychological reasons as the cause of the problem. Tanveer(2007) concludes that the existence of a high level of language anxiety in most of the learners who are learning English even through the use of modern communicative language teaching techniques from highly experienced language teachers.

Absolutely psychological problem is not the only motive in the result of the EPT test score. While other research conducted by Mulyati, Euis & Hendry (2015) conclude that there is a correlation between the increase of EPT score with the hour of the English subject given. Regarding to the two mentioned previous research results, there are some indications that the same factors have possibilities also affect students' EPT score in English Education Department Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto.

Based on the fact revealed in the English Education Department, the writer interested in conducting a research about factors that affect students' EPT score in a research entitled "Factors Contributing To English Proficiency Test Result Of The Third Semester Students In the English Education Departement Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto".

B. Reasons for Choosing the Topic

One of requirements to get Bachelor Degree in English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto is EPT score, the required minimum EPT score is five hundred. In fact, Students of English Education Department face a difficulty in reaching the required score. Many reasons may affect in this problem and it is the reason why is the writer interested to conduct this research. Teacher should know the factors that have contribution to the students' EPT score for making sure that they can prepare their student to join EPT and get good score.

C. The Problem of The Research

The problem of this research are as follows:

1. What factors are contributing to students' EPT result?

D. The Aims of The Research

1. to find out the contributing factor in students EPT result

E. The Contribution of The Research

This research is planned to result benefits for some parties, including:

1. For lecturers, they can use this research result as the reference in providing English class, treatment based on the revealed fact that is found in the subject population of this research.
2. For English Department of UMP as the organizer which prepare teachers to be in the future. This research result can be used as reference in the further research in English Education Department purposes to improving the students quality.

F. Scope of the Research

This research is conducted to only investigate factors that have role in affecting EPT score of semester 3rd students in English department Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto.

G. Clarification of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding and to make the topic clearer, the writer wants to clarify the terms used in this research as follows:

1. Factor

Factor means condition or phenomenon that is causing or affecting something to be happen. In this case factors are several variables which have contribution to affect student's score in EPT.

2. EPT

EPT (English Proficiency Test) is a regular test which measures all aspect in English proficiency especially for academic need. The examined language skills include listening, reading, speaking, and writing. Language component which are tested are vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, include intonation and stressing(lia.co.id). The minimum score in order to pass the test is 500, and student who success reach the required score will get a certificate which valid for 2 years.

