

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Language as a tool for communication has an important thing within pronunciation. As we know, pronunciation is an important part of spoken language when someone is trying to give information to other people. They are need to pronounce some words clear enough to understand in order to avoid misunderstanding. This refers to an important part of pronunciation.

English pronunciation is included into one of language components besides grammar and vocabulary. This is why it is very important for English learners. Even though, it is still ignored not only for teachers but also students. Nowadays, it is easy to find many teachers who have difficulty in teaching pronunciation of some English words, and admit their lack of knowledge of pronunciation theory. As a result, it gives a big influence toward their students at enhancing English pronunciation in the classroom.

In addition, some people believed that English pronunciation is difficult for non-native speakers. They are hard to pronounce every word clearly and correctly. This has been defined by Whitehead (2007) that the problem with the English language is “pronunciation” because what we see in English is not necessarily what we say. It drives that spoken word is not same as written form.

In pronunciation teaching, absolutely, teachers can deploy many ways to enhance their students' pronunciation. They can try to vary their methods or media in order to make their students' understanding increase. Furthermore, teachers can use some digital media such as songs, music videos. It definitely give us an alternative and interesting way to learn.

In this era, digitalization is massive. Everything can be searched through digital platform. In education sector, digital media also can be a breakthrough if it is used wisely. Many digital medias can be used for teaching, one of them is song. Listening to the songs can be a very relaxing and interesting activity for everyone.

People in all over the world now can easily access the internet, to get some songs for entertaining themselves. From this activity, they can learn English from the songs. Indirectly, they learn how to pronounce the words, the meaning, and the message of the lyrics. The more time people spent to listen to the songs, it is believed that their listening and pronunciation ability are better improved.

This study, is trying to seek for information how songs can improve the students' pronunciation ability and to know the differences between the students who often listen to the English songs and those who do not.

## **B. Reasons for Choosing the Topic**

There are some reasons why the writer is interested in doing this research :

1. There is an assumption that listening to the songs can make the students have more time to learn how to pronounce the words of the lyrics,
2. There must be differences in the way the students pronounce the words for those who are active listening to the English songs and those who are not.

### **C. Research Questions**

The writer conducted to discover the answer of these following questions :

1. How can English songs improve students' pronunciation ability ?
2. What are the differences between students who are active listening to the English songs and those who are not ?

### **D. Aims of the Study**

In line with research question above, research objectives are follows :

1. To know how the activity of listening to the English songs can improve students' pronunciation ability,
2. To find out th differences between the students who are active and passive listening to the English songs toward their pronunciation ability.

### **E. Significant of the Study**

The result of this research is expected to provide contributions to some relevant parts, both theoretically or practically.

## **1. Theoretically**

The results of this study can give information on how the songs can improve the students' pronunciation ability as well give information on how the students are different in the way they pronounce the words.

## **2. Practically**

- a. For the teachers, The writer hopes this study can be a new strategy to teach pronunciation more fun and entertaining, so the students will not feel bored easily.
- b. For the other researchers, The writer hopes the result of this study may give some useful information and knowledge related to the research.
- c. For the readers, The writer hopes the information may give them new idea and views to learn pronunciation.

