

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The chapter presents some aspects dealing with the topic of the research. They are background of the research, problem of the research, objective of the research, operational definition, significance of the research and scopes of the research.

1.1 Background of the Research

Listening is one of the basic skills which must be mastered in learning a language. There are four skills that students should master in learning a language, namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing. If they are not able to listen, then they will not have an ability to speak. If they are not able to speak, then they will not be able to read, those explanations show how skills in language are related and influenced each other. From this explanation, it can be concluded that listening is the very basic skill in learning a language.

When students are learning a new language, listening helps them to recognize the sounds of that language. How to get the real characteristics of a certain language is by listening to people who always use the language as often as possible and it will be more effective if the people who talk to each other are native speakers. Harmer (2010:133) says that Listening skill is good for our students pronunciation, too. The more they hear and understand English being spoken, the more they absorb appropriate pitch and intonation, stress and the sound of both individual words and those blended together in connected speech.

In other words, the more students listen the better they become, not only in understanding speech, but also in speaking. It is impossible for people to be able to speak without learning to listen first. It is supported by Vandergrift (1999:163) who says that listening is a complex, active process in which a listener must discriminate between sound, understand vocabulary and grammatical structures, interpret stress and intonation, retain what is gathered in all of the above, and interpret it within the immediate as well as the larger sociocultural context of the utterance.

Giving appropriate material can generate the students' motivation in listening class. But good and appropriate listening materials at the school where this research was conducted were still less compared with other skill. To solve the problem, the teacher needs to find the material and give effective techniques and media. Ur (1997:66) says that films, television or video program could also provide some enjoyable listening if they were based on good stories or interesting topic. There is plenty of visual reinforcement to the spoken text, television and films which is associated with the students' minds with pleasurable recreation. TV news program is chosen to be used in the listening class because it is important to get the students' participation in the listening class. In other words, the students will be active if they are interested in the material. It is necessary to help the students understand the lesson well.

It is believed that authentic material can increase listening because learners are learning spoken English from a real communication setting. Authentic video includes movies, TV news programs and news broadcasting . They can provide realistic view American culture and motivate learners to enhance their

comprehension (Burt, 1999:1). So TV news program is one of the authentic materials that can be used because it provides visual and auditory material that make the students more interested. In addition, TV news program is used because it provides important contribution in foreign language learning (Lonergan, 1984:2). Through TV news program, the students could learn the intonation of the speaker, new vocabulary, accent, facial expression, and the body language in the meantime. Therefore it is necessary to use TV news program as a teaching material in listening class to help the students understand the lesson well.

Based on the preliminary study and the observation that is conducted by the researcher, the students have some difficulties in listening because they have limited vocabulary and grammar as well as they have difficulty in writing a sentence. From the observation, it is known that the average of all students scores is 63.33 and the minimum score is 70. It means that the students score in listening is not achieved, because only 48.38 % students who gets score upper 70. It can be concluded that students listening ability is necessary to improve.

The reasons why the students get minimum score is caused by some factors, such as the students bored and lack of interest, the media in teaching listening activity was not optimally used. Besides, the students lacked of experience in listening to real life situation such as television news, radio news, announcement on public places, etc.

Based on problems in the class, there are some appropriate medias. One of them is TV news program that is expected to increase students' listening comprehension achievement and active participation. The researcher and the

English teacher of the tenth class of SMA Muhammadiyah 2 Wuluhan agreed to conduct Classroom Action Research with that media.

Based on the explanation above, a Classroom Action Research entitled “Improving the Tenth Grade Students’ Listening Comprehension by Using TV news program at SMA Muhammadiyah 2 Wuluhan in the 2015/2016 Academic Year” is conducted.

1.2 The Problem of the Research

Based on the research background, the problems of the research is formulated as:

1. How can the use of TV news program improve the tenth grade students’ listening comprehension at SMA Muhammadiyah 2 Wuluhan in the 2015/2016 academic year.
2. How can the use of TV news program improve the tenth grade students’ active participation at SMA Muhammadiyah 2 Wuluhan in the 2015/2016 academic year.

1.3 Objective of the Research

Based on the background and the problem, the objective of this research is formulated as:

1. To describe whether TV news program can improve the tenth grade students’ listening comprehension at SMA Muhammadiyah 2 Wuluhan in the 2015/2016 academic year.

2. To describe whether TV news program can improve the tenth grade students' active participation at SMA Muhammadiyah 2 Wuluhan in the 2015/2016 academic year.

1.4 Operational Definition

Operational definitions of the terms are intended to avoid misunderstanding of the concepts used in this study. The terms that are necessary to be defined operationally are as follows:

1.4.1 Listening Comprehension

In this research listening comprehension means the ability of the students to understand and comprehend the TV news program. The students understand general information, know what the topic of the news. Besides, they also can answer the specific information of 5W and 1H comprehension questions, i.e: when, where, what, why, how something happened and who do it.

1.4.2 TV News Program

TV news program means the listening materials on the topic of entertainment, health, social issue, environment and culture, which downloaded from VOA news website. As the teaching material, the TV news program is shown by using slide projector/LCD player through laptop in the language laboratory.

1.4.3 The Students' Listening Comprehension Achievement

The students' listening comprehension achievement in this research means the students achievement after learning listening skill by using TV news program.

It is indicated by the students' scores of listening comprehension achievement test in the cycle after the implementation of the action given.

1.5 Significance of the Research

The results of this research are expected to be useful to the following people:

1. For the English teacher

The results of this research are expected to be useful for the English teacher as the contribution and consideration to apply TV news program as media variation in teaching listening to improve students listening ability.

2. For the Students

The actions given are hopefully useful to motivate the students to be interested in practice and increase their listening skill by using TV news program.

3. The Future Researchers

Hopefully, the results of this research can be used as useful input for future researchers as information and reference in conducting a further research dealing with the use of TV news program on different skills.

1.6 Scopes of the Research

To simplify this research, there are two scopes as follows:

1. This research only uses TV news program in teaching listening at SMA

Muhammadiyah 2 Wuluhan to improve students' listening comprehension.

2. This research is conducted to tenth grade class of SMA Muhammadiyah 2

Wuluhan in the 2015/2016 academic year.