STUDENTS' PERCEPTION ON THE BENEFITS OF USING ENGLISH SONGS TO LEARN ENGLISH: A CASE STUDY AT THE ELEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS OF SMAN 2 GUNUNG TALANG

THESIS

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ABSTRACT

Oktiana, Annisa (2022). Students' Perception on the Benefits of Using English Songs to Learn English: A Case Study at the Eleventh Grade Students of SMAN 2 Gunung Talang

The aim of this study is to find out students' perception about the benefits of using English songs to learn English in SMAN 2 Gunung Talang. This research is descriptive research. The sample of this study were the eleventh-grade students of SMAN 2 Gunung Talang. The sample was carried out using the purposive sampling method. The number of samples in this study was 45 students. Data was collected by means of a questionnaire and strengthened by interviews. Based on the findings of the research, it was found that the students as the sample had the positive perception on the benefits of using English songs to learn English. The results of this study of students' perception on the benefits of using English songs to learn English are as follow 1) students' perception of using English songs to learn vocabulary are in the good category (3.8%) 2) students' perception of using English songs to learn pronunciation are in the good category (3.8%) 3) students' perception of using English songs to learn listening are in the very good category (4.03%) 4) students' perception of using English songs to build students' motivation are in the very good category (4.14%). In conclusion, students' perception on the benefits of using English songs to learn English are in the good category and very good category.

Keywords: Perception, English songs, Learn English

ABSTRAK

Oktiana, Annisa (2022). Persepsi Siswa tentang Manfaat Penggunaan Lagu Bahasa Inggris untuk Belajar Bahasa Inggris: Studi Kasus pada Siswa Kelas XI SMAN di SMAN 2 Gunung Talang

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui persepsi siswa tentang manfaat penggunaan lagu berbahasa Inggris untuk belajar bahasa Inggris di SMAN 2 Gunung Talang. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian deskriptif. Sampel penelitian ini adalah siswa kelas XI SMAN 2 Gunung Talang. Pengambilan sampel dilakukan dengan menggunakan metode purposive sampling. Jumlah sampel dalam penelitian ini adalah 45 siswa. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan kuesioner dan diperkuat dengan wawancara. Berdasarkan hasil penelitian. ditemukan bahwa siswa sebagai sampel memiliki persepsi positif tentang manfaat menggunakan lagu bahasa Inggris untuk belajar bahasa Inggris. Hasil penelitian persepsi siswa tentang manfaat menggunakan lagu bahasa Inggris untuk belajar bahasa Inggris adalah sebagai berikut 1) persepsi siswa menggunakan lagu bahasa Inggris untuk belajar kosakata berada pada kategori baik (3.8%) 2) persepsi siswa menggunakan lagu bahasa Inggris untuk belajar pengucapan berada dalam kategori baik (3.8%) 3) persepsi siswa menggunakan lagu bahasa Inggris untuk belajar mendengarkan berada dalam kategori sangat baik (4.03%) 4) persepsi siswa menggunakan lagu bahasa Inggris untuk membangun motivasi siswa berada pada kategori sangat baik (4.14%). Jadi kesimpulannya persepsi siswa tentang manfaat penggunaan lagu bahasa Inggris untuk belajar Bahasa Inggris berada di kategori baik dan kategori sangat baik.

Keywords: Persepsi, Lagu Bahasa Inggris, Belajar Bahasa Inggris

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The researcher

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

In Indonesia, English is learned as an English Foreign Language by most of students from elementary school to university level. Some purposes of learning English are to continue education into higher level, to get better job opportunities, and to follow technological and scientific improvements around the world. In general, there are four important skills that must be mastered in order to learn English. They are listening, reading, writing, and speaking. All of these skills are also helped by other elements such as vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, and spelling. All of these skills cannot be separated each other. According to Listiyaningsih (2017), there are four basic skills that must be mastered to concentrate on English. They are reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the same time. The four skills must be mastered in order to fully master the English language.

However, the students often encounter problems while studying English. According to Arifiani (2017), several challenges faced by students when learning English include a lack of vocabulary, grammatical errors, limited exposure, mispronunciation, a lack of motivation, and anxiety. Every student has different levels of difficulties in learning English, such as difficulties in communication, understanding grammar, mispronunciation, lack of vocabulary, or lack of motivation. Another factor is uninteresting or overly rigid learning methods. As a result, effective learning activities in school are expected to improve students' English ability.

As a foreign language, more of English learners in Indonesia get difficulties to study English. Many learning problems are caused by different element found between the two languages that is their first language and the target language. Several teaching styles make students bored. It may be caused by some factors. Learning English is complex since there are factors that determine the success or failure of learners. There are two kinds of factors that affect someone in learning English. They are internal and external factors. Internal factor comes from the learners, such as motivation, interest, aptitude, and inteligence. The external factor comes from outside of the learners, such as situation and condition of the environment, learning materials, and learning program.

Because of those factors, the teacher should have special trick to make their students motivated in learning English. The students can be interested in learning English if we can motivate them by using some interesting media and enjoyable activities and we can adjust them to their ages and grades so they can integrate themselves into English, for example singing English songs. It can contribute many things to improve students' motivation. The contributions of singing English song can enrich vocabulary and develop listening as well as speaking skills.

There are many ways that teachers used to help students learn English. One of them is by using English song. Even, using English songs to learn English has been applied in the 2013 curriculum in the senior high school syllabus of English subject. The primary purposes of using English songs are

to represent and improve English skills. It is due to English song offering extraordinary aids in improving English. Berne (2009) stated that listening activity is the first activity to do when communicating with the target language in the language learning process.

Lestary (2009) stated that English songs have a lot of potentials in improving English skills. Through the English songs, teachers can introduce the language features in a more interesting way and provide a more enthusiastic atmosphere for the students in learning English. Songs can also be used in any lesson level and can be incorporated into many ways depending on the teachers' activity. Learning English by using English songs in the classroom can be used to generate energy and boost students' confidence in the classroom. Listening to English songs can also reduce students' anxiety in learning English. Besides that, listening to English songs is also recognized as being able to increase their interest in both the material and learning English (Wan, 2013).

Orlova (2003) claimed that in English learning activity, there are several advantages of applying English songs. It can be used for (1) beat, stress, and the intonation design practice; (2) vocabulary encouragement; (3) tenses conversation with the students; (4) class conversation improvement; (5) listening practice; and (6) writing practice. In addition, Murphey (1992) stated that English songs additionally can help students to improve their pronunciation. Toscano-Fuentes (2016) explained that because of English songs can be utilized to increase students' motivation in the classroom, it will affect in increasing students' creativity, interest, and self-assurance.

The first aspect that benefit from the use of English song is vocabulary. English song is thought to be one of the alternative methods for improving English, particularly vocabulary. It is like what Wrenshall (2002) said that there are a lot of evidences that English songs can improve the ability in memorizing English vocabulary. In addition, the rhythm and rhyme of the English lyrics can help in vocabulary development. Some English songs can also stimulate the brain to work in the study.

Second aspect that benefit from the use of English song is pronunciation. English song can help students to pronounce new vocabulary without feeling bored like when they learn and pronounce vocabulary directly from the teacher. English songs also have characteristic rhythm with a rehashed beat that match the pressure example of communicated in English. Due to the phonemic differences between Asian languages and English, Moriya (1988) emphasizes that using English songs for pronunciation practice is important for Asian English learners. As a matter of fact, we often find people who are not particularly interested in learning English can sing English popular songs with pronunciations that are relatively easy to understand.

Third aspect that benefit from the use of English song in learning English is listening skill. English songs can help students to improve their listening skills by giving them listening practice to various types of rhythm and intonation. According to Purcell (1992), students could be bored by listening to a narration or conversation over and over again as they try to

understand the meanings of unfamiliar words or phrases in the context. On the other hand, listening to English songs repetitively can seem less boring due to the rhythm and melody. English songs can help to set up a feeling in English because it has a stress-timed rhythm.

The last aspect that benefit from the use of English song is students' motivation. Faliyanti (2017) stated that English songs can be used as an alternative media to create an engaging learning environment. English songs, in this sense, may reduce boredom in the teaching process by providing students with a break from textbooks or exercise books. Moreover, according to White (2007), using English songs in the classroom will improve students' musical competence as well as the learning process as a whole. English songs can also have a positive impact on the motivation of participants.

Because of the many benefits of English songs for students, it is a right decision to put English songs into the syllabus. One of the schools that implements English song into their syllabus is SMAN 2 Gunung Talang. Based on the preliminary observation and interview result, this school has implemented English song intensively for five years. Besides being a regular learning session, English song is also included into interest learning session. In interest learning session, English is taught more deeply than in regular learning session. English is also taught twice a week. In interest learning session, the teacher used English songs when starting learning. Based on the interview with one of the English teachers in that school, the researcher found that the students' scores in learning English with songs were good.

There are some previous studies in using English songs to improve English. First study was conducted by Nauval Chaidir Hilal Al Fauzan (2021). The aim of this study is to see students' perception in learning process by using English songs. The result of this study indicated that using English songs have positive effects that would be extremely beneficial to the participants. Second study was conducted by Lestari Apriyani (2020). This study is aimed to know students' perception toward the use of English songs. The finding of this study is the using of English songs in the classroom are in the good category, it means that students give positive perception toward the use of English songs in learning English. The last study was conducted by Bagas Raharjo Ranggen (2016). The aim of this study is also to see students' perception on the support of English songs to the students' English development. He discovered that students give positive response on the support of English songs to the students.

From the previous research above, some researchers researched perceptions of the use of English songs to learn English in general. However, this study was conducted to see students' perception on the benefits of using English songs in some aspect. They are vocabulary, pronunciation, listening skill, and students' motivation in learning English. The students who were used as samples had also learned English through English songs for one year in cross-interest classes.

Based on the background above, the researcher is interested in conducting a research entitled "Students' Perception on the Benefits of Using

English Songs to Learn English at the Eleventh Grade students of SMAN 2 Gunung Talang". So, it can be seen how students view on the benefits of English songs to learn English whether they have a positive or negative perception.

B. Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the research above, students' perception on the benefits of using English songs to learn English can be studied at several levels. Previous research on students' perceptions of the use of English songs was also conducted just to see students' perception in general aspect.

C. Limitation of the Problem

According to the background and identification of the problem, the researcher limits the problem on students' perception on the benefits of using English songs to learn English at SMAN 2 Gunung Talang.

D. Formulation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, the researcher formulated the problem; "What are the students' perceptions on the benefits of using English songs to learn English at the eleventh grade students of SMAN 2 Gunung Talang?"

E. Research Question

What are students' perceptions on the benefits of using English songs to learn English?

F. Purpose of the Research

According to the problem of the study above, the purpose of the research is to know the students' perception on the benefits of using English songs to learn English at the eleventh grade students of SMAN 2 Gunung Talang.

G. Significance of the Research

The researcher expects this research to provide benefits in English language teaching, especially in learning vocabulary, learning pronunciation, listening skill, and motivation. There are two benefits that the researcher expects are theoretical and empirical. For the academic benefit, this research will reference future researchers who need to conduct similar research. Then for empirical benefits, this research is expected to help teachers who are looking for alternative ways of teaching English

H. Definition of the Key Terms

1. Students' Perception

It is the students' opinion on the benefits of using English songs to learn English.

2. English Songs

It is media that was used by students to learn English.

3. Learning English

Learning English is an activity carried out by students in mastering English skill.