

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter will explain the background of the study, identification of the problems, formulation of the research problem, objective of the research, and significance of the study.

A. Background of the Study

English is one of the essential languages for each person to communicate globally. English is also in communicating between nations. English can learn verbally and non-verbal. In Indonesia, some Indonesians must learn English foreign language at school.

English is one of the subjects taught to students from elementary to tertiary levels. Through out-of-school programs, such as private English, extracurricular English programs, etc.

Covid-19 pandemic currently accompanying greatly affects the learning process of students. Corona viruses are viruses that can cause illnesses from mild to severe symptoms.¹ There are two types of corona virus causes, including Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). Covid-19 is a new type of disease that humans have never previously identified in humans. The cause of the virus Covid19 is called Sars-CoV-2.

The Minister of Education and Culture, Nadiem Anwar Makarim, issued Circular Number 4 of 2020 about the Implementation of Education in Emergency Corona virus (Covid-19), a guide for implementing online learning. The purpose of online learning is to ensure the fulfillment of students' rights to receive educational services during COVID-19, protect and prevent the spread of

¹ Fathiyah Isbaniah, 'Pedoman Pencegahan Dan Pengendalian Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)', *Germas*, 2020, 0–115.

COVID-19 in education units and fulfill psychosocial support for educators and students.

The online student learning process at Senior High School 1 Rantau Utara has problems, especially in learning English. Learning problems are abnormalities that make it difficult to perform learning activities effectively.²

Result of the interview from English teacher at SMA N 1 Rantau Utara that some reasons about students' problems when learning English:

Pertama, Bahasa Inggris sulit untuk dikatakan karena itu tidak Bahasa ibu. Kedua, siswa tidak mengerti materi pelajaran seperti mendengarkan, menulis, membaca dan berbicara. Ketiga, Rasa malas. Pandemi Covid-19 yang mengakibatkan harus belajar dari rumah dan menggunakan aplikasi online membuat siswa malas untuk mempelajari Bahasa Inggris dan jaringan internet juga tidak bagus. Terakhir, kurangnya ketertarikan siswa dalam pembelajar Bahasa Inggris sehingga mereka kesulitan untuk memahami materi.³

(First, English is hard to say because it is not "mother tongue." Second, students do not understand the learning material such as listening, writing, reading, and speaking. Third, they feel lazy. The covid-19 pandemic that results in learning from home and using online applications makes students increasingly lazy in learning English, and internet networking are not good. Last, less interest in learning English students, so they have difficulty understanding English).

The interview from students that learning English is difficult to understand:

Menurut pendapat saya, Bahasa Inggris adalah sangat sulit untuk dimengerti karena saya tidak mengetahui artinya; Berbicara dalam Bahasa Inggris sulit untuk dikatakan karena beberapa kata berbeda tulisannya; Mendengarkan juga, terkadang tidak jelas untuk didengar; Terkadang juga penjelasan guru bosan disamping itu sekarang kami menggunakan pembelajaran daring membuat materi sulit untuk dipahami.

In my opinion, English is hard to understand because I don't know the meaning; Speaking is hard to say in English because some word is different in writing; Listening too, sometimes is not clear to hearing it; Sometimes, the explanation of the teacher is boring besides that now we

² Martini Jamaris, *Kesulitan Belajar: Perspektif, Asesmen, Dan Penanggulangannya* (Bogor: Ghalia Indonesia, 2014). p.3

³ 'Interview with English Teacher of Eleventh Grade IPA 1 at Senior High School 1 Rantau Utara Ma'am Insan' (Rantauprapat, February 2021).

use online learning that makes us learn at home then difficulties in understanding it.⁴

Generally, English subjects in the school are difficult to understand. Many students think that learning English is bored. It shows students have many problems in English learning. The students' problems will be the solutions for teachers and students in English learning and increase students' learning achievement.

The research about analysis of student is learning English difficulty in elementary school. The result is the factors caused difficulties by students' fifth grade in learning English including internal factors are students less motivated and less interested in learning English. Meanwhile, the external factors are the teacher does not use media; the methods used are less varied and not innovative. Similarly, the research about analysis English learning difficulties eight grade at Junior High School. The results are (1) types of listening difficulties faced students in completing material on English subjects from the aspect of Reading, Listening, Structure, and Writing understanding concepts and vocabulary. (2) The factors that cause English learning difficulties from cognitive aspects are skill abilities memorization, the ability to master the material, and bad study habits. The affective aspect is a lack of interest in the material and less focus.⁵

Learning problems have two factors. First, the internal factors include motivation, self-confidence, and attitude. Second, the external factors include socio-cultural, the family environment, learning facilities, teachers, and teaching-learning aids.⁶

Based on the explanation above and other research results, there are difference in learning English. The researcher is interested in researching students' problems in learning English during the Covid-19 Pandemic. So the researcher

⁴ Interview with Students of eleventh Grade IPA 1 at Senior High School 1 Rantau Utara (Rantauprapat, 2021).

⁵ Ita Widyawiti, 'Analisis Kesulitan Belajar Siswa Pada Mata Pelajaran Bahasa Inggris Kelas VIII Di SMPN 1 Sawahan Madiun Semester Genap Tahun Ajaran 2010-2011' (Universitas Sebelas Maret, 2012).

⁶ Andi Thahir, *PSIKOLOGI BELAJAR Dalam Memahami Psikologi Belajar* (Bandar Lampung, 2014).p. 207.

will conduct research entitled: **“The Students’ Problems in Learning English during Covid-19 Pandemic at Senior High School Rantau Utara”**

B. Limitation of the Problem

This research is only limited to students’ problems in learning English. This research conducted at twelfth grade students of the senior high school one Rantau Utara. This research focuses on students’ learning English problems during the Covid-19 Pandemic at SMA Negeri 1 Rantau Utara 2020/2021.

C. Identification of the Problem

There are some problems of this research that can identify:

1. Change in the learning system.
2. English is not "mother" tongue.
3. Students do not understand the materials.
4. Access to learning information depended on the network.
5. Inadequate facilities and infrastructure.

D. Formulation of Problem

Based on the background of the study above, the researcher formulated research problems are:

1. What are the students’ problems in learning English during the Covid-19 pandemic?
2. What causes the students’ problems in learning English during the Covid-19 pandemic?
3. How are solve the students’ problems in learning English during the Covid-19 pandemic?

E. Objective of the Study

Based on the formulation of problem research above, the objective of the study are:

1. To know the students' problems in learning English during Covid-19 pandemic
2. To know the causes of students' problems in learning English during Covid-19 pandemic
3. To know how to solve students' problems in learning English during Covid-19 pandemic

F. Significance of the Study

There are theoretically and practical benefits from this research:

1. Theoretical

This research can be helpful for other research related to students' problems in learning English during the Covid-19 pandemic at Senior High School.

2. Practical

- a. To improve English the quality of education in English learning during the Covid-9 pandemic for students, teachers, headmaster, and other staff.
- b. Teachers can provide various learning to increase student participation and English learning during the Covid-9 pandemic.
- c. To improve students' understanding of English learning during the Covid-9 pandemic.
- d. Researchers can apply science received related to English learning during the Covid-19 pandemic.