

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Listening is one of skill in English language subject, there are speaking, reading, and writing beside of listening. In the Bulletin 1952 (as cited in Guo and Wills, p.3) said that listening is very important skill. Listening is the skill that will be the communication way with the other people, so the students have to be able to listen effectively. It means that the students need a good understanding. On the other side, many students said that listening is the most difficult skill. Because they rarely listen English texts or others listening material, so they difficult to know what they listen. Other factor that made they feel difficult in listening skill is the facility in their school is not complete. Moreover, some schools have listening laboratory, but it did not work. In addition, there were no tape recorders or listening cassette to use in listening teaching process.

Rost's 1994 study (as cited in Saha & Talukdar, 2008, p.3) found that listening is fundamental aspect in teaching language. Without good understanding in teaching and learning process, the students cannot begin the next level. To get a good understanding, they need to listen well. Moreover, Brewster, Ellis, Girard (as cited in Arnold, 2011, p.2) stated that you have to understand about what someone talk to you, you cannot give a respond if you did not understand. So, the students will understand about what teacher said if

they can listen well. They can do their assignment appropriate the teacher's direction, and they can ask questions about the material. So, the students will be active students. However, if the students did not listen well, they will difficult to understand what the teacher said about the material. It makes them to be passive students because they did not know what the teacher said, so they did not have question. Sometimes, the students did not do right their assignment because they did not clear about the teacher's direction of the assignment. So, listening skill is very influence the students learning of English language. Listening skill is also called communication skill. The students always make communication with people around of them. So, they need to understand what people said to them. It means that they must be good listener.

Many experts make methods or strategies in listening teaching process to solve the problems in listening teaching process. The method or strategy in listening teaching process is important. Nonetheless, the teacher is the most important element in listening teaching process. So, the teacher of English listening must be creative in listening teaching process. The teacher must be able to be interest for the students. So, the teacher must choose creative method or strategy to teach the students.

There are some researches that discussed about increasing students' listening skill. These researches used some methods or strategies. For example, these used a cassette, and dictation technique. These researches study how to use those methods or technique.

These researches lack to watch the students environment, facility, and how to catch students' attention. These researches are too ungainly. Some school also did not have listening cassette and tape recorder. The students also will be bored if they only listen from cassette.

On the other hand, based on the researcher's observation at the first grade students in MA Al-Huda, the students never get listening activity because their listening laboratory were broken. It was stated when the researcher interview on February 2013, with an English teacher to the first grade students of MA Al-Huda is Afdhal Z. Kaman S.Pd. The teacher stated that the first grade students of MA Al-Huda never get listening activity because their listening laboratory were broken. There were no tape recorders. The teacher did not give listening activity in learning and teaching process. The students only hear the teacher when he explained the material by English language. So, they very need a strategy that can give them listening activity without listening laboratory or tape recorder. An interesting method will make the students interest to learn. The method must be able to make the students easy to understand the material and enjoy or not ungainly in teaching process. "Listening is also hard work! And can be stressful! So in order to maximise the potential for acquisition of language, we need to ensure that our students are not stressed about this process." (Arnold, 2011, p.3). So, the teacher must be creative to choose method or strategy in listening teaching process.

Heath (n.d. : 58) said that picture dictation is an interesting way in English class. It uses in listening teaching. The teacher only uses a picture and

the information of picture. In listening process, the teacher only read the information by himself, and the students have to draw a picture depend on the information that are dictated. It can help the students to get the key idea of the information that are dictated. It does not need listening laboratory or tape recorder. So, it appropriate with the first grade students of MA Al-Huda because their laboratory were broken. Drawing is one of interesting activity in teaching and learning process. It was also done in listening teaching process. It will make the students more enjoy, did not bored, and be enthusiastic in listening teaching process. Moreover, picture is one of visual support in teaching process. On the other hand, Rubin (2011) said that visual support can help the students to understand the text. In the picture dictation activity, the students drew their imagination of the information in the text that the teacher dictated. It will help the students to find out the key idea of the text. Furthermore, the picture helps the students to remember the information that they listen. Based on the description above, the researcher would like to formulate the title "the influence of a picture dictation toward the students' listening ability (this research conducted at the first grade students of MA Al-Huda academic year 2012/2013)".

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background above, research question from this research is "can a picture dictation influence the students' listening ability?".

1.3 Research Objective

The objective of this research is to find out the influence of a picture dictation toward the students' listening ability.

1.4 Significances of Research

This research can be the basis to the new research. It helps the next research to find reference or source of the influence of a picture dictation toward the students' listening ability. The result of this research is expected to help the students in listening learning process. This research helps the teacher to catch the students' attention with this interesting method. It can be guide to teacher in teaching and learning process of listening skill and also help the students do not bore in listening teaching process.

1.5 The Scope of Research

This research studied about using a picture dictation. It only applied in listening skill in descriptive text. This research was done by quasi-experimental design. The samples are the first grade students of MA Al-Huda. There are X_A and X_B . The researcher chose X_A for the samples.