

## CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents: background of the study, problem of the study, objective of the study, the significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and definition of key terms.

### **A. Background of the Study**

Language is a means of communication, although language is not only a form of communication among human being, it is certainly the most important. Language can be used to express feeling to other people. Language is central to human experience and if we understand the process of communication with another, we must look closely at the human capacity for language and at the particular qualities of language which enable it to play so powerful a role within us and between us.<sup>1</sup> So, language is media for delivering meaning and message. Communication is called effective when people understand the intended information. Communication has a big impact on our ability to get on with people and get the things that we want. Good communication skills can help us to avoid conflict and to solve problem.

There are so many languages in this world, English is one of them, which is known and used by most of people in the world. English has a very important role since it is used as a means of international communication. In this case, English is one of international language. The importance of English

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<sup>1</sup> D Wilkins in Donn Byrne, *Second language and Teaching* (English Teaching Perspective), (Longman Group Limited, 1980), 16

is not only in how many people speak it but also in what English is used for. The result of English as an international language is that English has become the dominant language in many fields of activity, such as education, business and banking, industry and commerce, transportations, tourism, and so on.<sup>2</sup> So, many people need to learn English for many purposes. For instance, English teachers learn English for their work as a teacher, students learn English for passing the examination, and entrepreneurs learn English for making good international relation.

The other result of English as international language is that English is taught from elementary school to university. For instance, in the universities of Indonesia, the students learn English for some purposes such as being English teacher, English translator, tour guide, and so on. Therefore, the lecturers will conduct a good teaching and learning strategy in order to make their students can get their aims. The lecturers teach the students for some fields such as English language skill (listening, speaking, reading and writing), English competence (grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation) and some material that can develop the students' knowledge and mastery about English.

However, learning English as a foreign language is not easy. Most of learners face many difficulties when they learn English. So, the teachers must focus on helping their students to improve their English language proficiency by conducting a good teaching and learning process.<sup>3</sup> There are some ways to solve this common problem such as by using appropriate learning strategies

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<sup>2</sup> Peter Malgyes, *Being a Non-Native Speaker*, (Hong Kong: Macmillan Publisher TD, 1994), 1

<sup>3</sup> Sandra J. Savignon, *Communicative Competence: Theory and Classroom Practice*, (United States: Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1983), 110

and method, making intensive course program and conducting a good practice program.

Therefore, the English Departments of some universities makes a practice programs for their students in order to improve students' ability of English. The purpose of this program is to give an opportunity for English students to practice their English skills and competence. One of universities that conduct a practice program is English Department of State College for Islamic Studies (STAIN) Kediri, East Java. In this college, the practice program is called English Outing program.

English Outing program is implemented in the fifth semester of the study. According to Toyyibah, S.S., M.Pd, one of the lecturers of English Department at STAIN Kediri:

English Outing program is conducted as a practice program in order that the English students can practice and improve their English skills and competence. The role of this program is that the English lecturers bring their students to have a trip to Jogjakarta or Bali Island where the students can find many native speakers. There, the students get a duty to practice and improve their English ability especially for listening and speaking by having a talk with some native speakers. After the students join this program, they must write the report about their trip and conversation with native speaker in order to practice their writing skill. So, from this program, the students, at least, focus to practice their speaking and writing skill.<sup>4</sup>

English Outing program has an important role in English teaching and learning processes. The students can practice their speaking skill directly by having conversation with native speakers. This kind of learning cannot be found in the class because there are no lecturers that are native speakers in this

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<sup>4</sup> Toyyibah, SS, M.Pd, One of the lecturers of English Department at STAIN Kediri, Kediri, 13 December 2013.

university. Moreover, the implementation of this program is travelling and getting in touch with native speakers. In practice, some of students preferred to enjoy the panorama and took pictures rather than getting in touch with native speakers. Some of them just got in touch with native speakers for one time. So, they might not practice their English skills optimally. It means that the implementation of English Outing program might not fit with the purpose of the program.

It is very important for English Department to have a descriptive-survey research about the teachers and students' opinions about the English Outing program so that necessary changes can be made about the program. As stated by Morrison, a survey research has several characteristics; typically it is used to observe large field of issues, populations, programs, etc, in order to measure or describe any generalized futures.<sup>5</sup> The purpose of survey research is to describe some aspects such as abilities, opinions, attitudes, beliefs, perceptions and/ or knowledge of the population at a single point in time.<sup>6</sup>

According to the researcher's observation, it seems to the researcher that descriptive-survey research about English Outing program has not been conducted so far. So, the researcher conducts the study that focuses on the implementation and significance of English Outing program. The aspects of implementation of English Outing program that will be observed are activities, teachers and students' performance, facilities, and assessment. The main

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<sup>5</sup> Louis Cohen and Keith Morrison, *Research Methods in Education 5<sup>th</sup> Ed*, (London: RoutledgeFalmer, 2000), 171

<sup>6</sup> Jack R. Fraenkel and Norman E. Wallen, *How to Design and Evaluate Research in Education*, (New York: McGraw- Hill, 2006), 397

purpose of this research is to describe the teachers and students' opinions about English Outing program.

Based on the background of the study above, the researcher intends to conduct a descriptive-survey research about "TEACHERS AND STUDENTS' PERCEPTIONS TOWARD THE IMPLEMENTATION AND SIGNIFICANCE OF ENGLISH OUTING PROGRAM."

### **B. Research Problem**

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

1. What are the teachers' perceptions toward the implementation and significance of English Outing program?
2. What are the students' perceptions toward the implementation and significance of English Outing program?
3. Is there any significant difference between teachers and students' perceptions toward the implementation and significance of English Outing program?

### **C. Objective of the Study**

According to the research problem above, the objective of this study is:

1. To know the teachers' perceptions toward the implementation and significance of English Outing program.

2. To know the students' perceptions toward the implementation and significance of English Outing program.
3. To know the difference of teachers and students' perceptions toward the implementation and significance of English Outing program.

#### **D. Significance of the Study**

The result of the study is expected to be used in English Department; this institution can give attention fully to the English Outing program. In this research, the researcher conducts the descriptive-survey research about the teachers and students' perceptions toward the implementation and significance of the program. This study can be used by this institution to find out the strength and weaknesses of the implementation of English Outing program and also the significance of the program. So, they can think how to improve program service and make the program better than before.

For the lecturers, the researcher hopes that the lecturers could take a significance role of bringing the English Outing program as a significant program for students in practicing and improving their English skills and competence. The lecturers should use their ability and creativity to make this program can reach its goals in improving students' mastery in English.

For English students, the researcher does hope that the students of English Department can contribute a good participation in English Outing program. They must practice their English skills and competence when they join this program in order to make this program fit with its goals.

For the next researchers, this study can be used as useful information of conducting descriptive-survey research about the program implementation. It will be useful when someday they will conduct a similar research. So, they can use this research as their reference.

#### **E. Scope and Limitation**

In conducting the research, the scope and limitation are set up in order to specify the study. The scope of the study is related to the teachers and students' perception toward the implementation and significance of English Outing program. The respondents of the research are the lecturers of English Department who are the committee of this program and the students who are in the sixth semester and had joined this program. There are 10 English lecturers and 80 sixth semester students.

Nevertheless, the limitation of the study emphasizes on the teachers and students' perception toward the implementation and significance of English Outing program of English Department at STAIN Kediri. This research only focuses on observing the implementation and significance of the program. So, it does not describe the whole part of this program like program evaluation. This research also does not correlate the impact of the program toward students' achievement of English. It is expected that by giving limitation on this research, the researcher can get the data or information from respondents easily.

## **F. Definition of Key Terms**

To make it clear for the readers to comprehend the topic discussed in this study and to avoid the confusion on the similar terms, it is needed to define key terms used in this study, they are:

### **1. English Outing Program**

English Outing program is an English practice program that is built by English Department at STAIN Kediri. It is one of the English programs that give an opportunity for students to practice their ability in English especially English speaking skill. The role of this program is that the students will have travelling in the tourist area (Yogyakarta or Bali Island). The students get a duty to have conversation with native speakers that can be found over there. So, by having conversation, they can practice their ability of English.

### **2. Perception**

Perception refers to the recognition and understanding of events, objects, and stimuli through the use of senses (sight, hearing, touch, etc).<sup>7</sup> Likewise, in the Dictionary of Psychology, perception is defined as "The process of knowing objects and objective events by means of the senses."<sup>8</sup> In this study, perception refers to teachers and students' perception toward the implementation and significance of English Outing program

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<sup>7</sup> Jack Richards, et al, *Longman Dictionary of Applied Linguistics*, (Essex England: Longman, 1985)

<sup>8</sup> J Chaplin, *Dictionary of Psychology*, (New York: Dell Publishing CO, 1981), 376



### **3. Implementation**

Implementation is carrying out of something such as planning, idea, program etc. In this study, implementation refers to how English Department carries out English Outing program.

### **4. Significance**

Significance refers to a noun. It means having special meaning or importance.<sup>9</sup> Based on this study, significance is the importance of English Outing program for teachers and students.

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<sup>9</sup> Oxford Learner's Dictionary new edition, (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000), 410