

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter focuses on the area of the study that involves background of the study, research question, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

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

Foreign language learning is closely related to knowledge of pedagogy, and linguistics. Meanwhile, if viewed from a psychological level, a sense of interest in learning foreign languages is also very much needed, awareness in students to love English will be the main key to fostering interest in learning English. Their interests can be reflected by the strategies they use in learning (Wati, 2018). Students in this era must know and have good knowledge of English. If all components are used successfully, students will surely and will easily understand easily in English. However, learning English which is a foreign language is not as easy as being mastered by students. To avoid these difficulties and misunderstandings, students really need learning strategies in order to master them well (Sari et al., 2019).

English learning strategies plays a very important role in English learning activities. There are many students who are able to achieve good achievements because they are taught using the right English teaching and learning method. An English teaching and learning method is the key to

learning. If a teacher applies an inappropriate and boring method, then the class is over. On average, students will tend to get bored and dislike English classes that last in long teaching and learning period.

Learning strategies can be defined as a flexible approach use of operations, steps, plans, routines for the learner to assist with the obtaining, storing, retrieving, and using of the information. Language learning strategies are specific thoughts and actions to maximize the learning process, comprehension, storing and remembering new input and skills (Ang et al., 2017). Learning strategy is part of education because it is an initial series before starting learning and its role is very important to achieve learning objectives, namely increasing intellectual intelligence, behavior, and attitudes that are in line with the learning process.

According to Oxford (1990), learning strategies are actions taken by students to help their own learning to be easier, faster, more enjoyable, more effective so that they can receive learning well. However, students must know what learning strategies are and how suitable for them to master these skills because each student will have different styles and learning strategies to acquire these skills.

The ability to learn English has become a necessity and demand in today's increasingly globalized life. Moreover, almost all private, government and academic institutions have established English language proficiency as a requirement for prospective employees or continuing their studies. Even in daily interactions, English has become a second language.

The learning process itself contains various kinds of systems including the methods used in the learning process, the media used in learning, and the approach to students applied in the learning process. Learning is a thought process. Learning to think emphasizes the process of seeking and showing knowledge through the interaction between the individual and the environment. In learning to think, the educational process in Islamic boarding schools does not only emphasize the accumulation of knowledge of learning materials, but what is prioritized is the ability of students to acquire their own knowledge.

Challenges are something that requires great mental or physical effort in order to be done successfully and therefore test one's abilities. It can be seen that a challenge means something or a problem that is not easy to do and requires more effort and skills to deal with it. So, what is meant by challenges in this study are obstacles or problems that students must face when learning English in the English class.

English is not only taught in formal institutions but many informal institutions also teach English, one of them is in a boarding school. In Islamic boarding schools, like students Syarif Hidayatullah Cyber Pesantren are also required to learn English.

This islamic boarding school requires learning a foreign language or English. In the islamic boarding school, they come from various educational backgrounds, some are purely students from the field of English studies and some are from other fields of study. It turns out that

the English skills of students from other fields of study have better abilities than students with English backgrounds. Thus, this phenomena is an interesting thing to study.

Currently, education in Indonesia does not only study Indonesian and regional languages but in the curriculum foreign languages are also studied, such as English, Arabic, and other foreign languages. Unlike other foreign languages which are usually only included in local curriculum content, English is one of the subjects that must be taught starting from basic education to higher education, both in general educational institutions and those based in Islamic boarding schools such as Syarif Hidayatullah Cyber Pesantren.

Studies on EFL learning strategies of students in several institutions has been investigated by Ningrum (2018), Rosdianti (2019), Saa (2020). Rosdianti's research (2019) examines Language Learning Strategies at the junior high school level. The results show that in general students use strategies that focus on learning, paying attention, and taking notes or listening to the material. Then, Ningrum (2018) researched on the Learning Strategies of English Foreign Language Students in high school students. The students tend to take notes, listen to voices, and speak like native speakers and students tend to be used by students in general. Meanwhile, SAA (2020) has Analyze of Students' English Learning Strategies in Islamic boarding schools. His students revealed that students use body language or gestures to communicate by speaking, students often

ask the speaker to repeat or explain better to get the correct information and students use the internet for clarity such as social media, translation apps, entertainment apps, online games to help them learn.

However, these studies have not explored communities that come from various backgrounds and do not want to include participants from various backgrounds. This is important to be thorough because it is likely, that their learning strategies must have different when they come from different backgrounds.

So in addition to the right learning skills, the right learning strategy is very decisive in facilitating the English learning process for students at Syarif Hidayatullah. Therefore, from the explanation above, the researcher is interested in researching the challenges and strategies of learning English in Syarif Hidayatullah.

## **B. Research Problems**

Based on the background of the study above, the problems of the research can be formulated as follow:

1. What are the challenges faced by students in Syarif Hidayatullah Cyber pesantren?
2. What are the strategies used by students in Syarif Hidayatullah Cyber pesantren?

## **C. Research Objective**

According to the research problem, the main objective of this study is to find out the challenges faced by students in Syarif Hidayatullah Cyber

pesantren and the strategies used by students in Syarif Hidayatullah Cyber Pesantren.

#### **D. Significances of the Study**

The purpose of this research is to analyze students' strategies in English learning in English Classes at Syarif Hidayatullah Cyber Islamic Boarding School. By doing this research, the writer hopes that the results of this research can be useful for:

##### Theoretical benefits

- The implemented program contributes information about the challenges of English language learning strategies at Syarif Hidayatullah Cyber Pesantren
- Can be used as a source of research in understanding more about the challenges of English language learning strategies at Syarif Hidayatullah Cyber Pesantren.

##### Practical benefits

- For students, This research can be used to show English language learning strategies
- For Teachers. Researchers. hope that this research can foster in English language learning strategies
- Further Research, In addition, the results of this study are also expected to be useful for further researches. Hopefully, this research can be useful for other

researchers who want to research with the same topic and purpose as a reference.

## **E. Scope and Limitation of the Study**

There are many things that cause students to have problems in learning English. Based on the identification of the problem, the author provide a limitation of the scope of the author to be carried out. The researcher only limits the problems in learning English in class. In this study, the researcher found the challenges and English language learning strategies at the Syarif Hidayatullah Cyber Pesantren.

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

### **1. Learning strategy**

learning strategy is an attempt to use a systematic strategy that is carried out effectively to get an achievement. Learning strategies can be described as traits and behaviors. Learning strategies are essentially related to planning or policies designed in managing to learn to achieve the desired learning objectives.

Learning strategies are also learning models that rely on the development of thinking skills, meaning that the goals to be achieved in learning are not just students who can master a number of subject matter, but how students can develop ideas and ideas through verbal language skills.

## **2. English Language Learning**

In the current era of globalization, the development of the world is dynamic, starting from the development of free trade, as well as the establishment of several foreign-owned companies in Indonesia, which makes the use of international languages increasingly important for us to master. Learning English is very important, especially in terms of education. In addition, through English, we can introduce the diversity of culture and language of this nation to those who want to know about this nation.

## **3. English language learning strategy**

English learning strategy is a method chosen by an English learner to help the process of learning the language, so that the process of learning English becomes easier, more effective, fun, and self-directed.

Education is very important for one's future progress. Good education is education that starts from students, class conditions, and also good teacher teaching. Talking about education will never end, moreover, education is always related to how to teach or how to teach a good teacher in the classroom. The learning outcomes of a good student will be able to improve their learning achievement. But in reality, there are still many students who have difficulty in understanding a lesson due to the use of teacher learning strategies that are not appropriate, causing students to experience a decrease in

learning outcomes. The process of learning English should have a direct impact and influence on students. Gain a deep understanding of grammar, basic words, and sentences. Make students feel the prospect of further development to apply learning to the lives of individual students every day. Learning English should not only be able to read and hear what the teacher says in class but there must be developed such as, students understand and can pronounce correctly following under existing English language rules and practice it on foreigners or people who can balance students' abilities.

#### **4. Challenges in English Learning**

Everyone has different difficulties in learning English. Learning English can be compared to a small child practicing walking. First, you have to crawl, learn to stand up straight, walk and run. The same is true with learning English. It takes confidence in learning a language that is not from your own country, namely English. Learning English is a challenge for students to be able to apply it in everyday life or in improving English learning achievement. With the trust that each student has, individual students will very easily interact in their learning environment.