

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the background of the research, scope of the research, statement of the problem, objective of the research, and significance of the research.

### **A. Background of the Research**

Language learning strategies is among the main factors that help determine how and how well our students learn a second or foreign language. A second language is a language studied in a setting where that language is the main vehicle of everyday communication and where abundant input exists in that language. A foreign language is a language studied in an environment where it is not the primary vehicle for daily interaction and where input in that language is restricted. Following the traditional in our field the term second language is used in this chapter to refer to either a second or a foreign language. Learning strategies are specific behaviors or thought processes that students use to enhance their own learning.

English learning strategies are needed by students in order to develop their knowledge especially in learning English, it is the way to improve their skill in English, those are listening, writing, reading, and speaking, every skill has its own strategy. So that's why, Students should have their strategy to learn English. English learning strategy has important role, it can improve and increase students skill, especially English skill. For example: to improve reading interest of the students. the strategies to increase it, as a teacher should prepare picture books, so that the student is more interest to read. It can impact for their reading skill, add knowledge, and their English vocabulary is added.

Moreover, there are many researches about teaching-learning methods, teaching strategies and teaching models to increase student interest in learning. However, there is no single method that matches all students. Because each teaching method used depends on student learning strategy.

The problem experienced by students of mathematics education study programs in learning English is, because English is very difficult for them to learn and also there is no appropriate instructor, lack of vocabulary, and very little interest in them, and indeed this is not only happening in mathematics education study programs but also felt by all study programs. With this the researcher wants to see what deficiencies are found in learning their English, even though mathematics is a science whose interest is not only in the national discipline but at the national level.

Learning strategies are defined as “ specific actions , behaviors, steps , or technique such as seeking out conversation partners, or giving oneself encouragement to tackle a difficult language task used by students to enhance their own learning. When the learner consciously chooses strategies that fit his or her learning style and the foreign language task at hand, these strategies become a useful toolkit for active, conscious, and purposeful self-regulation of learning. Learning strategies can be classified into six groups: cognitive, metacognitive, memory-related, compensatory, affective, and social. Each of these is discussed later in this chapter.

## **B. Scope of the Research**

This research focuses on exploring the fifth semester Students' English Strategies at Mathematic Education Study Program of Khairun University.

## **C. Statement of the Problem**

The research problem of this research can be formulated as follows:

What strategies are used by the fifth semester students' in Learning English at Mathematic Education Study Program of Khairun University

## **D. Objective of the Research**

This research aims to know students' learning strategies in learning English language.

## **E. Significance of the Research**

### **1. Theoretical Significance**

- a. The results of this study are expected to provide insight into how to learn English well.
- b. This research is as additional information for lecturers and students to find out the ways and styles of learning English in mathematics study program students.

### **2. Practical Significance**

The results of this research are beneficial for students, English language teachers/lecturers, Mathematic Education Study Program, and prospective researcher:

- a. Students, by understanding learning styles, they will be able to improve their achievement in English subjects.
- b. Teacher / Lecturer, This will give a real description of the teacher about the learning styles of his students and also the importance of knowing the learning styles of his students to improve their students' performance in English.
- c. Prospective researchers can use this research as their reference and by knowing the findings of this thesis; and he will know the importance of knowing the learning styles used by students in learning English.