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The EFL Learners' Listening Comprehension Through Western Song and The Strategies for Improvement

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Abstract
The Purpose of this research was to determine and to describe the students' difficulties in comprehending the western song and their strategies used in improving the ability by the EFL learners of Pohuwato University. The method used in this research was a qualitative descriptive and took the first semester of English Department of Pohuwato University as the subject of this research. The researcher used purposive sampling technique in determining the subject and obtaining the data by used interview and observation as the instrument. The result shows that the EFL learners of Pohuwato University had the difficulties in listening the western song. They were didn't understand the topic of the song, lack of vocabularies and difficult to comprehend the whole song while in comprehending the western song, the EFL learners of Pohuwato University applied four strategies. They were preparing strategy, paying attention strategy and note taking vocabularies in order to understand the whole song message and ideas of the topic from the song.

1. INTRODUCTION

Limitation of vocabulary and less of practicing get the learners in trouble to face the subject of their lessons. They comprehend their material with differentlearning of strategies while at the same case, in teaching English especially for the EFL learners reveals many new problems even when the tools of technology applied by the lecturers. Knowing that this is much needed rather than teaching in manual technique, learners must recognize their capacity to determine the steps of learning and comprehending the subject. In ensuring learners about their language progress especially in listening western song, the arranging of strategies are needed to solve their listening difficulties and to improve their listening comprehension. Pratiwi (2021)[1] also said that applying strategies will help learners find their ways in practicing and solving problems. By keeping in line that listening comprehension is one of the basic and priority skills in engaging learners' output, so the components and its teaching variation are counted.

Learning speaking with its practicing doesn't mean that all the skills and English components will be mastered in simply ways. Some rules of sentences and vocabularies enrichment are counted. At the same case, difficulties in listening subject should not be neglected. This is the major cause faced by the EFL learners that is being involved to overcome their mistakes when trying to understand the meaning form the song. To conduct a success teaching of listening teachers had considered some available ways. By teaching more new vocabulary technique, giving feedback in activity or applying strategies for better comprehension. Martinez (2021) stated that listening fosters the learning progress because its' process provides an input to maintain the learning and enrich the vocabulary for beginners. [2] Therefore, Wang and Hiu in Zhang (2021) [3] emphasized that in comprehending the information of listening, learners need listening source and strategies for better interpretation. Besides, Gonivita and Pahamzah stated that some skills must be needed to comprehend the listening. The vocabulary help learners understand new words before trying to do the strategies to get the idea from listening. [4]. By considering the students' skill they may at least know what they should get to build up their knowledge, so that with utilizing audio

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and video in teaching listening will be more effectively change learners in progress. Alabsi (2020) ensuring that the listening as the subject can support the students' progress and it develop the other skills of language pedagogy because the way learners learn listening not only prioritized to understand the words being said but also they involved to recognize the languane sounds patterns, variation, specification, phonemes, stress, rhythm, intonation, and tone [5]. The complicated rules of listening subject get the learners comprehend the meaning word by word by analyzing its contents and meaning that obligated the teachers to guide them with suitable practical teaching material.

Some research results of strategies contribute the learners' learning effectively to the whole language skills components. Zhang (2019) has proved on research that the strategy training of listening gave the positive impact of the students' listening comprehension. A cognitive strategy was developed, however, the major aspect of teachers' mistakes caused by the less of paying attention on the students' experience and competence in using their strategies. Considering the objective of the classroom teaching to the students' listening comprehension by video, the implementing of strategies was very helpful to enrich students' performance [6] .

What has been found by Saraswaty revealed that the difficulties of students' listening comprehension revealed that students are less of comprehending listening because universities and schools pay more attention to writing, reading, vocabulary and the research indicated that teachers help them develop the effective of strategies in listening and build up the students' listening comprehension [7]. This complex of learning listening must be counted to give more attention and practice so that the learners and teachers find their best ways to solve the difficulties problems. Regarding to the listening subject using western song, Mohan and Thomas stated that the conduction of music in the process of learning have the effective impact for the students' activity in the classroom and also music becomes the alternative way to build up the students' concentration in learning [8]. This is showed that music become very good part to improve the students' involvement.

To empower the learners' interesting of learning, an integrated media or technology should be considered [9]. This greatly becoming the newest ways and the best strategy to help them enhance their motivation to master the skills of English. Media and tools of teaching commonly proved the better improvement of the learners' progress. One of motivated and interested techniques is taking western song as the topic to improve the learners' progress of learning listening. Atba and Zeinab (2019) said that the song is more enjoyable and carry learners in better listener, easier in demonstrate the pronunciation, enrich vocabulary and spoken language [10]. Listening a song from audio or video derives the learners' effort to know and understand what the words are spelled, they must analyze the correct translation in order they can find the ideas came from the western song. The complex rules and activities should be accompanied by the appropriate and obvious strategies to support all the media and tools of teaching. The learners will find the subject meaning easier when it is applied with the suitable media learning. Using audio or video in giving the listening subject create good feedback from the learners.

The writer has found that the learners of English department of Pohuwato University must resolve their complicated listening. They are difficult in assisting the words of vocabularies neither in spelling nor in translating the listening conversation, song and the other content of listening subject. Therefore, the lecturers have conducted to give some ways for having progress in listening by learning strategies to define the words, guessing the meaning of the song, retelling stories form audio and video learning in order to help them interpreting or translating the subject.

This research set out to analyze the EFL learners' difficulties in listening through western song and their strategies used to comprehend and to deliver the whole message from the song. Comprehending that some strategies usually practiced to the speaking subject, as the component to accomplish the learners' skills, those strategies are not limiting to the subject of listening. A strategy to listen the song will be very needed especially taken the song from western and this is becoming the novelty of this research. Besides, English learners of Pohuwato University still need much preparing and practicing in comprehending the listening subject. Therefore, due to the limitation of EFL learners' vocabularies, motivation, and strategies in listening subject, the researcher intended to do her analysis and decided to use the western song in finding this research's further information.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The methodology of this research was descriptive qualitative. Qualitative descriptive studies to provide a description of the subject about the behavior of the human activities, report of events, or phenomenon [11]. The purpose of the qualitative descriptive aims to obtain the data and reconstruct the data qualitatively. According to Bogdan and Taylor, qualitative research is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form o written or spoken words from people and observable behavior. The research prioritizes the descriptive data in the form of writing, oral statement and observed behavior,

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compared to data with numbers[12]. The subject taken by choosing a purposive sampling at the second semester of EFL learners of English Department of Pohuwato University by considering that the first semester was the beginners and need many experiences to develop their skills. During the process of collecting the data, the researcher obtained to use interview and observation. To collect the data, an interview was done to get a clear information
from the respondent about their difficulties and strategies during the listening of western song which applied by some activities of giving the lyrics that have to be fulfilled by the learners, practicing the audio from the western song, and watching the movie content from western song and the observation was taken to describe the EFL learners' activity that could reveal the clear description from the learning process. The analysis of the data taken by describing all the activities done form the process of the lesson and explain the clear data for the result of the interview from the EFL learners'of Pohuwato University.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSING

The result of the research shows that there were some students difficult to differentiate some new words and they were trying hard to find the meaning of the song's lyrics. There were 5 learners said that in the first time they listen to the western song, they could not comprehend anything of what the native said from the song. There were 2 learners also said that the topic of "fight song" form the second song had very long lyrics that they difficult to find what paragraphs they should focusto translate. The rest of the students who did not really find the speakers' song said that the limit vocabularies will get no to comprehend. They were ensuring the researcher that their skill of practicing has not been improved so that they seemed very difficult in understanding the topic. The interview result and the activity observation also had shown that even there were only two learners succeed to find the unfamiliar topic, many of them still enjoy the song and had applied their strategies to help them found the song's meaning and its purpose. The learners 5 and 7 were trying hard in finding the meaning by writing the lyrics they heard and asking for the correctness to the lecturer. It is supported by Walker in Baekani (2018) that one of the serious problems of listening comprehension is related to the pronunciation of words. Besides, mostly learners in the discussion session were ask and answer about what they had found from the western song[13].

The result based on what the researcher has arrange in the problem of the research first question about EFL Learners' difficulties reveals the explanation that mostly students were difficult to translate the lyric or the text of the western song during the process of listening the song. The topic that become very crucial to be understood were the unfamiliar words which had not been known by the learners, the learners' skill's improvement was less of practicing due to the learners' lack of vocabulary mastery and the most difficulties faced was to find the whole meaning of the western's song lyrics. The strategies used by the EFL learners' of Pohuwato University in improving their skills of listening were note-taking strategy, preparing strategy, and paying attention strategy. It was shown form the learners that there were 3learners following the lecturers' instruction to note what they heard to find better translation.

Nowkoreze in Kahvaszi (2018) makes clear that taking note strategy help the students building up the practical academic and increase ability to recall and comprehend the matter of education while O'malley and Chamot in Kahvazi defined the taking note strategy as writing down the essential words and notions in verbal, graphic or numerical form in order to facilitate the performance of a language task[14]. Goh (1998) categorized the taking note as the cognitive strategy which a strategy used to help learners memorize the new information they got [15]. While Abdalhamid n Hidayati describes that the learners who doing the preparation before listening the song categorize as metacognitive strategy due to the preparation of what they should do [16]. These findings amend the previous theories of strategy in practical subject. Learners involved in exploring many things to build up ideas in finding the messages from the western song. The result of the description analysis and the observational condition shows that although the learners had their difficulties in finding the whole messages of the western song, at least they were succeed in applying their listening strategy to complete the song from their task paper. As this stand, the researchers concludes that the EFL learners of English department of Pohuwato University need more practicing in preparing the vocabularies enrichment in order that they will not face the same difficulties in listening the western song.

The activity of fulfilling the missing lyric from the western song shows that some students writing to fulfill the missing lyrics from the western song sung by the native with very carefully analysis, this accomplishment only done by some students. Nevertheless, all the activity was done very well by the learners, and they have tried to apply their strategy to comprehend the listening subject.

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4. CONCLUSION

The result showed that the EFL learners of Pohuwato University had the difficulties in listening the western song. They were difficult in translating the unfamiliar vocabularies, the learners' lack of vocabulary mastery and difficulties to find the whole meaning of the western's song lyrics. In comprehending the song, the learners had prepared their self and their note taking before listening the western song. Except planning their preparation, they also focus to pay attention on the topic of the listening. In understanding the ideas of the listening, the learners trying to find the message of the song. The other last comprehension of listening skill which is very important to be applied is the interpreting process of the difficult and unfamiliar words from the listening. This is the learners' others choice to help them get the message of the lyrics and song completely during the process of listening. Form the observation of students' activity, the writer found that there were only some students writing to fulfill the missing lyrics from the western song sung by the native with very carefully analysis however some words written missed by one or three letters in it. Nevertheless, all the students had tried their best and efforts to apply their strategies to help them comprehending the listening topic and those missing lyrics that have to be completed.

Student in limitation of vocabulary still need preparation before following the class of listening or the test of listening subejct. The more vocabulary they have, the easier to understand what the meaning of the song which is being told by the singer. These vocabularies are not easy to be mastered by only memorize them and suddenly forget the words. A strong motivation comes when the process of learning involves their interest. Therefore, a technique of teaching in comfortable and enjoyable condition should be practiced in everyday learning so that the learners' difficulties will be reduced by doing a lot of practice. As the learners who taught by English, they have to consider this strategy of listening in helping them find the meaning of the listening subject.

Regarding to this research effectiveness, the teachers and lecturers are expected to update their teaching method and techniques as their contribute of teaching professionalism so that the future learning will take place as it should be. They also have to do their best in helping their students enhancing their skills and knowledge of English. Beside that, teachers need more effort in building up the students' competences in mastering the ways they understand the topic of listening, management time to arrange their concentration and attention when facing the listening subject either the test of the listening or the communication which improving their sills to listen and to speak and the last is their interpreting skills in avoiding the complicated topic.

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