

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Through advanced technology, numerous media can be used in learning English. Tilwani et al., (2022) said that in the modern educational era, technology plays the role of supporting learning through various technologies. One of the tools that can be used is video. TED Talks is one of a medium that uses video, it is also helpful for teaching English (Abdulrahman, 2018). From the statement above, it can be concluded that TED Talks, as the result of advanced technology, is a medium that can support student learning.

TED Talks is a media that provides speech presentations freely with the various topics and information by the various speakers. It is also beneficial for students because of the numerous types of videos that are provided. TED presentations span a wide range of subjects, including sports, entertainment, fashion, politics, and technology. As a result, there are numerous accents, words, and idioms that can be employed in a didactic manner (María et al., 2018). TED Talks provide audio-visual which helps the students in listening and also can be supported by visuals for improving their skills. It is a medium that provides audio-visual and can help the students to understand the context by listening and also reading the subtitles. It is a fantastic medium to use because it provides a wide range of topics to choose from and allows us to pick and choose what we want to view (Tilwani et al., 2022). A study also proved that TED Talks given the students' generally good perception of the usage of it for independent listening practice, is believed that one of the greatest strategies to build listening or viewing abilities is to engage students in frequent exposure to relevant and entertaining information (Gavenila et al., 2021).

To the students listening, TED Talks, according to the research results, is advantageous, especially to those with listening challenges. As students, listening skill is one of the challenges because the difference in accent and the lack of vocabulary can affect the result of the learning process. As a result, the students do not understand what the speakers are saying (Rintaningrum, 2018). On the other hand, the use of audio learning is the best media for learning English and TED Talks is one of them. Utilizing TED Talks as a credible source offers various advantages that can help increase listening comprehension (Tilwani et al., 2022). Therefore, the students can use TED Talks to help them to improve their listening skills based on their purpose which is a media for their interest and encouragement by listening to the audio. listening for showing attention, and also to find the speaker's intention.

This research is conducted based on a phenomenon that happened in college students' fields. Many students use TED Talks as a medium for learning English that have many interesting topics, and they also argue that it has many benefits. Supported by the informal preliminary interview with fifteen students, eleven of them said that TED Talks can improve their listening skills in many aspects of macro-skill and micro-skill of listening. Therefore, based on the phenomenon, a researcher decided to analyze the students' perceptions after using TED Talks to improve their listening skills.

Numerous studies have been conducted on the role of TED Talks as a medium for improving listening skills. First, a study conducted by Tilwani et al., (2022) investigated 70 participants who watched the TED Talks. The result showed that it can improve and gives a positive perception for improving their listening skill. The second, Wu, (2020) examined the use of authentic videos such as TED Talks to teach listening comprehension to enhance listening in English and the result showed that the majority of students said that learning TED talks videos improved their listening comprehension and some of them choose to watch TED in school while the other prefer to watch it at home. The third, Rudneva et al., (2019) examined the use of TED lectures as part of ESP blended learning training to improve students' listening comprehension skills, the result showed that there is an

improvement but the important outcome of this study is an overview of different self-regulatory learning mechanisms in L2 listening. The forth was conducted by Kozińska (2021), this research study conducted on 27 university students. The study was carried out as a result of suggested online instruction at Polish institutions when the TED community had spread globally and event records were available can be accessed by anyone for free online, the result shows that watching TED presentations online can improve listening, speaking, and interpersonal abilities.

Based on the previous studies, most of the research was conducted using quantitative research. Nevertheless, this study aims to analyze the students' perceptions of TED Talks to improve their listening skills using qualitative research. The result of the study can hopefully help the students realize the role of technology, especially TED Talks, as a medium for learning English.

1.2. Formulation of the Problem

This study focuses on answering the question “What is students’ perception of TED Talks in improving their listening skills”?

1.3. Operational Definition

1.3.1 Perception

Perception is the result of identifying the perception, benefits, and contributions, as a learning medium to improve students’ listening. It includes three aspects cognitive, affective, and conative aspects.

1.3.2 TED Talks

TED Talks is a media that provides a speech by a speaker which helps the students improve their listening skills autonomously based on their interests.

1.3.3 Listening Skill

Listening is the process of hearing a word and letting the people interpret the communication by the process of it which can support other skills such as speaking, reading, or writing.

1.4 Aim of the Research

This study aims to analyze the students' perception of using TED Talks to improve their listening skills autonomously.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The study believed that TED Talks can improve the students' listening skills which in the long term can inspire not only students but also teachers in using it as learning media. It can open the way of thinking for both students and teachers that technology gives some advantages for learning the language.