

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains research information. The chapter includes the following sections: background of the study, formulation of the problem, operational definition, aim of the research, and significance of the study.

1.1. Background of the study

Songs are media that are widely used in various ways, including in the teaching and learning process. The teacher and the students can use it as a learning medium for learning the English language. Songs are usually one of the things that help them the most to master English. In an educational setting, songs create a relaxed and comfortable environment, allowing students to choose songs relevant to their interests and needs (Kalendonu & Katemba, 2023). When choosing a song, the teacher can consider several things, such as lyrics, sound or rhythm, meaning, and the singer. Teachers must be creative and aware of their students' favourite songs in order to make the learning process meaningful and the goals of learning English easily achievable (Hadi, 2019). If the teacher can find a song that the students like, it can be more helpful, and also, the students can use the song they like themselves, not only in class. This led the researcher to the English song from Bangtan Sonyeondan (BTS) used by students who were fans of the group to learn English.

According to her experiences, the researcher sees that the English songs by BTS can be used as a learning medium for their fans, especially for students in the EFL context. To confirm this phenomenon, the researcher made a pilot study with a questionnaire before conducting this research. Questionnaires in the form of google forms were shared via social media, friends, and WhatsApp. The researcher asked the participants to fill out a questionnaire with two parts about using BTS English songs. In the pilot study, the researcher found a specific phenomenon among BTS fans in Indonesia, mostly students. Refers to that pilot study, the students used the English songs by BTS as a medium of learning English, especially for vocabulary mastery. They used the song in

informal learning activities, independently learning English using English songs from BTS. They did this activity at a certain time they wanted. They can learn the English language with BTS's English songs when they want. They can study at home, in the library, or wherever they want, even when lying on the bed listening to BTS songs on YouTube or Spotify. The process carried out by students learning independently using English songs from BTS differs according to their way. From the data of the pilot study, the researcher summarized some of the similar learning steps, as follows: Listening to BTS's English songs, making notes from the lyrics of the songs they listen to, and finding out the meaning of the new vocabulary encountered, and learn in minutes or hours.

Looking at the results of the research that the researcher describes below which focus on the use of songs and their benefits. The first previous study was by Al-efeshat & Baniabdelrahman (2020); they investigated the EFL teachers' and students' attitudes in public schools toward using songs in learning English. This study found that song is useful for students in learning vocabulary and is also considered good practice for the teacher. Additionally, there was Isnaini & Aminatun's study (2021), which looked at students' perceptions of the Indonesian Teknokrat University regarding using songs in their vocabulary acquisition process. According to the findings, students believe that English songs help them learn and improve their English vocabulary and skills. They discovered that English songs significantly impact students' English skills.

Furthermore, Naima (2021) discovered the effect of using English songs on young learners' motivation. The result from that research showed that with the multi-modal characteristics, songs could have a great impact and create an enjoyable and inspiring atmosphere for study. It is proven that songs can influence language acquisition and enhance students' motivation to learn English. From the three previous studies that the researcher described above, this is the first time anyone has seen the phenomenon of BTS English songs being used as a medium for learning the English language. This indirectly raises a new research gap: using BTS English songs as a learning medium.

Therefore, researchers are interested in researching further or exploring students' perceptions of using BTS English songs as a learning medium for learning the English language. However, the writer limits the study by focusing on students' vocabulary mastery to get effective results.

1.2. Formulation of the Problem

In this research, the researcher formulated the research question of the study which is 'What are students' perceptions on BTS' English songs as a learning medium for learning English vocabulary?'

1.3. Operational Definition

To avoid misunderstanding, the researcher provides the definition related to the topic in this study as follows:

- a. English Songs : English songs sung by BTS are used by fans, who are students as a learning medium for learning the English language independently.
- b. Learning Medium : English songs by BTS are a learning medium or a supporting tool used for students in their learning English language process, especially vocabulary mastery.
- c. Students' Perceptions : Point of view or opinion by the students regarding their experiences, behaviour, feeling, values, or knowledge of the English songs that BTS released and used as a medium for learning English vocabulary.
- d. Learning English Vocabulary : Vocabulary learned and obtained by students when learning English using English songs from BTS entitled "Dynamite, Butter, and Permission to Dance".

1.4. Aim of the research

According to the problem of the research above, the aim of this research is to investigate and to find out the students' perceptions towards BTS' English songs which were used as a learning medium to learn English vocabulary.

1.5. Significance of the Study

The researcher expected the research to get a result that would be useful for readers in terms of the following:

a. Theoretical Uses

This research can provided benefits and give a piece of new knowledge in field of Education, especially using songs as a learning medium in teaching and learning English.

b. Practical Uses

This research could be a new reference for future researchers conducting similar research and for teachers and students for their teaching and learning medium.

c. Empirical Uses

This research will help to fill the previous study's gap about using songs as a learning medium in teaching and learning English language, especially in vocabulary mastery.