

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

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

Language is a part of culture and it is also part of human behavior. Language has important role because it is a tool for communication in daily activities, especially English. As an international language, English can be useful for us. It can help us to communicate and make the relationship easier with many peoples in the world. If someone wants to communicate with other people from other countries, they should master English. Moreover, in globalization era English almost becomes compulsory language for mastered. Most electronic tools use English in their instruction, modern technology and developing science in other countries also used English. So, Learning English is very important for us.

As an international language, English has significant and important role in the process of global communications. Using English to communicate becomes a main order for the globalization era especially in oral and written. Many obstacles occur when the learners learn English. As a target language, learner must be able to transfer their knowledge from their mother tongue into English. The acquisition process of English must be done by learner as the goal of learning target language.

Language learning style is the combination of the students' way to use their ability in teaching learning process. Every student has preference ways to understand the materials and achieve in English subject. Usually every student has dominant in learning style. The teachers can learn learning style used by their students in teaching learning process so that they can use preference technique or method to make learning process more fun and interesting.

Learning style is students' preference way in receiving information in teaching learning process. It is usually unobservable but some

associated with an observable behavior. Thus, the researcher wants to research the student types of learning style in learning English during teaching learning process. The researcher chooses male and female students at the seventh grade of SMP Baitul Qur'an Boarding School Sragen in 2017/2018 academic year. SMP Baitul Qur'an Boarding School Sragen is located on Garut Rt 04, Dawung, Sambirejo, Sragen 57293, Central Java. It has 12 classes, every grade consists of four classes and every class consists of 32 students. There is classification class based on the gender (male and female) students because it is Islamic school.

The researcher chooses the school with some reasons. The first, the researcher interviewed with the teachers in some schools at Karanganyar and Sragen regency and she found that female students are more active in teaching learning process, the majority of their female students are higher in academic achievement than male students. Meanwhile, at SMP Baitul Qur'an Boarding School male students are higher than female students in academic achievement. They are also more active in teaching learning process. It can be seen from the result of daily test and mid-test scores. Besides, it also can be seen from the result of the researcher's observation in the classroom. The second, SMP Baitul Qur'an Boarding School Sragen is a very good Islamic boarding school in teaching learning process and quality. It has become number two in last national examination in Sragen regency even though it is a new boarding school. The researcher wants to know learning style used by the students in private Islamic School, so she chose that school for the research. The third, the researcher is interested in conducting the research in Islamic boarding school because the researcher has assumption that the students in Islamic boarding school have different styles in learning process to understand and achieve the materials. The fourth, SMP Baitul Qur'an Boarding School Sragen combines science and religion (Islamic) in teaching learning process. As we know the vision in SMP Baitul Qur'an Boarding School Sragen is "Delivering the Generations

of Qur'an that are Independent and Outstanding". The reason is interesting so that researcher wants to know actually how teaching learning process and styles used by the students to mix religion and science to achieve their knowledge and ability in learning process.

Based on the observation at SMP Baitul Qur'an Boarding School Sragen, the researcher finds some phenomena that occur at the school. The first is the average of students' scores in daily test has reached minimum mastery criteria. The second is the male students' score is higher than female students' score. Usually, in the whole school found that female students have higher score in test than male students. Females are more active in teaching learning process and get the higher score than male students. But, the researcher found the fact that the male students' get the higher score than female students. It can be seen from the result of score in daily test and mid test. The phenomena above makes the researcher assumption that the differences about score in learning English between male and female students at the seventh grade of SMP Baitul Qur'an Boarding School Sragen is caused by some factors. Therefore the researcher is interested in analyzing the phenomena in the school in types of learning style used by them and the reasons do they prefer those styles.

The researcher uses qualitative in the research. According to Cresswell (2012), the key concept in qualitative research is phenomena. Meanwhile, Dawson in Putra (2012: 126) stated that qualitative research explores attitudes, behavior, and experiences through such methods as interviews or focus groups. It is purposed to get an in -depth opinion and data from the participants. Case study is type of qualitative research used in this research. Case study is done to shed on a phenomenon, which is the process, events, persons, or things of interest to the researcher (Refering Borg, 2002:436). The researcher wants to know the phenomena happened at SMP Baitul Qur'an Boarding School Sragen related learning style used

by male and female students, so the researcher uses kinds of qualitative research type a case study in this research to dig the more information.

Based on the pre-research findings, the researcher is interested in analyzing about type of learning style used by male and female students in learning English. The researcher wants to know learning style used by male and female students and then the reasons of the students prefer used that style. She focused at the seventh grade male and female students of SMP Baitul Qur'an Boarding School Sragen in 2017/2018 academic year. So, the researcher wants to make the research entitled ***LEARNING STYLE USED BY MALE AND FEMALE STUDENTS IN LEARNING ENGLISH: A CASE STUDY AT SMP BAITUL QUR'AN BOARDING SCHOOL SRAGEN.***

## **B. Scope of the Study**

In order to focus the topic, the researcher makes the limitations to both the object and the subject of the research. Through the research, the researcher focused on sensory learning style used by male and female students in learning English at the seventh grade at SMP Baitul Qur'an Boarding School Sragen in 2017/2018 academic year. The reason of the researcher focused on sensory learning style because there are many kinds of learning style such as cognitive learning style that consists of field-independent/ dependent learning style, global or holistic/ analytic learning style, and reflective/ impulsive learning style. Meanwhile, in personality learning style consists of three branches that are extroversion / introversion, tolerance of ambiguity, and left right brain functioning. It purposed to save the energy and make the research easily to investigate.

## **C. Problem Statement**

Based on the background of the study above, the researcher is interested to investigate learning style used by male and female students in

learning English at the seventh grade students of SMP Baitul Qur'an Boarding School Sragen in 2017/2018 academic year. The problems are formulated as follows:

1. What are the types of learning style used by male and female students in learning English?
2. What advantages do they get from those learning style?

#### **D. Objective of the Study**

In line with what has been stated in the problem statements above, the research try to investigate learning style used by male and female students in learning English at the seventh grade of SMP Baitul Qur'an Boarding School Sragen in 2017/2018 academic year. For more specific, the objectives of the research are as follows:

1. To describe types of learning style used by male and female students in learning English,
2. To find out the advantages of learning style prefer used by the students in learning English,

#### **E. Benefit of the Study**

The benefit of the study in this research is divided into two, the first is theoretical benefit and the second is practical one.

##### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

In this research, the researcher hopes that it increase the theories of learning style, particularly in learning styles and learning English.

##### **2. Practical Benefit**

- a. For the teachers, the research is being hope that the teacher will take the benefit from the result of the research to understanding the students learning style so they can help the students to increase the students' English skill and ability. It is also being hoped to

improve the variant of technique or method in teaching learning process.

- b. For the school, the research give additional information about the students' needed in teaching learning process.
- c. For the future researcher, the research can give the additional references in the same study about learning style.

#### **F. Research Paper Organization**

Research paper organization is given in order to make the readers understand and easier read the outline of the paper. In this research, the researcher will organize research paper as follows:

Chapter I introduction, consists of background of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, benefit of the study, and research paper organization.

Chapter II underlying theory, consists of previous study, theoretical review about language learning style and learning English.

Chapter III research method, consists of type of research, object of the research, subject of the research, data and data sources, technique of collecting data, data validity, and technique of analyzing data.

Chapter IV consists of research findings and discussion.

Chapter V consists of conclusion, implication and suggestion.