

ABSTRACT

Wika Widasmara (2021): Students' difficulties in doing English listening test: A Case Study in Higher Education Level in Indonesia. A Paper. English Education Department, Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training, UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung.

Listening is one of the English skills that EFL students may find difficult to master. The students considered listening challenging because it is rarely learned by most students at their previous school. English learning in the school is not accustomed to practicing English in all contexts. Thus, students feel unfamiliar with the English language, especially when listening to the native speakers speak. This study is aimed to discover students' difficulties in doing English listening test and find out the students' perceptions of the factors affecting students' difficulties in doing English listening test.

This study used a case study design of qualitative method to understand what are students' difficulties and perceptions to the factors facing English listening test. The research was conducted at UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung. The data was collected from thirty three questionnaires of college students and twelve worksheets of students for document analysis.

The study found that some students have difficulties in doing listening test. Kinds of difficulty in listening test are speed speech, length speech, and topic/vocabulary. The aspect that most affect to the students is topic/vocabulary aspect. Even though the section has the same topic, but the questions may have different. The factors affecting students' difficulties are: accent, length and speed of speech, and unfamiliar words. The factor that most influence students' difficulties is length and speed of speech. The length and speed of speech influence students' difficulty in understanding the message of speech. Too fast speech with long material makes students cannot catch the meaning directly, thus, students need to repeat the audio more than once. However, students' perception toward listening skill is response positively. Students rated listening skill as important to learn and realized that learning listening was interesting. Their participation in the classroom also is well. They are engaged in practice and learning of listening skill.

In conclusion, students' difficulties are sometimes present in every subject learning process, especially listening skills. Therefore, it is recommended for the teacher to overcome students' difficulties by developing the student learning comprehension with practices and strategies according to student needs.