

MILIK PERPUSTAKAAN  
STAIN ZAWIYAH COT KALA LANGSA

**AN ANALYSIS OF THE STUDENTS' DIFFICULTIES IN  
STUDYING LISTENING**  
( A Case Study at the Fifth Semester in English Department at  
STAIN Zawiyah Cot Kala Langsa )

**THESIS**

Submitted by :

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**STATE COLLEGE OF ISLAMIC STUDIES  
ZAWIYAH COT KALA LANGSA  
1435 H / 2013 M**

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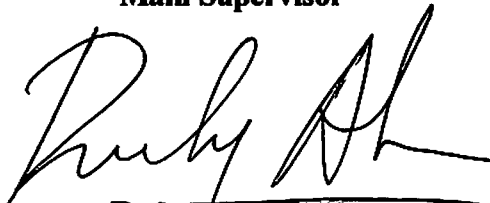
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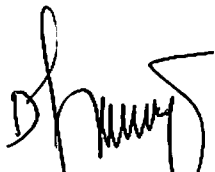
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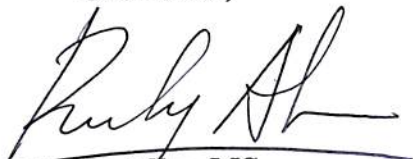
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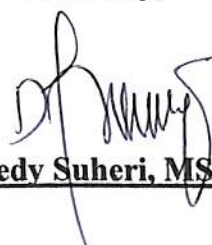
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Menyatakan dengan sebenarnya bahwa skripsi yang ditulis dengan judul **“AN ANALYSIS OF THE STUDENTS’ DIFFICULTIES IN STUDYING LISTENING (A CASE STUDY AT THE FIFTH SEMESTER IN ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AT STAIN ZAWIYAH COT KALA LANGSA)** adalah benar merupakan hasil karya saya sendiri, tidak merupakan pengambil alihan tulisan dan pikiran orang lain. Apabila di kemudian hari terbukti atau dapat dibuktikan bahwa skripsi ini adalah hasil jiplakan, maka saya bersedia menerima sanksi atas perbuatan saya tersebut.

Langsa, 13 Desember 2013

**TIKA LOVINDA**

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TIKA LOVINDA

**AN ANALYSIS OF THE STUDENTS' DIFFICULTIES IN  
STUDYING LISTENING  
(A Case Study at the Fifth Semester in English Department at STAIN  
Zawiyah Cot Kala Langsa)**

**A B S T R A C T**

Listening is an important skill for students of a second language (L2) to master as part of learning to effectively communicate in that language. Listening is the natural precursor to speaking; the early stages of language development in a person's language (and in naturalistic acquisition of other languages) are dependent on listening. Difficulties are something that is not easy to do deal with a difficult situation. Listening difficulties are defined as the internal and external factor that might interrupt text understanding and real-life processing problems directly related to cognitive procedures that take place at various stages of listening. The researcher uses questionnaire as the instruments to collect data. The population is the Fifth Semester in English Department at STAIN Zawiyah Cot Kala Langsa. In selecting the sample is used random sampling. The students of class Fifth Semester are chosen as the sample. A questionnaire was used to determine what the students in the face of difficulty listening. This test is used to determine what students' difficulties in studying listening. Based on the analysis, the researcher finds that mean of the class with the students who like 13,51 % students (5 students) answered that they strongly Agree, 21,62% (8 students) answered that they Agree, 16,21% (6 students) answered that they strongly disagree, 35,29% (12 students) answered that they disagree. From the students' answers, it can be seen that students is considered scary or fun English. It can be concluded that Students' listening among difficulties in studying in the fifth semester of English Department at STAIN Zawiyah Cot Kalla Langsa are Minimum mastery Vocabulary, Memory power of students who tend to be weak, Anxiety students in expressing ideas, and reluctant to speak English because they feel less confident, Her lack of motivation by the students, both from the media, lecturers, etc, Limited study time listening fairly short to be one of Difficulties of listening, the need to practice listening at home, and the other courses, Listener can have difficulty if the speaker has an accent that differs from their own, Speech rate can affect negatively and can lead to lower in listening The data collected from the questionnaire showed that first year students at Stain Zawiyah Cot Kala Langsa have encountered a great deal of factors difficulties in learning listening are two, internal factor and external factor. The internal factors are listener factors, psychology factors, speaker factors, while external factors are Lazy learning, ownership associated with ear disease.

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. The Background of the Study

Many people in the world use English to communicate each other. Communication means how to deliver information or exchange information with other people. So, people will understand the content of message . As Brown said, “English has become a tool for international communication in transportation, commerce, banking, tourism, technology, diplomacy and scientific research”.<sup>1</sup> Therefore, it can be stated that English is used for international communication which is spoken by most people over the world to communicate.

In the educational context, English has become a compulsory subject. In other words, it must be studied by all of students at junior and senior high school, and listening is one of the compulsory subject in the university.

“Listening is the process of receiving, constructing meaning form and responding to spoken and or nonverbal messages”.<sup>2</sup> MiliSaha was drawn, Listening is a skill in a sense that it's a related but distinct process than hearing which involves merely perceiving sound in a passive way listening occupies an active and immediate analysis of the streams of sounds. This correlation is like that between seeing and reading.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> H. Douglas Brown, et.al. *Teaching by Principles : An Interactive Approach to Language Pedagogy*, ( America : Longman, 2007 ) p. 284

<sup>2</sup> Andrew D.Wolvin, *Listening and Human Communication in the 21<sup>st</sup>*, (Wiley: Blackwell,2010), P. 9

<sup>3</sup>MiliSaha, *Teaching listening as an English language Skill*, (accessed Nov 23, 2012), P.1.

Listening is a very important skill, especially for tutors. Many tutors tend to talk too much during a tutorial session. This defeats the purpose of tutoring, which is to allow students to learn by discussion. Rather than turning the session into a mini-lecture, tutors must actively listen and encourage their students to become active learners.

Based on the writers' observation, the difficulty of studying listening is a common problem faced by students. In addition, the problem is also caused by the lecturer's technique in teaching listening comprehension. The potential problems are: lack of control about the speed at which the speaker speaks, inability to get thing repeated, the learner limited vocabulary, the failure to recognize the signals, problems of interpretation, inability to concentrate, established learning habits.<sup>4</sup>

A similarity study entitled "Facilitating listening in second language classrooms through the manipulation of temporal variables." was conducted by Higgins, J.M. (1995). The aim of the research here to find out students' difficulties in listening in UIN Malang. Based on the research, the researcher found that 44.4 % students stated that listening arabic text is difficult. And 40.7 % stated that listening Arabic text is very difficult. The difficulties which is found by researcher are the students got many difficulty to find out the main idea of the text, and remember all of dialog of the text, a comment about the story and the students difficult to conclude the story and finally take conclusion about whole story.

From the statement above, we may conclude that one of the Indonesian students' problems in mastering English is that their mother tongue rules still

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<sup>4</sup>Underwood, M. (1989). *Teaching listening*. New York: Longman. P.17

influence them in using it. By the importance of listening in language learning and teaching, it is essential for teachers to help their students become effective listeners. In the communicative approach to language teaching, this means modeling listening strategies and providing listening practice in authentic situations: those that learners are likely to encounter when they use the language outside the classroom.

In teaching listening at STAIN Zawiyah Cot kala langsa especially the Fifth semester, students are expected to understand the material that is given. But in fact, students have difficulty in listening to native speakers. According to the problem above, the writer interested to make a research entitled **“An Analysis of The Students’ Difficulties in Studying Listening Among Fifth Semester In English Department At Stain Zawiyah Cot Kala Langsa”**.

#### **B. The Problem of The Study**

The writer has formulated some research questions. They are as follows:

1. What are the students’ difficulties in studying listening among fifth semester in English Department at STAIN Zawiyah Cot Kala Langsa?
2. What are the factors that make students difficult in studying listening among fifth semester in English Department at STAIN Zawiyah Cot Kala Langsa ?

#### **C. Purpose of the study**

The purposes of this research are:

1. To find out of the students’ difficulties in studying listening.
2. To find out the factors that make students difficult in studying listening.

#### **D. Significance of the study**

The writer hopes that this research can be useful for:

1. English teacher: English teacher can motivate their students in learning listening.
2. Reader: Reader can minimize the difficulties in learning listening.
3. Researchers: Researchers can create new method in teaching listening.

#### **E. Terminology**

To avoid misunderstanding, the writer states some terms. They are as follows:

##### **1. Difficulties**

Difficulties is plural or difficulty which means the state or condition of being difficult.<sup>5</sup>

Difficulties are something that is not easy to do or to deal with a difficult situation

##### **2. Listening Skill**

Listening is defined as making an effort to hear something, to pay attention or heed. It is different from hearing, which is the physiological process of the ear absorbing sound waves and transferring them along neural pathways to but be a very poor listener.<sup>6</sup>

Listening was traditionally seen as a passive process by which the listener receives information sent by a speaker. Listening here is the

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<sup>5</sup>[http://oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/difficulty?q=difficulties#difficulty\\_4](http://oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/difficulty?q=difficulties#difficulty_4)  
accessed on March 26, 2013

<sup>6</sup> Lisa. J. Dows, *Listening Skill Training*. Maryland: Victor Graphics. 2008. P.1

subject of learning in English department in STAIN Zawiyah Cot Kala Langsa.

Listening skill is so important that many top employers provide listening skills training for their employees. This is not surprising when you consider that good listening skills can lead to: better customer satisfaction, greater productivity with fewer mistakes, increased sharing of information that in turn can lead to more creative and innovative work.