Chapter One

Introduction

In this chapter, the researcher describes the reason of conducting this research in several points including background of the research, statement of the problem, and delimitation of problem. The researcher also describes research questions, objectives of the research, significance of the research and organization of the research.

Background of the Research

Interpreting is a way to communicate between two people who do not speak the same language (Pratiwi, 2016). The person who does interpreting is called an interpreter. An interpreter conveys the information at the conference, seminar, speech, bilateral meeting, global meeting, and other significant events from one language to another language. Interpreter's role is needed to guard and support the international events. There are several reasons why interpreting activity is important. For one thing, interpreting activity provides for bridging communication between two or more speakers who use different languages. Besides, interpretation is required to avoid misunderstanding and convey the speaker's message based on context (Rimadi, 2015). The role of the interpreter cannot be underestimated. A slight misinterpretation has a fatal effect for speaker and listener. Therefore, the interpreter must convey the message in a language that is easily understood by the listener.

Interpreting is one of elective subjects in English Language Education Department in a private university in Yogyakarta. Based on the researcher's

experience who has taken this subject, the students in interpreting class usually practice with their friends from the same country so if they cannot get the point they can ask using their language. However, it will be a problem when the speaker is foreigner who had different language with the interpreter. There are some problems which might appear in interpreting activity. The researcher wanted to investigate interpreting activities in real situation. Thus, the researcher chose LEx program because in this program there was interpreting activities between Indonesian students and Singapore students.

After taking interpreting course, the researcher joined an international community service program in a private university in Yogyakarta. Community service is an activity carried out by students with cross-scientific and sectoral approaches at specific times and areas. This international community service is managed by International Relations Office (IRO). IRO is an international collaboration and relation institution establishing cooperation and networking in the private university in Yogyakarta. IRO provides an international community service called Learning Express (LEx) program. LEx program collaborated with Polytechnic of Singapore students. The program aimed to create social project in Yogyakarta's village.

The researcher was one of the LEx members that joined this LEx program for 12 days in Yogyakarta. The Polytechnic of Singapore students and the researcher stayed for 3 days in Yogyakarta's village to conduct observation and interview for collecting data. The chosen village was a village where LEx students had been doing community service program for the previous 18 days. LEx student

is private university in Yogyakarta student who joined LEx program. Meanwhile, Polytechnic student is Singaporean Polytechnic students. LEx students and Polytechnic students did observation and interview together. Since Polytechnic students did not understand Indonesian language during interview, LEx students as their partner became interpreter to help communicate with the villagers.

Based on the researcher's experience in LEx program, there were several problems the LEx students faced in interpreting activities. The researcher was interested in exploring the difficulties faced by LEx students in interpreting and finding out the LEx students' strategies to overcome the difficulties in interpreting activities. Thus, the researcher desired to conduct research entitled "Investigating LEx Students' Difficulties and Strategies in Interpreting Activities".

Statement of the Problems

As stated before, the researcher joined LEx 2018 program in which there was interpreting activity. According to researcher's experience, there was different language background among the villagers, LEx students and Polytechnic students. Most of the villagers speak Javanese then using Indonesian language as their second language. LEx students have their own local language and speak Indonesian language as well. English is used as LEx students' foreign language. Meanwhile, Polytechnic students have different first language. Since Singaporean is multicultural country, the first language can be Malay, Indian, Chinese or etc. Furthermore, Polytechnic students speak English as their second language. Due to the different background among the villagers, LEx students and Polytechnic students, it might be problem while doing interpreting activity. Based on that case,

the researcher investigated interpreting activity in LEx 2018 program.

Delimitation of the Problem

Based on the explanation above, this research focused on interpreting activities of students at a private university in Yogyakarta especially students who joined LEx 2018 program. The students who joined LEx program came from different majors and faculties at private university in Yogyakarta. Based on several possibilities to investigate in interpreting, the researcher only focused to investigate the interpreting difficulties faced by the LEx students and also their strategies to overcome the difficulties in doing interpreting activities.

Research Questions

Based on the background above, the researcher formulated the researcher questions as follows:

1. What are the difficulties faced by LEx students in doing interpreting activities?

2. What are the strategies done by LEx students to overcome the difficulties in doing interpreting activities?

Objectives of the Research

Based on the research questions, the objective of this research are:

1. To reveal the difficulties faced by LEx students in doing interpreting activities.

2. To find out the strategies done by LEx students to overcome the difficulties in doing interpreting activities.

Significance of the Research

The findings of this research were expected to be beneficial for the people who read this research, especially for students, teachers, and other researchers. The significances of the research were stated below.

For students. This research could be beneficial for students. Students are able to identify the difficulties as they conduct interpreting in a real situation. The students are also able to find out the strategies to tackle the difficulties in interpreting activity. For students who face similar difficulty, they can use the strategy provided in this research. They also can reflect the difficulties and strategies in interpreting to improve their interpreting skills.

For teachers. This research was expected to be useful for teachers who teach interpreting subject. After teachers recognize the university students' difficulties in interpreting and some strategies they do, the teachers can teach how to overcome difficulties in interpreting by explaining various strategies so that interpreting activity runs well. The teachers can also provide some methods that suit their students' needs in learning interpreting subject.

For other researchers. The researcher expected that this research was useful for other researchers who want to conduct similar research. The theories and finding from this research can be a framework for other researchers. The other researcher can utilize the finding as a general overview for further research.

Organization of the Research

      This research consists of five chapters and each chapter has sub-chapter. Chapter one is the introduction of the research. This chapter contains background of the research, statement of the problem, delimitation of the problem, research questions, objectives of the research, significance of the research and the last is organization of the research. Chapter two discusses the literature review. This chapter consists of the theories about definition of interpreting, the types of interpreting, difficulties of interpreting, strategies to overcome interpreting difficulties, review of related studies and conceptual framework. Chapter three presents the methodology used in this research. This chapter consists of research design, research setting, research participants, data collection technique, data collection procedure, and data analysis. Chapter four consists of finding and discussion in this research. This part elaborates finding and discussion. Chapter five presents about conclusion and recommendation of the research.