

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 The Background of Study**

English is one of the international languages and most studied by people in the world. Many countries in the world use English to communicate with other countries. In Indonesian English as a foreign language the developing country, the people try to be able to speak English to make relationship with other countries in the the world , as well as in school lessons students must be skilled in English especially to communicate and convey an explanation on the world of education and teaching requires a person to be proficient in the field of listening

skills. Saricoban (1999 : 1) assert that “ listening is the ability to identify and understand what others are saying”. It means the ability to listen to a received and interpret messages in the communication process, including understanding how the pronunciation or accent of speaker, the structure of the spoken language, vocabulary and understanding the purpose of the speaker. According to Sheila (2007:76) “Listening is more complex than merely hearing. It is a process which consists of four stages: sensing and attending, understanding and interpreting, remembering and responding”. It means that listening is a process to use ears for the sound or voice that someone listens to understand the idea and make a responds. The respond can be given if it is as a form of communications. Listening is a very important element in teaching the language for English speakers or second language, whether they are communicating at school, at work, or community.

Therefore in everyday life people are exposed to listening activities, listening can spend more time than talking and writing. However, sometimes they do not realize it. It can be seen from various conversations, be it conversations in the family environment, fellow friends, between parents, children with parents and with the community environment. Mendelshon as quoted Abbas (2011 : 1) mention “ Listening plays an important role in communication as it is said that, of the total time spent on communicating, listening takes up forty to fifty percent; speaking take up between twenty five until thirty percent; reading take up between eleven to sixteen percent; and writing take up about nine percent ”. It means listening can be half -time in a communication activity, Listening skill is very

important in everyday life, so everyone should be skilled in listening. A person is not only required to be skilled at listening, but also must be able to master it well. Based on Endang (Tarigan (1986 : 22) states that “ listening is a process of listening to oral symbols with full attention, understanding, appreciation, and interpretation to obtain information, capture the content or message and understand the meaning of communication that has been conveyed by the speaker through speech or language orally, as well as in capturing messages via radio, TV, and the phone requires listening skills”. Based on the explanation, it can be said that listening is a process of listening to oral symbols with attentiveness, understanding, appreciation, and interpretation for information acquisition, capturing messages through spoken or spoken language.

Listening skill has not been given proper attention of the teachers in teaching and learning English as a foreign language. Listening is one of the fundamental language skills. School is one of place that used to get knowledge. In that place, children, young people and adults get most of their education, information, understanding of the world and their human problems, ideals, sense of value and appreciation. In practice teaching in schools, certainly not apart from listening activities, because listening activities have become a part of the world of teaching, especially for language teaching. The student hoping can be understood about the speaker said when listening lessons learned, than they can understand every word based on what they are heard before. Therefore is expectation of researcher and teacher expects when the listening learning process takes place. But in fact, students understanding in listening skills are still low. Why did this

happen because students could not understand or capture the intent of the speaker during listening comprehension. This is due to the gap between reality and hope. Therefore, . That is one of the factors causing student listening skills is still low. Futhermore it is necessary to do continuous exercises to the students. In the process of teaching and learning, listening activities are often ignored by teachers because teachers tend to assume that without being taught any listening skill can be done by students. But the reality in the field on the contrary, namely the ability of students in listening to the certain subject matter is still lacking.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher feels interested to do research entitled “*A Study of students’ difficulties in listening comprehension at SMAN 3 Langsa*”.

### **1.2 The Problem of study**

There is an inquiry in which important to show in this proposal in order to make clear what was being researched.

1. What are the students’ difficulties faced in listening comprehension?
2. What factors are causing students difficulties in listening comprehension?

### **1.3 The Purpose of Study**

By doing this study the writer would like:

1. To find out the students’ difficulties faced in listening comprehension
2. To find out factors causing students’ difficulties in listening comprehension

#### **1.4 The Scope of study**

This research focused on the difficulties in listening comprehension subject by the student of an eleventh grade at SMAN 3 Langsa.

#### **1.5 The Significant of study**

The result of this study has some benefits especially to the researcher, the readers, education fields and others researcher. They are:

1. To the researcher, the result of this study expected to increase the researcher's knowledge and experience.
2. To the readers, the result of this study expected gives an interpretation to the readers about the difficulties in listening comprehensions by the student.
3. To bring many advantages to the education field, especially in difficulties in listening comprehensions by the student.
4. To others researcher, the result of this study expected can give the reference in similar aspects to the future study.