**The Influence of Rap Song to Improve Students**

**Listening Skill**

(A Quasi Experimental Research at Second Grade of MA AR-RIDHO)

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**ABSTRACT**

*This study was aimed at first investigating, the influence of rap song to improve students’ listening skill. Second, the difficulties faced by the students in listening comprehension were also investigated. This is a quasi experimental research. The writer taught two different classes employing two different teaching techniques. The writer administrated a pre-test to know that the classes have relatively the same background knowledge in the research variable and a post-test to find out the growth of score as the measurement of achievement.*

*The writer used ttest to calculate the data and to test the hypothesis. The result of the calculation from this research is the value of tobservation is bigger than ttable. tobservation=9.09 ttable =2.00 (6%) or tobdervstion  =9.09>ttable = 2.00. so Ho is rejected and Ha is accepted. The researcher gives conclusion that there is the effectiveness of using rap song on student listening skill. It can be seen gat good or better score.*

*Finally, based on the finding of the research, the writer gives some suggestions. The writer hopes this research will be useful for improving of education in Indonesia.*

1. **Introduction**

Language is a system communication it means that the language is communication tool that is used to interact with every people in the world. It also can be interpreted as a means a tool to convey something, such as thoughts, ideas, concepts or feelings. Language is a systematic means of communications ideas or feeling by the use of conventionalized signs, sounds, gestures, or marks having understood meaning.

Barely is listening learnt in several school especially in senior high school, unlike other skills such as reading, and writing, listening is only learnt once or twice in a year, for first and second grade, and for third grade is more learnt. It is maybe because student deals with listening test. Like Jack Richards’ statement ”for many years, listening skills did not receive priority in language teaching”. May be because listening is difficult to learnt. Alan Malay adds “Listening involves motivation and concentration, and you can listen badly if you are not interest in the subject, or it is one that you do not know much about it, or if there are a lot of distractions which make it difficult to focus on listening.

Many things influence why listening is barely learnt. Beside the difficulties in listening such as mention above, listening needs more motivation, more concentration, and needs the interesting subject. Listening also is barely learnt several school, so the students don’t usually learn something which improve their comprehension of the way word pronunciation, improve their vocabulary their speaking etc.

Hornby, AS defines song as a short poem or a number of verses set into music and intended to be sung. A music genre is a conventional category that identifies some pieces of music as belonging to a shared tradition or set of conventions. Rapping essentially involves the speaking or chanting of rhyming lyrics, often set to a beat. John Field’s state, that “Listening skill is more than just hearing and paying attention”.

Talking about song, writer tells about rap genre. Rap or hip-hop is a type of rhythmic talking, often with accompanying rhythm instruments. With rap songs the students can improve their listening’ skill, they can exercise rapidity in their listening and increase their vocabularies. Besides, the writer applied rap song to student’s senior high school.

1. **Theoretical Framework**
2. **History of Rap Song**

A music genre is a conventional category that identifies some pieces of music as belonging to a shared tradition or set of conventions. More than a century before rap exploded o­nto the American music scene, West African musicians were telling stories rhythmically, with just the beat of a drum for accompaniment. Meanwhile, folk artists from the Caribbean Islands were also telling stories in rhyme. Indeed, these singing poets from Africa and the Caribbean lay the foundation for modern-day American rap music.

Rapping essentially involves the speaking or chanting of rhyming lyrics, often set to a beat. The rhyming created by rappers is considered by many to be o­ne of the most sophisticated styles of poetry. What’s more, these rhymes often address provocative subjects such as sex, violence and socio-political issues.

Rapping first gained popularity in the U.S. in the 1970s as a kind of street art, especially among African American teenagers. But it wasn’t until 1979, when the Sugarhill Gang released their breakaway hit, ‘Rapper’s Delight, that record producers took notice of this emerging musical genre. once they did, numerous rap acts, including Run-DMC and N.W.A., surfaced, and rap’s audience began to swell. It wasn’t just African American male rappers getting in o­n the act, either: By the 1980s, white rap bands such as the Beastie Boys and female rap bands such as Salt-n-Pepa were reaching the top of the charts.

By the 1990s, rap matured from an old-school-style – which was based o­n relatively simple lyrics – to a new-school-style, which was louder and included more complex lyrics. Artists such as The Notorious B.I.G., Snoop Dogg and Tupac ruled the charts during this time, as did Eminem – o­ne of the most popular white rappers of all time.

Rap has stood the test of time and its popularity rages o­n with today’s artists such as 50 Cent, Ludacris and Jay-Z churning out hit after thought-provoking hit. The beat truly does go o­n. Rap music has emerged as one of the most distinctive and controversial music genres of the past decade. A significant part of hip hop culture, rap articulates the experiences and conditions of African-Americans living in a spectrum of marginalized situations ranging from racial stereotyping and stigmatizing to struggle for survival in violent ghetto conditions. In this cultural context, rap provides a voice to the voiceless, a form of protest to the oppressed, and a mode of alternative cultural style and identity to the marginalized.

Rap music is a preferred way to familiarize yourself with the phonetics of a language because it is so similar to spoken English. Your main focus in doing this exercise should be to find songs which consist of specific sounds that are common in your target language. If you don’t want to use a rap song, I suggest you choose a song which has a catchy [something that is easy to remember] chorus that uses rhyming words which consist of the sounds you wish to improve. If you’re an advanced speaker or if you have learned with music, you may have already started doing this naturally with some of the more common sound links. In rap music, you are going to hear these kinds of sound morphs not only with these more common examples, but with nearly every sentence that they use. Being conscious of this is going to help you decipher exactly what the rapper is saying and help you to start applying this into your spoken English.

1. **Listening Skill**

The word listening is defined as making an effort to hear something; to pay at¬tention or heed. It is different from hearing, which is the physiological process of the ear absorbing sound waves and transferring them along neural path¬ways to parts of the brain. Hearing is necessary for listening, but listening is much more than processing sound. Someone may hear very well but be a very poor listener.

Listening is an activity that may take many different forms for different people. The behaviors and tools used by someone in one listening situation may not be the same as those used in another. It is important, then, to emphasize this point when teaching effective listening skills. Although there is a process to follow to

Listening generally involves a five-step process: attending, understanding, in¬terpreting, responding, and remembering. This process is active rather than passive and involves using a number of behaviors and tools to be most effec¬tive. The various types of listening—critical, empathic, informational, and appreciative—have their own characteristics and techniques. Which type of listening is used and which behaviors are involved depend on the situation

Listening is one of the most important things as the fundamental of the four skills in language learning have to be mastered, and listening skill is not only as a key to knowledge and science but also as a primary tool to communicate and introduce the students to hear various sound, stress intonation, etc.

Listening is more than just hearing and paying attention. That including listen to an interesting speakers, to the music of a fine orchestra, or to traffic sound as we drive in each of these efforts we react to how hear. In other word, listening is creative process. It is clear that listening is a much over look communicative skill.

Although listening is hard work and have to take more practice, but its skill can acquire just like any other. Listening is more complex than merely hearing. It is a process that consists of four stages: sensing, and attending, understanding, and interpreting, remembering, and responding.

1. **Research Methodology**

This type of research has pre-test and post-test, experiment and control groups but no random assignment of subject. In other word, the subject in this research had already been grouped when this research was conducted.

In this research, both of the groups were given pre-test which was conducted in the beginning of the study. The pre-test was conducted in order to diagnose students’ current ability in introducing someone else before the treatment applied. Then, post-test was given in the end of study in order to find out the influences of treatment.

The influence is measured by the significance different of their listening score. The result of pre-test and post-test was used to investigate whether or not there was any difference between the experimental group and control group.

1. **Research Finding**

**Table 4.2**

**Data of Pre-test and Post –test from Control Class**

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The table above shows the students’ listening skill at second grade of MA Ar-Ridho Waringinkurung Serang in experimental class (XI) A before treatment is less. It can be known from the result of pre-test, the highest score is 60 the lowest score is 10. Meanwhile, the result of post-test after treatment shows the students’ score the biggest score is 70 and the lowest is 20. There is no good the improvement on criteria of students’ score in control class that the highest score is good and tlowest score is bed.

To find mean score, the researcher follows the formula:

M1 =

=

=38

The average of the post test in control class is 38, this is shows that the listening students skill in control class is worse than in experimental class

M2

=

=34

The average of the pre-test in control class is 34, this is shows that listening skill of the students are less than post-test.

M =M1-M2

=38-34

=4

From the data above, the improvement in control class are just 4 points, it shows that the improvement of control class are very little.

Based on the calculation on the table 2 of pre-test and post-test assessment at control class, it shows that the cumulative value of assessment result before applying rap song is 1020. The average of the pre-test is. Meanwhile, the cumulative of assessment result after applying rap song is 1160. The average of the post-test is 38.

From the calculation of determine mean above, we have known that the average score of pre-test and post-test at control class increase in amount 4.

1. **Interpretation**

The analysis is aimed to know is the effectiveness rap song on students’ listening skill. We have already known that the mean score of experiment class is 34 in pre-test and 70 in post-test but the mean score of control class is 35 in pre-test and 38 in post-test. Seeing calculation above, the experiment class get increase on 36 points. It is better than the control class get increase on 4 points.

Before deciding the result of the hypothesis, the researcher proposes the interpretation toward procedure of follow.

1. Ha = tobservationttable It means there is significant effectiveness learning

using rap song on students’ listening skill.

1. Ho = tobservationttable It means there is no significant effectiveness

Learning using rap song on students’ listening skill.

According to the data, the value of tobservation is bigger than ttable. tobservation=9.09 ttable =2.00 (6%) or tobdervstion  =9.09>ttable = 2.00. so Ho is rejected and Ha is accepted.

From the result above, the researcher give conclusion that there is the effectiveness of using rap song on student listening skill. It can be seen gat good or better score.

1. **Conclusion**

According to descriptions in chapter before, the researcher infers this “Paper” answer this research question. Does the rap song influence students’listening skill? The answer is the influence rap song and students’ listening skill that there is the effectiveness of using rap song on students’ listening skill.

1. From the research that was conducted in MA Ar-ridho it shows there is the significant influence of rap song toward listening students’ skill. It can be seen from the post- test higher than pre- test. The student lowest score of post -test at experimental was 40 and the highest was 100 and the student mean score was 70. The result of post- test at control class, the lowest score was 10 and the highest score was 70 and the student mean was 38.
2. It can be concluded that the use of rap song in teaching students’ listening skill is there effectiveness of use it to improving students listening skill. It can be seen on the table of scores of the students who learn listening skill by using rap song have the significant different from the students who learn listening skill not using rap song. It means that there is significant difference to the students in learning listening skill by using rap song than the students in learning listening skill not using rap song.

Finally, using of rap song in learning listening skill not only help the teacher to teach, but also provide and interesting way for students to achieve the learning goals.

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